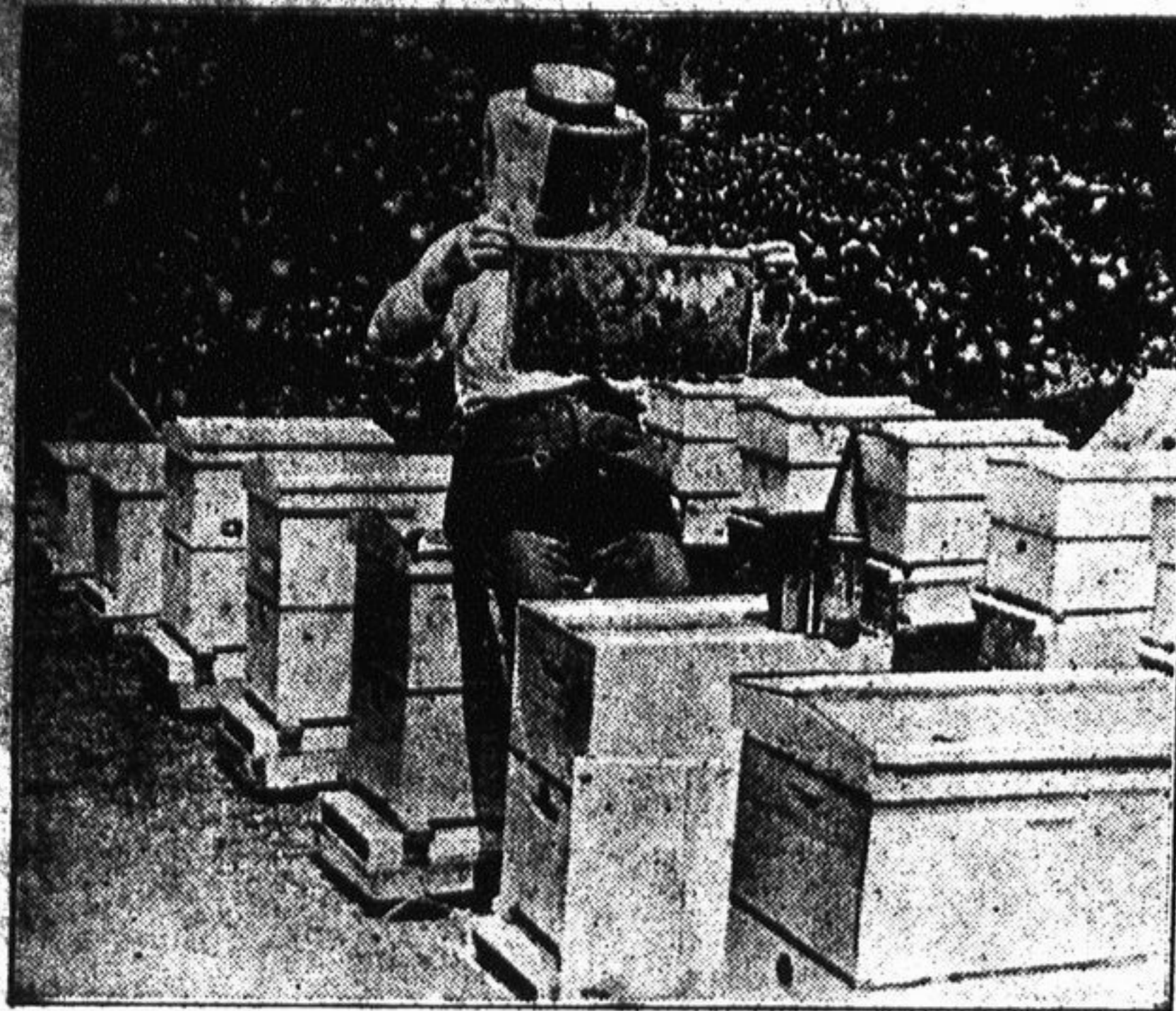


FINDING QUEEN BEE IS DIFFICULT TASK



Looking for the Queen.

(By F. G. HERMAN.)

There is no short cut toward finding a queen. You have got to look until you find her. Do not use much smoke or you will set the bees to running, and then it is very hard to find a queen.

A frightened queen will run from the light and hide in the first crack or dark place she can find.

Care at the start so as not to stampede the bees, is the great secret of success, and this coupled with a strong light, knowledge of how any queen behaves under such conditions, gives you the key to the whole matter.

Open the hive slowly without a jar, and use as little smoke as possible. Be very careful not to kill a single bee, for if bees are killed, the colony is liable to resent it, this causes so much smoke to be used in quieting them that the whole mass is likely to be "stampeded."

If care is taken not to disturb the bees and get them to running there is very little likelihood of the queen leaving the brood combs.

There is no use wasting time examining frames of honey. The same might be said in a certain degree regarding combs filled solid full of brood.

As a rule you will find a queen on a comb, or that portion of a comb, from which the bees have recently emerged.

During a honey-flow, with a colony not excessively populous, gentle bees clinging to the combs, the simplest way is to take the combs out and examine them.

Put them in the comb-basket, and if the queen has not been found, look over them again, putting them in another comb-basket. Look in the hive also.

It is necessary to use as little smoke as possible so as to avoid starting the queen to run and hide.

Always begin at one side, first blowing a little smoke between the comb and the wall of the hive, so as to drive the queen between the combs if she happens to be against the wall.

I then take out only one comb on that side and begin on the other side, continuing throughout. The object is to prevent the queen from being left on the walls of the hive.

One of the plans is to put the combs in pairs, having the pairs a little distance apart, using an additional hive for the needed room.

After a time the bees without the queen will show signs of uneasiness.

GOAT'S MILK BEST FOR THE CHILDREN

Also a Most Essential Item on Daily Bill of Fare for Every Member of Family.

(By W. SHELDON BULL, Buffalo, N. Y.)

With a couple of hardy and productive goats, housed in a cheap, roughly constructed shed, and pastured on a common, the owner may enjoy greater advantages from an economic and hygienic point of view than does the proud possessor of a pampered, pedigreed cow of the most fashionable breed.

First, because milk, the exclusive diet of many infants, children and invalids and a most essential item on the daily bill of fare of every member of the household, is furnished more cheaply by the goat, as the yield of milk, when the size of the goat and the amount of feed and care are considered is proportionally much greater than that of the cow.

Second, because goat's milk is richer, more nutritious, and more easily digested than cow's milk. Aside from the greater degree of richness, there is no appreciable difference in appearance or taste. And also, because the milk goat is practically immune to tuberculosis, while the apparently beautiful and therefore unsuspected cow may be, and often is, dangerously tuberculous.

Lime for Vegetables.

Liberal applications of lime may be used to advantage by all vegetable growers. It is an effective means of preventing malnutrition diseases and is exceedingly important in correcting soil acidity.

CROSS-BRED HORSE IS AN UNCERTAINTY

Various Breeds Have Been Highly Developed Both in America and Abroad.

(By R. G. WEATHERSTONE.)

Upon the selection of the sire and dam will depend the question as to whether the foal will be profitable to the raiser or not.

The cross bred horse is generally a chance, never a certainty. Like bogota like, —Percherons, Clydesdales, trotters, thoroughbreds, saddle horses and ponies, all according to their kind.

The various breeds have been highly developed, by scientific breeders, both in America and abroad. What is more reasonable than to suppose that these men who have given years of labor and who have spent much money in developing the various breeds, should have arrived at the most profitable way of raising good horse flesh.

If the farmer visits a reputable breeding establishment in this country or in Europe he will find that every effort is made to breed along pure lines of the breed that is to be first developed.

So in this way we get the best specimens of any kind whatsoever.

If you want heavy drafts, and they are big sellers these days, stick to a draft breed and never mix the draft breeds, if possible to avoid it.

If you want just harness horses breed the trotters. If you want saddle horses or park hacks, breed for them. If you want speed under the saddle, breed thoroughbreds.

Better Swill Barrels. We need pasteurized swill barrels, as well as pasteurized milk.

POULTRY NOTES

BY C. M. BARNITZ, RIVERSIDE, PA.

CORRESPONDENCE SOLICITED



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THE WHITE LANGSHAN.

The Japanese and Chinese are skilled poultry artisans, the Japs especially aiming at the artistic, ultra fanciers in miniature and decorative poultry, the Chinese specializing in mammoth utility breeds their Cochins, Brahmas, Shanghai, Langshans, having a world fame.

The Langshan, Black and White, is of particular pride to them, the difference of the two being only in color.



Photo by C. M. Barnitz.

WHITE LANGSHAN COCK.

The White is admirable for a limited space, being easily confined, docile, responding well to good care.

It is a beautiful silvery white—white to the skin—is massive, stately, high headed.

It has a large single comb, full hackle, wide back, flat shoulders and of medium length, abundant saddle feathers, large high flowing tail with long sickles; broad round breast, deep keel, stout thighs, long shanks feathered down outer sides, outer toes feathered, middle toe bare.

The beak is bluish or pinkish, eye brown, legs and feet slate, and comb, face, earlobes and wattles red.

Like the Orpingtons, Houdans and Dorkings, it has pinkish flesh—such a

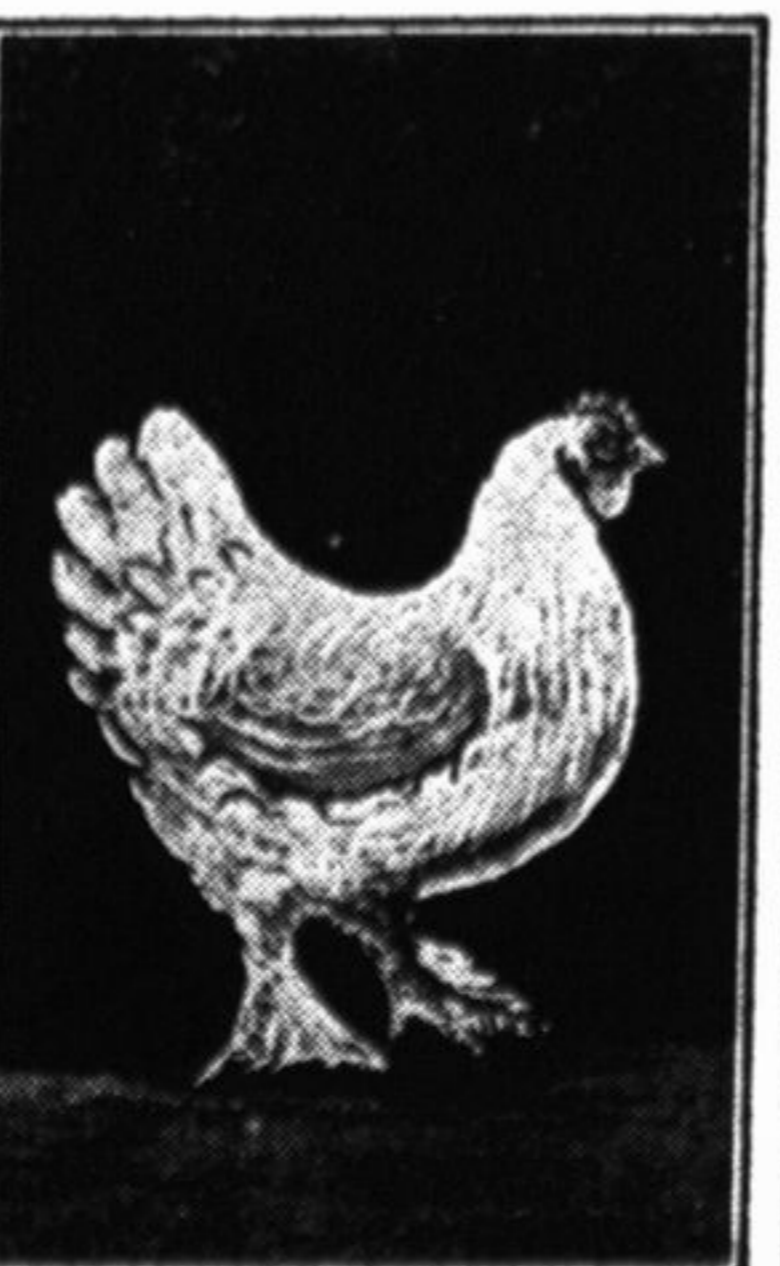


Photo by C. M. Barnitz.

WHITE LANGSHAN HEN.

delight to the Englishman, the reigning London market fad.

It is excellent eating. The hen, whose picture speaks for itself, is a busy layer of reddish brown eggs. The breed is much crossed with others to add bone and size and would be more popular in this country if not for the far fetched feather requirements at shows.

STANDARD WEIGHTS.

Cock 9½	Hen 7½
Cockerel 8	Pullet 6½

DON'TS.

Don't set the brooder in a low, damp place where fog lingers.

Don't expect to prosper if you are not honest, industrious, thoughtful and careful.

Don't neglect details; they govern fates.

Don't estimate yourself too highly in your wife's estimation. Wedlock warps the female judgment though it sometimes lengthens the tongue.

Don't cast your pearls before swine, but throw cracked pearl oyster shells to your hens.

Don't keep a scrubby farm flock. Buy your wife the best. She will do the rest.

Don't always be thinking of money. You miss life's sweetest honey.

THE GAME LICKS THE GANDER.

A gamecock strutted on the green
As an old gander, sassy as the dickens,
Hissed like a snake
And cursed the other chickens.

When at a good old mother hen
He cast a nasty epithet,
Raised his great wing as if to strike
And backed it with a murderous threat

That gamecock pranced right up to him
And cried: "You low down mongrel cur,
If you don't quick apologize
And take back every nasty slur

"I'll throw your feathers to the wind;
I'll spread your blood upon the grass;
I'll teach you and your brutish kind
To insult ladies when they pass!"

With that the gander rushed at him,
But the game's spur pierced his thick neck,
And he fell dead upon the grass,
A bloody wreck.

Now, should a man stand idly by
When corner loafers women slur,
Allow a woman to endure
Insults from such a low down cur?

No! He should take a strangle hold
Upon the nasty fellow's neck
And with a good right uppercut
Make of his jaw a complete wreck.
C. M. BARNITZ.

KURIOS FROM KORRESPONDENTS

Q. What is a good remedy for scab mites? I have two hens here that have lost the feathers from head and neck through this pest, and I can't rid them of it. A. Quarantine affected birds and wash infested parts with tar soap and apply sulphur ointment and repeat applications until mites disappear.

Q. What do you consider the best guide in feeding? A. Appetite.

Q. What do you think of our poultry journals anyhow? Don't you think they make a specialty of advertisements? A. While some journals do not come up to the scratch, the large majority do, the American poultry journals being the best and most numerous in the world. As most of them are 50 cents per year, this low rate requires them to take on much advertising to make a profit.

Q. After running on plowed ground last spring I noticed some of my hens got sick and quit eating for several days. What do you suppose was the cause? A. Your hens likely got too many earthworms. These worms are oily, and a quantity like your hens picked up caused indigestion.

Q. I am after a larger pigeon than the Homer, a variety that is pretty, hardy, prolific and popular. Which do you advise? A. Carneaux. Many claim these are more prolific than the Homer. They are certainly fine and are making more friends right along.

FEATHERS AND EGGSHELLS.

Oregon apples sold in the eastern states last winter at 25 cents per dozen, and California White Leghorn eggs sold higher by the crate in Pennsylvania and New York than much of the eastern packed stock. Now, what have our eastern farmers to say about that?

A Darcy (Pa.) fancier had a rooster stolen, and he at once advertised that the rooster was stek and would make any one sick who ate him. Behold, that same night the sick rooster was returned! Well, yes, advertising does pay and then some.

A thief stole six hens from a Lancaster fancier, but carelessly dropped a postcard from his best girl from Harrisburg in the hencoop. This led to his arrest.

Many flocks give poor fertility in the early season because they are kept under unnatural conditions. April and May are best for fertility because the fowls are out on the ground, exercising in the fresh air, feeding on greens, worms and bugs. Nature has much to do with success in poultry culture, and it's a "wise guy" who keeps on the right side of her.

We have known freight station employees who got all the grain for their fowls from the spilled grain in the cars. "Use No Hooks" seems to have little effect on the average freight handler, and many poultrymen lose on their shipments of grain and grit accordingly. A sack or half a sack lost means much in the long run, and the only way out is simply to refuse the whole shipment if part of it is lost or damaged.

While all Americans are stuck on the red, white and blue, very few take to blue chickens, while with the English it is different, and they are originating some blue variety right along. Blue birds are difficult to breed true to color, and it certainly takes a smart Aleck to breed them without black and white spots and calico colored culs.

Jane Murray of "Merry Widow" fame is now a successful raiser of ducks and chickens on her own farm near Newark, N. J. As most of the footlight belles bill and coo and lovey do so perfectly on the stage one would think their talents better fitted them for pigeons than the humdrum quack and rooster business.

Always inspect corn closely whether whole or cracked. Moldy corn is a frequent cause of mortality among fowls and acts about the same on their system as ptomaine poison.

An unusual sight was witnessed recently at Georgetown, Del., when a turkey buzzard tried to steal an old hen's chicks and the mother hen made good by lickin' the buzzard to a frazzle. Turkey buzzards seldom attack anything alive, but the cooper hawk and great horned owl are the poultry devils of the air.

The quick development of a scaly leg is well shown when one sets a hen with a moderate amount of the nasty scurf on her triflys. In three weeks thick bunches of the chalky accumulation will appear, the parasites breeding so rapidly in the heat, dark and quiet of the nest.

C. M. Barnitz

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