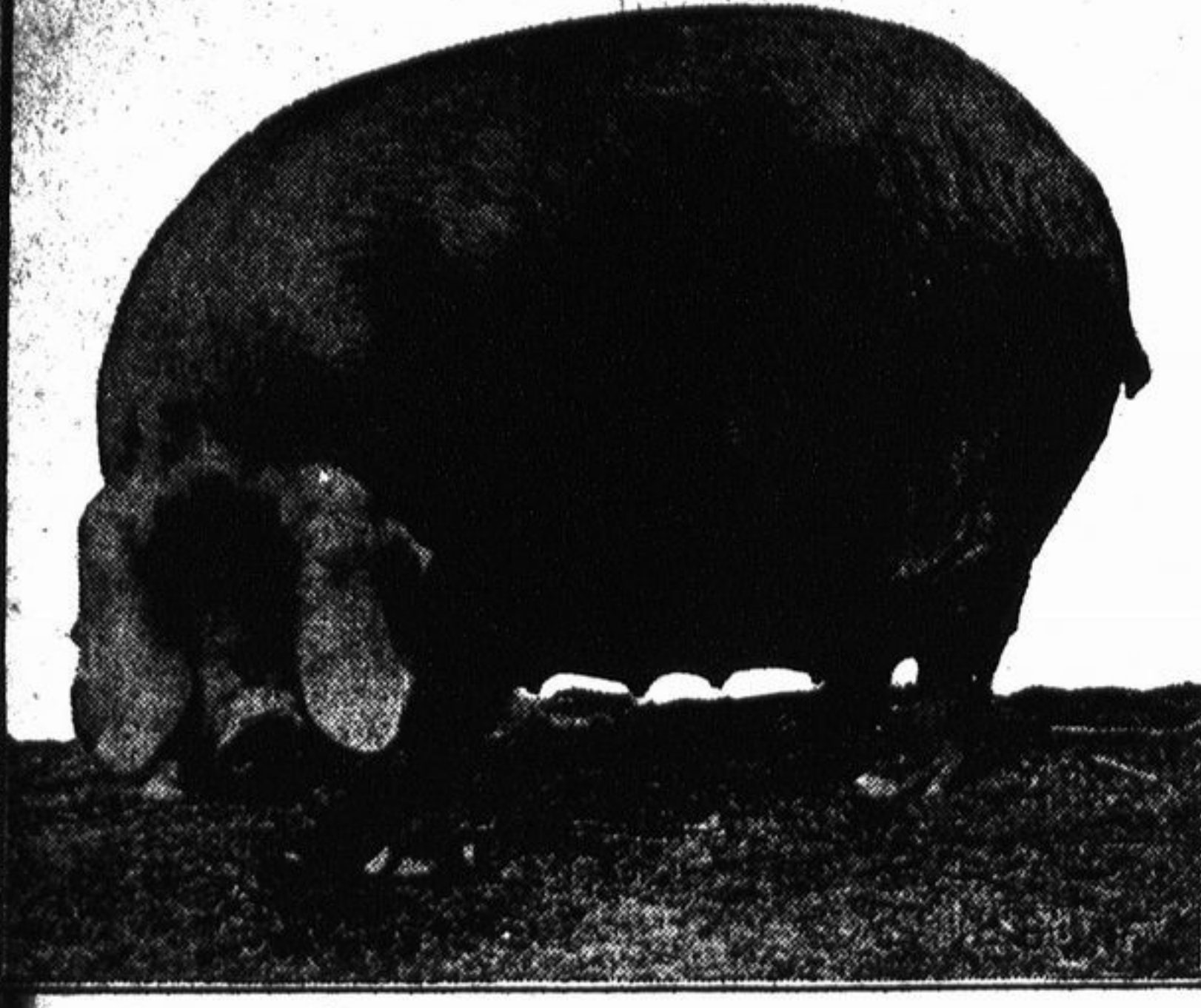


**COMMON SENSE HINTS FOR THE HOG LOT**



Right Kind of Sow for Breeding.

The hog lot has much to do about determining the lot of hogs.

Long legs in a hog ought to bar him as a breeder. Porkers, not racers, are what most of us are after.

Meat, and lots of it, in now and then a mess of boiled and mashed potatoes.

Little soft new corn at first. It's that stuff. May give the porkers the stomach ache.

I doubt if any man ever had to fight hog cholera who kept his premises clean and fed right up to the mark.

Work off some of the shoats and stop the cost of feeding.

Get just as near to the man who eats your meat as you can when it comes to selling time.

A few sweet apples now and then are fine for an appetiser. Not much meat in them, but they help to keep the system in good order, and so are of value as an article of diet.

Hogs do not need much salt. A little goes a good ways. But be sure they have that little.

Throw now and then a charred stick of wood over in the yard for the hogs to work at. A good tonic. Keeps the stomach in good order.

If you feed sour milk, stick to sour milk, not change back and forth from sweet to sour.

Somewhat it seems to most of us that it is a big waste of time to do much thinking about the food we give a hog. Anything will go. That is one reason why we never have anything

to brag of in the way of hogs. To win, we must do some thinking, some planning and some putting into effect.

There will be better hogs a few years hence than there are now. Before that day comes, there will have to be better men.

Breed to the best male you can find. It may cost a little more. You will get it all back in the better pigs you get.

Keep your hogs cool, but don't cool them in a mudhole.

Turn off some of the shoats while the price is booming, which is most likely just now. Stop the cost of production as soon as you can. That's the way to make money.

Better than a ring in the nose for the hog that loves to root is a good chance to root and have a good time. Hogs are making money for you when they are rooting good and lively.

Wheat feed, that is not too coarse, is a fine feed for hogs this time of the year.

Hog cholera rarely strikes the pen of the man who keeps his hogs clean. The disease is a fifth trouble.

If your hogs are shut up so they have no chance to root, dig a load of sods for them now and then and throw them over into the yard. It helps to keep the porkers busy, and when they are busy they are looking out for your interests all right.

A poor fence is an invitation to get out. You haven't time to look after that sort of a thing. Make the fences good on the start.

**DECIDEDLY POOR FARM COMBINATION**

**Dogs Have More Demoralizing Effect on Sheep Industry Than Cholera on Swine.**

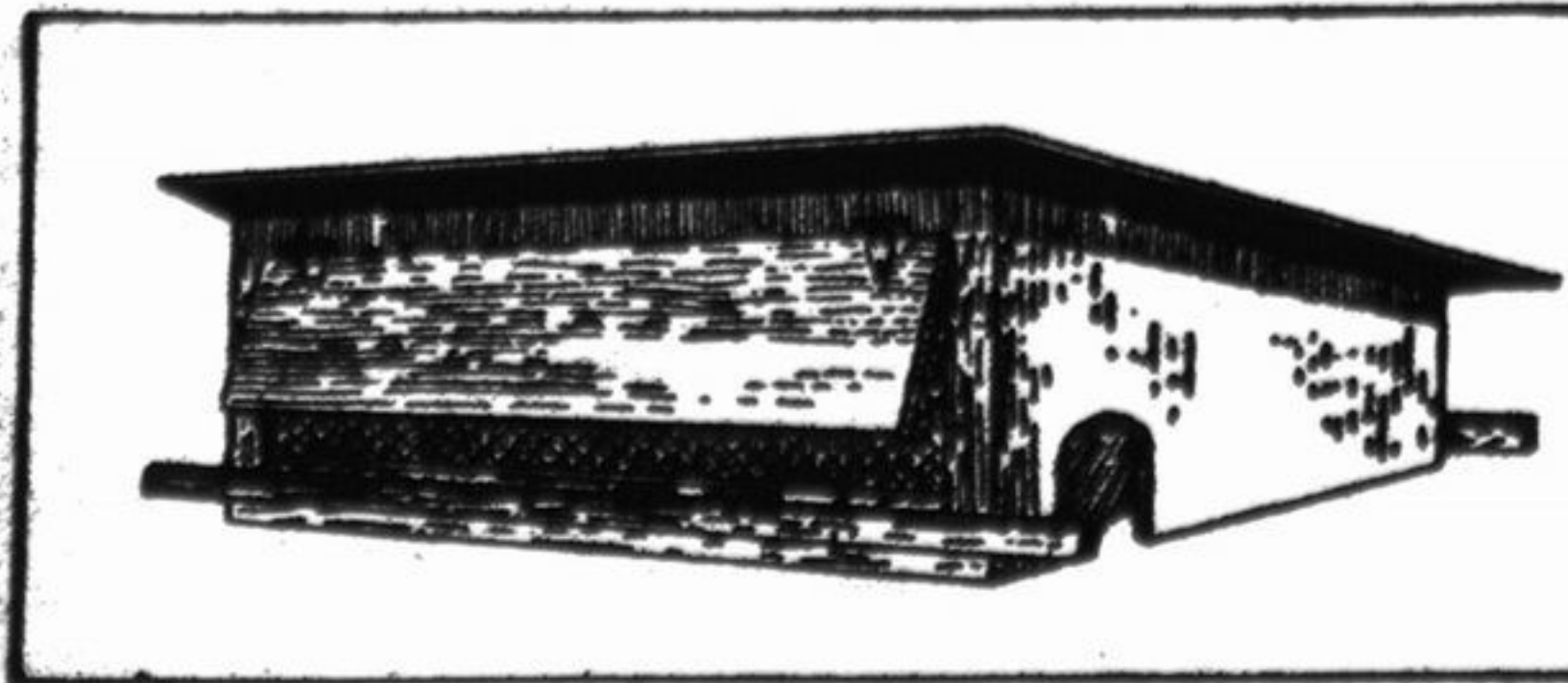
Sheep and dogs make a decidedly poor combination on a farm. The farmer is inclined to be friendly toward the farm dog, for there is a big chance for him to fill, but, after all, a dog is a dog, and the whole family must be held responsible for the mischief done by a few. From one township the report comes that the dogs there killed \$118 worth of sheep during the past year, says a writer in an exchange. We doubt if all the dogs in that county are worth that much, but there seems to be little that can be done to relieve the situation.

Yet one thing is certain: So long as the dogs are allowed to roam over the country in their murderous quest there will be small chance for sheep industry to grow. This seems to have an even more demoralizing effect on sheep industry than hog cholera does on the swine industry.

**Removing Large Limbs.**

In removing large limbs, a good plan is to saw them off about three feet from the trunk to prevent splitting. Then saw again close to the trunk, so as not to leave a projecting stub.

**COLONY COOP DESIRABLE FOR THE CHICKS**



The door forms a porch to exclude the hot sun.

A colony coop will save many young chicks, and it may be built of packing boxes, or any sound light lumber. The coop should be from 20 to 26 inches wide, and about 6 or 7 feet long. The front should be 3 feet to the roof, and the rear about 2 feet. The roof and walls are covered with canvas, which is fast tacked in place with lead strips. Small holes in the walls are covered with mesh wire, and when needed dry, the coop is covered with a tarpaulin, and the front door is closed.

second coat of paint. This coop will last for several seasons, and it will be wind and rain proof. The front is open, but closes with a door, and the inside is covered with 1-inch mesh wire. The door forms a porch to exclude the hot sun. For small chicks, or chicks with an old hen, the coop should sit on a wooden platform to keep it off the dirt. For small chickens, place three light gardens in the coop, and place in the front outside, or the rear outside, a small box for the chickens to use as a water trough.

**PARASITE OF POULTRY EGGS FOR THE FAMILY**

**Blood-Thirsty Pest Causes Great Loss to Industry.**

**Hens Attacked by Common Chicken Mite Cease Laying, Become Poor in Flesh and Listless in Action—Remedies for Eradication.**

(By H. C. PIERCE.)

The worst parasite of poultry against which the poultryman and farmer have to contend is the "common chicken mite" or "red chicken mite." There are other species of mites which attack poultry, but they do much less damage. This blood-thirsty pest causes great loss to the poultry industry of the country by killing adult fowls and chicks and cutting down egg production. It not only attacks poultry but horses and even man as well.

Hens which are attacked by mites cease laying, become poor in flesh, dumpy, and listless in action. The head and comb become pale and the bird presents a sickly appearance. These symptoms are caused by the irritation and loss of blood due to nightly visits of hordes of these hungry parasites. It seems hardly believable that fowls could be killed by such small pests, but they are so many in numbers that their total capacity for blood is enormous. Their ravages are most pernicious on sitting hens, as here they may have access to their host at all times, causing a rapid loss of blood. Attacks upon sitting hens often result in the hen leaving her nest or in her death, spoiling the hatch in either case. Even if the hen does withstand the ravages of the mite, the newly-hatched chicks are attacked as soon as they emerge from the shell and are often killed in a short time.

The best remedies for mites are cleanliness, sunlight and spraying with disinfectant solutions. The poultry house and fittings should be so built as to be easily cleaned. The walls should be smooth and as free from cracks as possible. Nests, roosts and dropping boards should be easily removable to allow spraying of their entire surface and the walls beneath them. There are several preparations for the eradication of mites of which two good ones are here given:

Shave or chop one 10-cent cake of laundry soap into one pint of soft water. Heat or allow to stand until a soap paste is formed. Stir in one pound of commercial cresol and heat or allow to stand until soap paste is dissolved. Stir in one gallon of kerosene. For use, dilute with fifty parts of water, which will make a milky colored solution.

Commercial cresol is a coal tar by-product and may be obtained from the druggist at about thirty cents per pound. Care should be taken not to get any of it upon the hands or face as it will cause intense smarting.

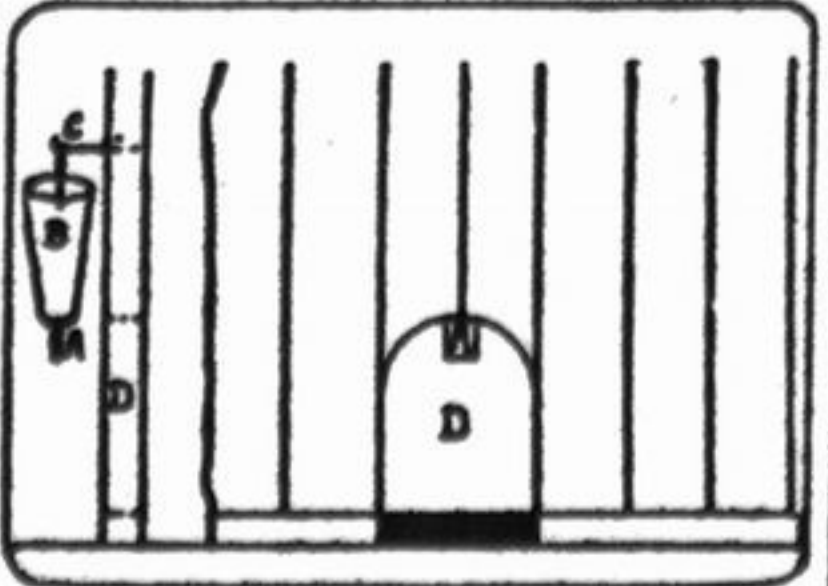
Shave or chop one-half pound of hard soap, add to a gallon of soft water, place on a fire and bring to a boil to dissolve the soap. Remove from the fire and stir in while hot two gallons of kerosene. This makes a thick, creamy emulsion which may be kept as a stock solution. For use dilute with ten parts of soft water. It is better to apply it hot if possible.

Extreme care should be taken that these mixtures do not come in contact with eggs that are sold for table purposes. Eggs sprayed with cresol soap solution taste of carbolic acid.

**KEROSENE FOR THE POULTRY**

**Splendid Results May Be Obtained in Poultry House by Use of Liquid if Applied Often Enough.**

A little kerosene will do a great deal of good in the poultry house if applied often enough. It will check lice and mites, and is a good remedy for throat troubles, as well. It is, however, disagreeable to handle, and rather difficult to apply often enough and in the right quantity. The device here shown is found to be useful for this purpose, says the Wisconsin Agriculturalist. It is automatic. A cut is made with a cold chisel through the bottom of a can or small tin pail, and a lamp wick drawn through the cut rather tightly. This will allow the kerosene to flow through very slowly, and is hung



Automatic Plumage Oiler.

above the small entrance door so that the wick hangs down two or three inches.

There will always be a drop of oil on the wick, and as the fowls come through, they brush against the oily wick and get a very small quantity on their feathers. This is further spread by the process of dressing their feathers, and a sufficient quantity left on the plumage to repel insects without being objectionable.

**Good Ventilation.**

A window covered with muslin provides the best system of ventilation for poultry houses.

**Hundreds of People Keeping Chickens in Small Space.**

**All That is Required is Suitable Ground and Reasonable Knowledge of Principles of Poultry Raising—House is Factor.**

(By PROF. JOHN WILLARD BOLTE.)

Did you know that anyone with a small yard and the ambition to try, can easily keep enough chickens to furnish eggs for the family and enough extra to pay for the keep of the flock? This fact is so well proven that there are hundreds of people doing it in every city and town in the country.

A space of 20 by 30 feet is enough yard for 50 hens, when handled properly. All it requires is the ground and a reasonable knowledge of the principles of poultry keeping. In fact, we know a number of people who are keeping poultry successfully, and the laying hens have never set foot outside of their houses. Of course this intensive method calls for considerable skill and experience in order to avoid disease and kindred afflictions, due to the very close confinement, but fowls can be handled successfully in this way, and the details of this method will be taken up in a later article.

There is absolutely no reason why fowls will not lay as many eggs and do as well in the city as in the country, under normal conditions, and it is possible to produce eggs as cheaply one place as another, buying the same amount of food.

Fowls kept in confinement are usually more profitable than fowls that have free range, all things being considered, hence the city flock is as well off as the country flock. City dwellers also have the advantage of having easy access to sources of cheap feed like bakery and hotel waste, fresh bones from the butcher shop, etc.

The poultry house is one of the most important factors to success, and success means many eggs at a low price. The house should face in such a way that the maximum amount of sunlight shines on the floor during the winter months. This means dry, healthy floors and freedom from disease and colds. A house 10x12 feet will allow sufficient floor space for from 20 to 30 hens, provided the house is kept scrupulously clean, and there is an abundance of fresh air at all times of day or night. Have most of the south side of the house either glass or muslin sash, and fully half of it should be the muslin. Avoid cross drafts and keep the house as dry and clean and sweet smelling as your own.

What sort of hens shall we use? The breed makes absolutely no difference as far as your success is concerned. All of the business breeds are profitable when handled with common sense, and there is a far greater difference between the different strains and flocks in the same breed or variety than there is between the different breeds taken as a whole.

The owner of the city flock can feed his hens at a cost of about a dollar each per year. His return in eggs should be higher per hen than the manager of the large commercial flock gets, and an average of a dozen eggs per hen per month is not at all out of the way for any small flock properly handled. Figure out the profit on 30 hens on your back lot for yourself.

It is not necessary or advisable to keep a rooster with the city flock, as the hens will lay better, if anything, without his presence, and you can buy your young pullets each year just about as cheaply as you can raise them in the city. This does away with the biggest objection to city flocks of poultry, namely the rooster's crowing.

**WATERING DEVICE FOR FOWLS**

**Pennsylvania Man Arranges Fifty-Gallon Barrel That Works Automatically—Burlap Keeps It Clean.**

An automatic watering fountain for poultry is in use by C. C. McCurdy of Crawford county, Pennsylvania, who keeps several hundred white Leghorn fowls, says the Farm and Home. A 50-gallon barrel is cut in two and a hole is bored in one stave a few inches above the bottom for a three-eighths



Automatic Water Fountain for Fowls.

or one-half inch pipe. This is laid into a trough or pan and an ordinary float valve attached which keeps the water in the pan at a certain height. The barrel is then filled with water and covered with a burlap bag, which keeps out the dirt and prevents the chickens from fouling it.

**Knowledge is Lacking.**

The chicken does not refuse to lay eggs or get fat through perverseness of character. It is simply because the owner does not know how to bring about desired results.

**Feeding Old Turkeys.**

Do not feed the old turkeys too much or too softening food, or they will become fat and useless for the market.

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