

Question: "If the cockerel is placed in the breeding pen with two pullets how long would it be before the eggs would prove fertile, and how long should he be allowed to remain in the pen at time?"

Answer: Ordinarily, the cockerel could be kept in the pen continually. You could readily notice the necessity for removing him occasionally, if conditions warranted it. The time in which the eggs would prove fertile would vary with different birds. The safest plan is to base your calculations on the number of eggs laid. It is not generally advisable to mate cockerels and pullets at all. Pullets before being placed in the breeding pen should have laid at least one or two eggs and the third or fourth egg after mating will generally be fertile.

Question: "I have a hen with something wrong in her throat. She makes a guttural noise, keeps her mouth open, and has some cold. Except as mentioned, the bird acts ell. What shall I do?"

Answer: "An examination of the mouth and throat might tell something of the real difficulty. If the nostrils are closed the hen would have to keep her mouth open to breathe. There is likely to be a thick mucous discharge from the lining of the throat. You may find large, cheesy masses, telling you that canker is at work. Whatever the trouble, you will find peroxide of hydrogen very useful as a local application. Twist a small bunch of cotton around the end of a match or tooth-pick, dip it in full strength peroxide, and swab out the whole throat. If you find masses of canker, pick out before applying the peroxide of hydrogen. Keep the bird in a dry, warm coop and feed on soft food.

Question: "Would you advise me to let my pullets and roosters run together all the time, or would you advise me to keep the roosters separate during the laying season and put roosters and pullets together about a week before I want eggs for hatching?"

"(2) If I have fifteen Barred Rock pullets and fifteen Rhode Island Red pullets and a rooster of each kind, in one pen all winter, and a week before hatching egg time put the Barred Rock rooster with the Rock pullets in one pen and the Red pullets and Red rooster in another pen, would the eggs of each be pure in ten weeks' time?"

Answer: Much depends upon the convenience of carrying the roosters by themselves. It is a decided bother to keep a couple of males off by themselves, and costs more trouble and extra labor than it comes to. The pullets will probably lay better if without a male companion, but if they are to be bred from it, might be better to have them accustomed to the company of the male throughout.

(2) The eggs will probably all be pure, but it is not absolutely certain that a female will not be contaminated for the remainder of her life, once she has been topped by a foreign male. There is reason to believe that now and then there are cases where the contamination is never eradicated.

A BOY'S ROOM.

The fact that a boy is a rough and tumble sort of character, is no excuse for giving him the worst room in the house, with an ugly wall-paper, and furnished with all the discards from other rooms.

He is normal, and has all the home-loving instincts of a real man: these may not be apparent in a preference for silver toilet requisites, dainty china ornaments, or wall-paper with a frieze of Cupids and love-knots,

but he does not care to be made the recipient of everything that other people don't want just because he's "only a boy."

He can't be expected to grow up with nice tastes in such surroundings, therefore, see to it, mothers, that the boys' room is a place befitting the boy that you'd like him to be.

A plain cartridge paper in golden tan or a soft shade of brown looks well, and what boy would not be delighted with a frieze showing hunting scenes. A few pictures, in flat dark wood frames are necessary, but not too many, for most boys collect treasures of their own with which to decorate their walls.

Mission furniture is undoubtedly the best, the dark substantiality of this type of furnishing appealing to the masculine taste. A large rocker, an arm-chair, perhaps two or three small plain chairs, and a library table and desk will make a comfortable room, and a divan with a few pillows will be a much appreciated addition. Where the room serves as a bedroom, too, the divan may be used as a bed, and it does not detract from the appearance of the room as a bed would.

Mothers must not expect the same degree of tidiness and order from boys that they do from the girls, the masculine disregard for such trifles as a coat or sweater and a collar and tie lying round on chairs, or a pair of muddy boots sticking out from under the edge of the couch-cover, being sublime, and beyond the comprehension of a mere woman. What matters it so long as the things are easily found when wanted.

One man I know accuses his wife of hiding his clothes just for the express purpose of causing him trouble. In reality she simply trots through the house after him, rescuing a coat from a chair-back in the dining-room, a collar and tie from the gas bracket, and a pair of shoes from under a chair, and places them in wardrobe or rack, where they properly belong. And there are many men like that.

So mothers, imbue your son with the spirit of tidiness if you can, but don't try to nag him into it, that only makes him sullen. Let his things stay where he puts them, then on one of the rare occasions on which he wishes to look smart, he's sure to say: "Oh, mother, I can't go to that affair unless my pants are pressed," then you will get your innings, when you reply: "Well, son, if you had put them away properly after wearing them, they would be in good condition now. I'm sorry, but I can't do them for you at present, I'm much too busy."

This wakes him up to the fact that he cannot impose on you all the time, and that a little care on his part is necessary.

Let his room be a place where his boy friends will be glad to gather on a stormy afternoon; if there is a fireplace, so much the better, they can roast nuts and apples, thus subduing for the time being their natural tendency to naughtiness.—Selected.

It was getting very late and Dubbleigh's gasoline had given out.

"Anybody around here got any gasoline?" he asked, drawing up at a small hotel by the roadside.

"Nobody but me," said the landlord.

"Good," said Dubbleigh. "How much do you want for it?"

"Couldn't sell it to ye to-day," said the landlord. "It's Sunday."

"But see here, my friend," protested Dubbleigh. "What can I do? I—"

"Ye might put up here for the night," said the landlord, indifferently. "Got a nice room I can let you have for seven dollars."

CLAY COUNTY, TENNESSEE.

Dear Mr. Editor:—A called meeting of our union has been ordered to meet in the town of Celina, Saturday, January 25. We have had only one county meeting in Clay County since our county was organized by our State President, Mr. L. M. Rhodes, October 12.

The Farmers' Union had its beginning in Clay County about the first of June, 1912. The message was carried to us by a good old brother in the person of G. W. Gore, a native of Overton County, Tenn. He labored faithfully with the farmers in Clay County, trying to get them interested, and he succeeded in organizing ten locals in the county up to the 12th of October, 1912, when our county was organized, and Bro. E. Bronstetter was elected to serve in his stead. It was some time in the latter part of November, when Brother Bronstetter was commissioned and began the work of lecturing and organizing. He has been very successful. Never in the history of the union in Clay County has the interest been greater than now. There are nineteen locals in the county at present with a membership of over 550. The object of our meeting on the 25th is to get squarely up against a co-operative business proposition.

If this letter misses the waste basket I shall be glad to again report the progress of the union in Clay County, Tennessee.

Yours for the future success of the union in Tennessee and North Carolina.

A. B. NEELY,
County Secretary.

Watch the date on your label.

FARMERS' INSTITUTES, 1913.

- Southern Party.**
- January 13—Lumber Bridge.
- 14—Red Springs.
- 15—John Station.
- 16—Lumberton.
- 17—Dublin.
- 18—St. Paul.
- 20—Wrightsboro.
- 21—Burgaw.
- 22—Hallsboro.
- 23—Fairmont.
- 24—Chadbourn.
- 25—Taber.
- 27—Old Dock.
- 28—Ashe.
- 29—Cook Run S. H.
- 30—Supply.
- 31—Bolivia.
- February 1—Winnabow.
- 3—Council.
- 4—Abbottsburg.
- 5—Atkinson.
- 6—Garland.
- 7—Salem.
- 8—Fayetteville.
- 10—Stedman.
- 11—Wade.
- 12—Dunn.
- 13—Newton Grove.
- 14—Spring Branch.
- 15—Benson.
- Central Party.**
- January 13—Woodard School-House.
- 14—Selma.
- 15—Hood Swamp.
- 16—Salem (Church).
- 17—Falling Creek High School.
- 18—Smith's Chapel.
- 20—Clinton.
- 21—Concord Church.
- 22—Faison.
- 23—Seven Springs.
- 24—LaGrange.
- 25—Snow Hill.
- 27—Pollocksville.
- 28—Harris S. H.
- 29—Beech Grove S. H.
- 30—Bayboro.
- 31—Newport.
- February 1—Vanceboro.
- 3—Kinston.
- 4—Dover.
- 5—Richlands.
- 6—Trenton.
- 7—Grifton.
- 8—Greenville.
- 10—Grimesland.
- 11—Bath.
- 12—Aurora.
- 13—Washington.
- 14—Macesfield.
- 15—Stantonsburg.
- 17—Lucama.
- 18—Stanhope S. H.
- 19—Zebulon.
- Northern Party.**
- January 13—Hertford.
- 14—Currituck Court-House.
- 15—Jarvisburg.
- 16—Elizabeth City.
- 17—Camden.
- 18—Salem.
- 20—Gatesville.
- 21—Winton.
- 22—Murfreesboro.
- 23—Lasker.

- 24—Rich Square.
- 25—Scotland Neck.
- 27—Aulander.
- 28—Mars Hill.
- 29—Windsor.
- 30—Ahoskie.
- 31—Robersonville.
- February 1—Oak City.
- 3—Speed.
- 4—Nashville.
- 5—Whitakers.
- 6—Seaboard.
- 7—Weldon.
- 8—Littleton.
- 10—Warrenton.
- 11—Middleburg.
- 12—Bear Pond.
- 13—Oxford.
- 14—Hester.
- 15—Franklinton.
- 17—Louisburg.



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- TRAINS LEAVE RALEIGH—**
- 9:15 p. m. Daily—"Night Express," Pullman Sleeping Car for Norfolk.
- 6:00 a. m. Daily—For Winston, Washington, and Norfolk—Broiler Parlor Car Service between Raleigh and Norfolk.
- 6:00 a. m.—Daily, except Sunday—For New Bern via Chowan County. Parlor Car Service.
- 3:40 a. m.—Daily, except Sunday—For Washington.
- TRAINS ARRIVE RALEIGH—**
- 7:30 a. m. Daily—11:30 a. m. daily, except Sunday, and 3:30 p. m. daily. Buffet Parlor Car Service on 3:30 p. m. train from Norfolk.
- TRAINS LEAVE GOLDSBORO—**
- 10:15 p. m. Daily—"Night Express"—Pullman Sleeping Car for Norfolk via New Bern.
- 7:10 a. m. Daily—For Beaufort and Norfolk. Parlor Car between Washington and Norfolk.
- 3:10 p. m. Daily—For New Bern, Oriental and Beaufort. Parlor Car Service. For further information and reservation of Pullman Sleeping Car space, apply to C. W. Upchurch, General Agent, or Ralph Duffer, City Ticket Agent, Yarbrough Hotel Building, Raleigh, N. C.

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