

Poultry Items for Women

(Concluded from page 19, this issue)

last spring, therefore, set the early hen.

Have a hen house. What can you expect of the poultry that roost in high trees? The feed that goes to keep them warm should be making eggs instead.

A Pan of buttermilk and ground feed now and then will tone up the appetites of the fowls.

Keep a record of your flock the year round. It is the only way to find how much money they are earning. Charge yourself a reasonable price for all the eggs you use.

Let the small boy amuse himself by making you drop nests.

Set the eggs of the good layers and eat the drones.

Hens like clean, comfortable, dark nests. The hens reward us well if provided with them.

Do not permit children, dogs or men to frighten your chickens. Fowls that are easily frightened never do well. Chop the head off the wild pullet.

To break up a broody hen do not indulge in the cruel habit of ducking it in water. Here is a simple and civilized method for breaking up a broody hen:

"When a hen becomes broody let her sit for a few days in order to give her system time to recuperate and at the same time making it easier to get her out of the habit when she is once taken in hand for treatment. After she has had her few days' stay on the nest put her in an airy and roomy coop, the bottom of which is made of strips, with plenty of air space so as to permit ample circulation. Suspend this coop in the air, thus permitting plenty of air from the bottom. Feed lightly, but supply with fresh water. The hen knows only too well that she must have warmth from below in order to hatch anything, and she will soon realize that her case is hopeless and give it up as a bad job."

To keep down lice and mites spray the roosts and walls of the chicken coop with a good disinfectant. If you cannot do this, you can at least clean out the coop and kerosene the roosts well with a rag on the end of a stick. Take the same precautions with the nests.

Do not be one of those women who believe in mixed breeds. Mixed breeds are as profitless in poultry as in the human family.

Select the best shaped eggs for hatching purposes.

Save the poultry-house manure for the garden patch.

Do not let the hens roost in the cow barn, implement house, or other out-buildings.

If you are shipping eggs to town it will pay you to get good shipping parcels. They are cheap.

When digging the garden have a tin can near by for the grub worms.

If your hens have not begun to lay give them green feeds and see the result. If you have no green feed, sprout a few oats for them.

Do not sell eggs for hatching that you would not set yourself. When making a sale, fill the order with the object of having the customer come to you again.

People living on rented property

should build with screws, so that the hen house may be taken down and moved on wagons when necessary.

Whitewash the inside of the chicken coop if the hens are not laying well. It may be that mites and lice are drinking the blood that should go to make eggs.

The best mixture for whitewash I know of is the one recommended by the United States Government. Here it is: Take a half bushel of unslaked lime, slake with boiling water, cover to keep in steam. Strain through a fine sieve or strainer, add a peck of salt, preferably dissolved beforehand; three pounds of ground rice boiled to a paste; stir in while hot half pound of Spanish whiting and 1 pound of glue, previously dissolved. Add about five gallons of hot water to the mixture, stir well, and let it stand for a few days. Apply hot. One pint covers one yard. Will withstand the weather and will not rub off.

Very few people realize the great importance of clean, fresh drinking water for the chickens.

Legislation Needed by Our Rural Interests

(Continued from page 17, this issue)

Commonwealth of South Carolina then say to the capitalist-speculator, "I'll keep your taxation burden light while you make 48 per cent of my white farmers, without homes or shelters of their own, bid higher and higher for the land you hold back from them."

An Improved Torrens System

THEN there is also the Torrens system of registering land titles—a plan whereby the land-owner instead of having to pay over and over again to have his title examined—every time he gets a loan, makes a mortgage or sells a tract—would have it examined once for all, and an official title given him good for all time to come and in as convenient form as the capitalist's share of stock in a corporation.

There is this improvement, however, as advocated by Prof. Harry Clarke, that I believe should be adopted in the Torrens system. Instead of having to pay for the examination of all titles even once, let every land-owner who wishes to do so come into court and prove that he is in peaceable possession of such and such a tract. Then after seven years of undisturbed possession let a Torrens guaranteed and good-forever title be given him. That would reduce expenses and also protect many who fear that in a searching examination some old flaw antedating their purchase might be discovered.

But I must hurry on. Let us consider another question.

Making Country Life More Satisfying

IHAVE said that we must make farming more profitable through economical production, economical marketing, economical credits. I have tried to make it clear that if we are to have either a profitable agriculture or a satisfying community life, we must increase the number of home-owning farmers. I now wish to point out yet another problem that calls imperatively for attention—the problem of properly safeguarding rural white community life.

I suppose if the average public man in the South were asked whether the rural South is getting whiter or blacker, he would unhesitatingly answer, "Why, whiter, I guess."

But what are the facts—the facts as shown by the unimpeachable testimony of the United States Government, census itself? The facts are that the rural South—and by the "rural South" I mean the farms themselves and not the so-called "rural sections" of the census which include

all towns of less than 2,500 people—the real rural South is getting blacker instead of whiter.

Take the South Atlantic states in which we live. Here the number of white farmers during the last census decade increased only 12 per cent, Negro farmers 23 per cent—nearly twice as fast. Or to put it differently, the number of white farmers increased only 60 per cent as fast as our white population, whereas Negro farmers increased 230 per cent as fast as the Negro population. In South Carolina there was not the relative gain of whites or Negroes that there was in some other states, but the Negroes are in the lead, and staying in the lead, the percentage gain for white and Negro farmers in South Carolina in the last decade, being the same—not an encouraging fact when you reflect that South Carolina's first supreme need is to become a state with a predominantly white instead of a predominantly Negro population, and when you reflect further that the Negro acreage increased while the white acreage decreased over 600,000 acres.

An Unfair Social and Economic Competition

NOW why are Negro farmers gaining on the white farmers in getting possession of the rural South, gaining in point both of numbers and land-ownership, and thus increasingly Africanizing one of the finest portions of the whole world—gaining on the white farmers in point of numbers in North Carolina, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee, and Arkansas, and tying with the white man in South Carolina; gaining on the white farmers in farm-ownership in Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, and Louisiana, and in South Carolina also in point of acreage. Why is this? Will anybody say it is because the Negro farmers are superior to white farmers in intelligence? No. Because they are superior in industry? No. Because they are superior in character? No. They are gaining for none of these reasons. They are gaining simply because present conditions give the Negro two unfair advantages in competition with the white man.

First, an unfair economic advantage in that the Negroes are able to buy land and make crops on a scale of living, clothing and housing that the respectable white farmer and his family doing the same character of work cannot meet.

Second, a social advantage in that when Negroes move into a white neighborhood, or begin to outnumber the whites in a neighborhood, or become of bad character, the whites may be forced to move away because there is no longer an adequate white social life, or adequately supported white schools and churches, or else for the greater security of the white farmer's wife and daughters.

I was interested the other day in picking up a copy of that notable set of books, "The South in the Building of the Nation", and I turned to an article wherein Prof. W. M. Morrison of Clemson discussed this very subject of the drift of white people from the farms right here in South Carolina; and what were the reasons he gave? Here they are—

- "Protection of wives and daughters;
- "Better school facilities for the children;
- "Improved church privileges, and
- "More social intercourse."

Now let us analyze these reasons one by one. What will give better "protection for the white farmer's wife and daughters"? Why the development of more nearly white neighborhoods as fast as possible. What will give "better school facilities for the children"? A closer grouping of whites or blacks into homogeneous communities. "Improved church privileges"? The answer is the same. "More social intercourse"? The answer is the same.

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