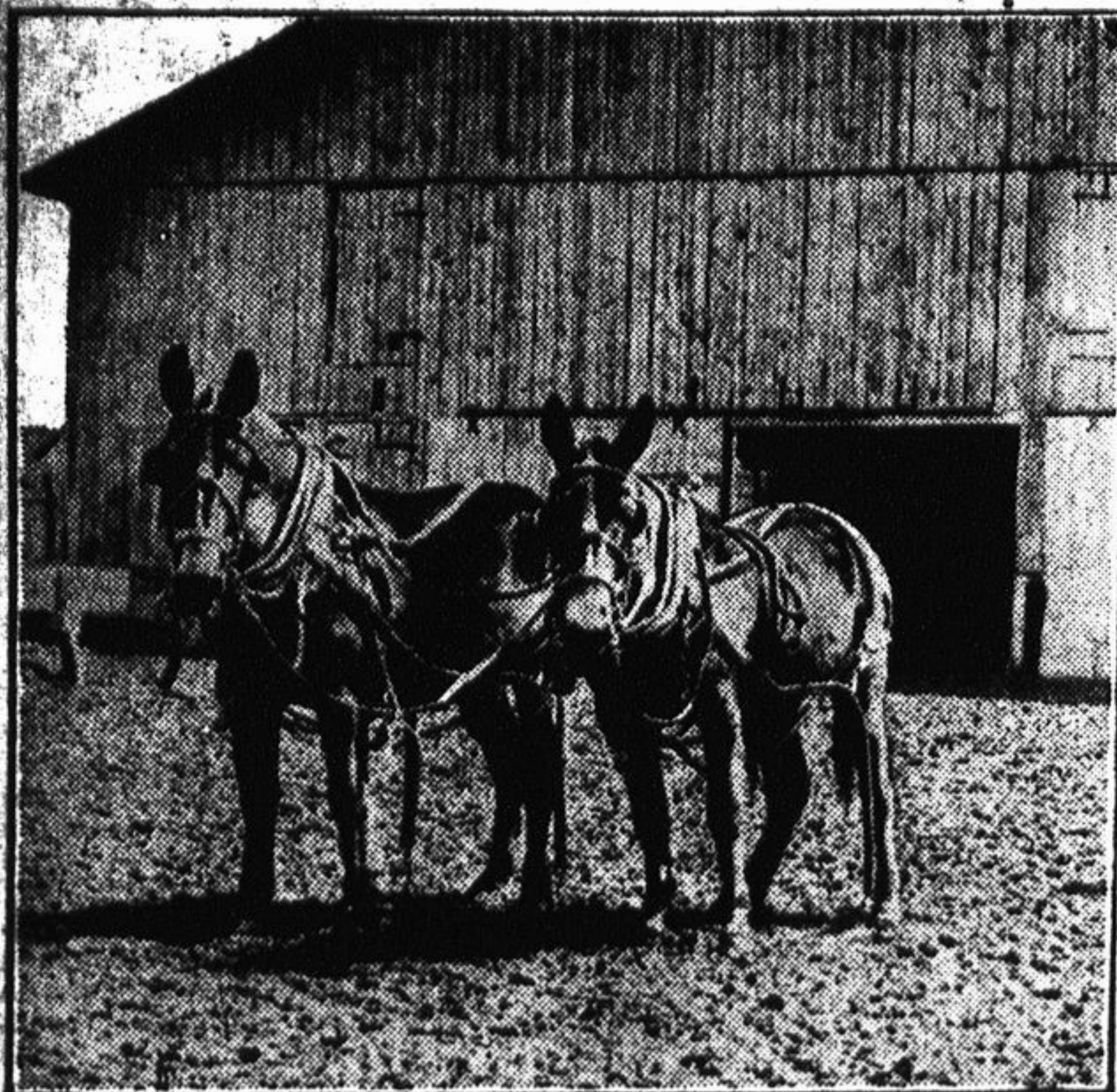


**OBTAINING MULES FROM LIGHT HORSES**



A Pair of Farm Mules That Are Worth Upward of \$600.

It is foolhardy to use the best mares for raising mules. There are too few of them to keep up the horse supply. There are plenty of poor or unsound mares that will rear good mules, said W. A. Cochel, head of the department of animal husbandry at the Kansas Agricultural college, to a class in horse production, recently.

The best mule is produced from a light type of horse, Professor Cochel said. A good mule-producing mare has a big head; is rugged, roomy, comparatively heavy bone, a good big foot, and is upstanding. The jack should be as high as possible, have a Roman nose, coarse bone, a big foot, and long ears.

A mule eats in an irregular manner, and it is almost impossible to founder him. They do better if fed in a lot than in a stall. On farms where it is necessary to have hired men it is best to let them work mules, because of the smaller danger of injury or loss due to bad driving or feeding. Mules

are easily fattened in a small lot, and do not fight, but they do not fatten in a large lot because they are too restless.

A careless or ignorant man can be successful in breeding mules, but he would fail with horses. But a careful man will be more successful with horses than with mules. A Kansas farmer cannot afford to work good draft geldings, but should work draft mares, mules or geldings that are still increasing in value.

The average value of mules in all states except one is from one to eight dollars more than the average value of horses in the same states. The exception is Rhode Island. There is always a good market for mules. They are freer from blemishes and unsoundnesses and less susceptible to disease. They live longer than horses at heavy labor and can be driven by ignorant help with less danger of loss. They can be sold at any age, and can take better care of themselves than horses.

a great thing, in any creature, even a man.

You will have plenty of offers for the best lambs; but if you are smart, you will keep enough of them to make your flock good and growing better every year. Prices do not count when it comes to building up a flock.

The best flock master is the kindest man.

Long-legged sheep never ought to be used as breeders.

Sell your wool on a rising market. It is when the tide goes out that we drop our bundle.

Mutton and meat of lambs advances in price about forty per cent., usually, between the farm and the man who eats it. If you can get a bit nearer to the last man, you can save him some money and yourself a good lot. Can't you do it?

The public market is the best way so far devised for cutting out the long string of middlemen that are eating the people up alive. More and more cities and large towns are adopting that plan. More should do so, and do it soon.

**Egyptian Incubators.**  
It is not generally known that the old stoves called "mammals" that the Egyptians used as incubators, date back to remote antiquity. Even before the French Revolution the Paris markets had incubator chickens, thanks to an apparatus which was invented in France in 1777.

**EXCELLENT NOTES OF THE SHEEPFOLD**

Weed Out Every Individual Animal That is Not Young, Thrifty and of Good Build.

(By E. L. VINCENT.)

Look round for a better head for your flock of sheep than you ever had before. Be willing to pay the cost. It will all come back.

Let your breeding stock be the best on the farm. Weed out every individual that is not thrifty, well built and young.

I was talking the other day with a man who has a special arrangement with a butcher downtown to take so many lambs every week at a certain specified price per pound. That man has no trouble to dispose of his surplus stock. He takes the matter by the right handle. Get your market, then work for the lambs.

Never buy a ewe with great long hoofs. The longer her hoofs the fewer teeth she is apt to have, and toothless sheep are the poorest property a man can have on his farm.

In picking out lambs for the home flock, select those that have short legs and stocky bodies, with good straight backs. A good backbone is

**POULTRY FACTS**

**CLOSET IS OF NO ADVANTAGE FOR BETTER POULTRY STOCK**

Actual Test Demonstrates Poultry Do Better Without Curtain—Found to Be Unnecessary.

In the curtain-front type of poultry-house used at the Maine experiment station a feature of the original plan on which considerable stress was laid was the canvas curtain in front of the roosts.

This curtain, together with the back wall of the house and the droppings board under the roosts formed a closet in which the birds were shut up at night during cold weather. When the curtain front house was first devised it was thought essential to provide such a closet to conserve the body heat of the birds during the cold nights when the temperature might go well below zero. Experience has shown, however, that this was a mistake. Actual test shows that the roosting closet is of no advantage, even in such a severe climate as that of Orono. On the contrary, the birds certainly thrive better without the roost curtain than with it. It has been a general observation among users of the curtain-front type of house that when the roost curtains are used the birds are particularly susceptible to colds. It is not hard to understand why this should be so. The air in a roosting closet when it is opened in the morning is plainly bad. The fact that it is warm in no way offsets physiologically the evils of its lack of oxygen and excess of carbon dioxide, ammoniacal vapors and other exhalations from the bodies of the birds.

For some time past it has been felt that the roosting closet was at least unnecessary, if not in fact a positive evil, says a writer in the Baltimore American. Consequently the time of beginning to close the roost curtain in the fall has been each year longer delayed. Finally, in the fall of 1910, it was decided not to use these curtains at all during the winter. Consequently they were taken out of the house, or spiked to the roof, as the case might be. The winter of 1910-11 was a severe one. On several occasions the temperature dropped to 30 degrees below zero. Yet during this winter the mortality was exceptionally low and the egg production exceptionally high.

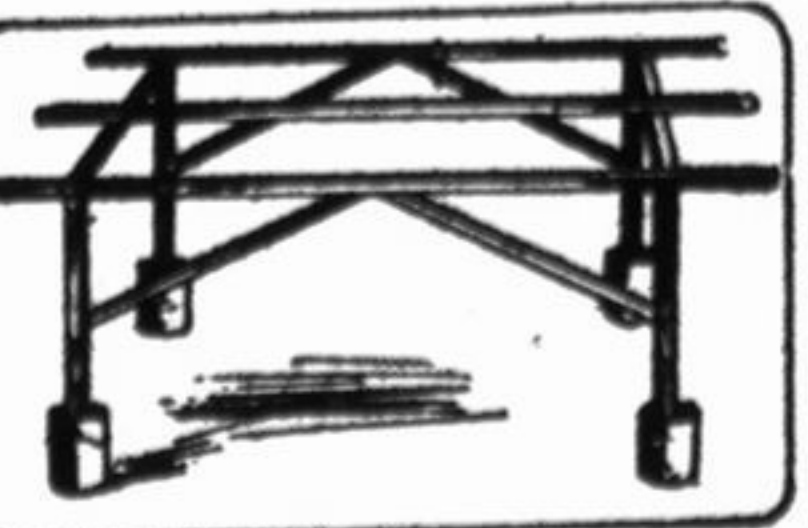
In view of this experience the station has decided to discontinue the use of the roost curtain. It would seem to be generally understood or at least unnecessary.

**MAKING ROOSTS MITE-PROOF**

Uprights Set in Quart Cans of Water With Kerosene on Top Prevents Progress of Parasites.

(By L. H. COBB, in the Farm and Fireside.)

Anyone who has tried to clean out the mites from roosts that are built in to the hen-house will appreciate the simple plan given below. I make my sets of roosts six feet high, with three



Mite-Proof Roosts.

two-by-two-inch roosts. The uprights are set in quart cans of water with a half inch of kerosene on top. Mites cannot get on this roost unless carried there by the hens, and it can be easily taken through any door and cleaned.

Keeping Birds Healthy and Improving Them Can Be Done by Adoption of Few Systematic Rules.

In raising stock or poultry it should be the air of everyone to keep it healthy and improve it. You can do it very easily by adopting systematic rules. These may be summed up in brief as follows:

Construct your houses good and warm, so as to avoid damp floors and afford a flood of sunshine. Sunshine is better than medicine.

Provide a dusting and scratching place where you can bury the grain and thus induce the fowls to take the needful exercise.

Provide yourself with some good, healthy fowls, never to be over three years old, giving one cock to every 12 hens.

Give plenty of fresh air at all times, especially in summer.

Give plenty of fresh water daily, and never allow the fowls to go thirsty.

Feed them systematically two or three times a day. Scatter the food so they cannot eat it too fast or without proper exercise. Do not feed more than they will eat up clean, or they will get tired of that kind of feed.

Give them a variety of both dry and cooked feed. A mixture of cooked meat and vegetables is good for a morning meal.

Give soft feed in the morning and the whole grain at night, except a little wheat and cracked corn placed in the scratching pens to give them exercise during the day.

Above all things, keep the house clean and well ventilated.

Do not crowd too many into one house. If you do, look out for disease.

Keep the house, nests, etc., sprayed with some good disinfectant, in order to keep down the lice and mites. Wash your roosts and bottom of laying nests, and whitewash once a week in summer and once a week in winter.

Let the old and young have as large a range as possible, the larger the better.

Do not breed too many kinds of fowls at the same time. Better have one breed and understand it.

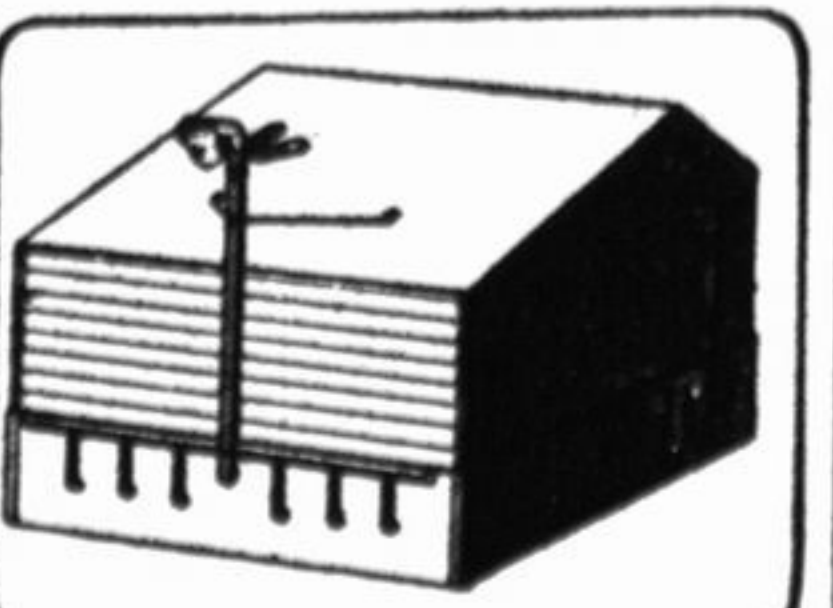
Introduce new blood into your stock every year or so, by either buying a cockerel or a setting of eggs from some reliable breeder.

**BROODER HOUSE VENTILATOR**

Device Invented by New Jersey Man Prevents the Delivery of Too Strong Current of Air.

The Scientific American, in describing a ventilator for brooder houses, the design of C. W. Brick of Crosswick, N. J., says:

This invention relates particularly to a means for ventilating brooder houses, and provides an improved



Ventilator for Brooder Houses.

form of ventilator and in connection therewith, means for heating the air induced by the ventilator; and to provide a safety valve exteriorly of the brooder house, whereby to prevent the delivery of too strong a current of air thereto.

**POULTRY NOTES**

It takes 28 days for a duck egg to hatch.

Do not disregard breeds and keep anything that is a fowl.

The merits of the scratching shed are shown during bad weather.

No one farm is large enough for more than one variety of fowls.

Pay well for a well-bred male, but do not accept a scrub as a gift.

Have a clean, warm, dry place with straw or litter for the roosting quarters.

The average farmer who grows large crops of grain on his farm is the poorest feeder.

Coarse sand and gravel will reduce the amount of grit needed by the fowls, but cannot take its place.

The ducklings will grow so large in ten days that the chicken hen cannot hover a dozen—then you may as well if you can put two or three broods with one hen.

**POULTRY NOTES**

Feed plenty of sharp sand or grit with the food.

Please the consumer and you can raise the price.

Systematic marketing will overcome overproduction.

Pekin ducks do not make good sitters—use a chicken hen.

Good development before beginning to lay is best for the pullet.

Ducks must have plenty of green food or they will not thrive.

Impure water will not produce many eggs of any kind, and none that are good.

Fewer and better birds, and all as much alike as possible should be every poultry keeper's motto.

You must know that a duck has no crop. The food must be soft because it passes directly into the gizzard.

Pure white exhibition birds will have their plumage made yellow by constant feeding of corn.

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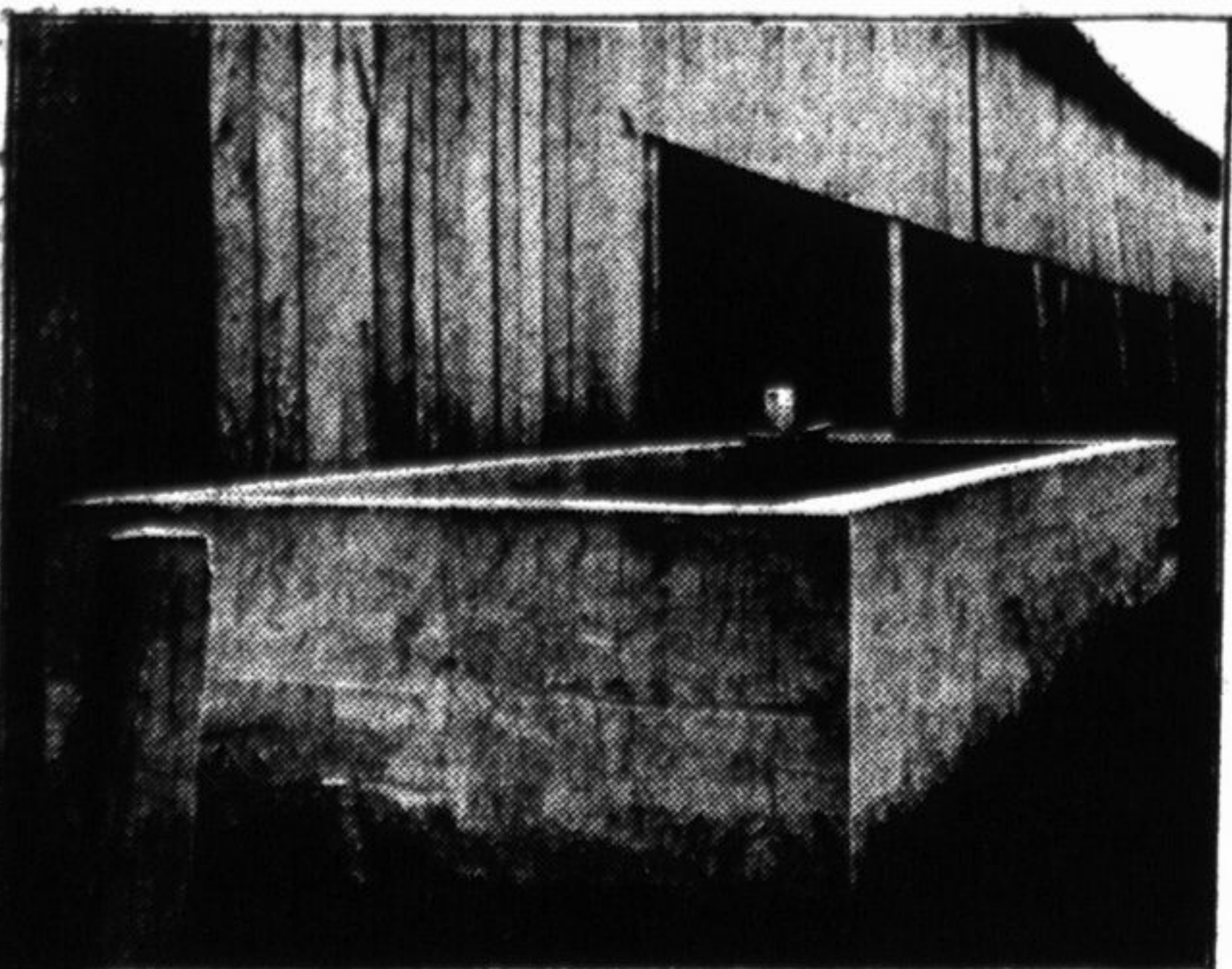
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**USING COMMON SENSE IN THE HOG LOT**



Concrete Drinking Trough for Live Stock.

Do you know of anything on the farm that will run into money faster than hogs when around 5 or 7 cents per pound?

It increases the feeding value of corn to such an extent that it is worth the extra cost of the grain.

It is a fact that hogs will eat more of a feed that is palatable than they will of a feed that is not palatable.

their pigs because they claim that it takes ten ears of corn to raise one tail, there, they amass in the instance of economy.

The man who breeds hogs with high ideals of perfection cannot succeed unless he keeps an active record of his breeding operations. He needs a blank book for this purpose and must pay the most careful attention to dis-

tinguish between a pig and a hog. A pig is a hog that has not been castrated.

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  - Sweet Drinking, old crop, Santos Coffee, per pound ..... 25c
  - Four pounds for ..... 95c
  - Our Special Fancy Blend Coffee, rich, mild and mellow, pound ..... 30c
  - Three pounds for ..... 85c