

DAIRY AND POULTRY.

INTERESTING CHAPTERS FOR OUR RURAL READERS.

How Successful Farmers Operate The Department of the Farm—A Few Hints as to the Care of Live Stock and Poultry.

PROF. H. L. RUSSELL of the Wisconsin experiment station, writing on the subject of pasturization, says: Under ordinary conditions, milk inevitably suffers a change in its physical composition that soon renders it unfit for human food. This fermentation is commonly called souring, although there are marked under this general name a number of other changes. The souring of milk is due to the action of numerous living organisms that break down the sugar in the milk, forming lactic acid, and the change in the chemical reaction of the milk results in the formation of a hard, firm curd.

If the entrance of these organisms that come from the dust of the air, the dirt and filth that is dislodged from the animal, the impurities that remain in the cracks and joints of the vessels that are used to hold the milk could be entirely prevented, milk would remain sweet for an indefinite period of time. Scrupulous cleanliness in securing and handling such a perishable article as milk does much to keep it in a normal condition, but even with the best of care, much loss is occasioned by the presence of these growing bacteria that are capable of exerting such a profound influence on this food product.

her arrival, gives her a matter to look forward to and even long for, and in the afternoon the cows have a home longing and start for the "bars," and getting up the cows with boy, horse and dog is an obsolete custom on such a farm. In this summer care of the cows their comfort should be looked after in the lot, seeing that there is plenty of good water, and shade of some kind. In the west, on the prairie, this is a feature to be looked after, where the man in the east, with his woodlot part of the pasture and springs by the score on the hill sides, is provided for in the bestowal of nature's gifts. Where the pasture is about destitute of shade, there should be an open barack provided, and water pumped handy by. Of course these things cost not a little, but they pay, and where shade is limited it will also pay to stable the cows in the middle of the day, if good testimony is to be relied upon. If the cow is to be fresh in September or October she should be kept in good heart by some kind of grain, with a generous percentage of albuminous matter in it, to sustain her and develop the milking function. Years ago it was thought the thing to starve the fall milker; now the danger is from the opposite direction, overfeeding. Keep this summer dry cow in thrift, not fatten her, and she will pay it all back in extra milk. The summer milker may not seem to need extra feed, but no grain will be profitable. One profit is to hire her to come home at night, and avoid the expense of keeping a dog to worry her and kill sheep the rest of the time, and when the pastures fall this cow will not shrink like a grass-fed cow. Along these lines there is no end of things to learn, and to advantage, and the chief of these are plenty and a variety of feed, good and abundant water, both at yard and pasture, quiet and comfortable quarters, and regularity of attention.—Practical Farmer.

any other kind of vegetables, with bits of meat, pieces of dry bread (scalded), and on this enough bran, crushed bone and fine grit to make all amount to two and one-half quarts. This is always fed warm and early. Water also is served warm and renewed at noon daily. At noon, three or four handfuls of oats, millet, small feeds among litter. In evening, about one quart of corn or oats, alternately. They started to lay in November and continued till winter, when they stopped for want of sufficient warmth. We then procured a small stove and by running the pipe through both coops warmed both. Since then a magic change has come over them. The stove was in service but a week when they began busshing again and are now keeping it up, having in February produced 330 eggs. At present (March) they average fifteen eggs a day, sometimes yielding seventeen or eighteen. Do you think they are doing as well as they should, and is labor sufficiently repaid? Would be thankful for an opinion. Another query: A friend of mine is anxious to cross Black Minorca cockerel on Brown Leghorn hens. Would there be a gain as to number and size of eggs or any other advantage as layers by uniting the qualities of both?

There is no doubt that warmth is the main factor in securing eggs in winter—changing the season into summer conditions. The objection in the above is a probability that should the house be made too warm the hens may become tender and easily take cold. In regard to the cross mentioned, it is probable that the Black Minorca would increase the size of the eggs, but not the number. We see no advantage in crossing, as it soon leads to mongrels. If size is wanted in eggs why not use the pure Minorca without crossing? A cross destroys many good qualities of both breeds.—American Poultry Keeper.

NOTES OF THE MODES.

CURRENT NEWS OF THE CENTERS OF FASHION.

Old-Fashioned Bonnets Are in Vogue Again—Seen at a Wedding—A French Design—Colors for Elderly Ladies.

OLD-FASHIONED bonnets are in vogue again for small girls all the way from 3 to 12 years old, and are proving to be very becoming. The model sketched is of fine chip, trimmed with dainty Dresden figured gauze ribbon made into soft, falling knots that mount behind the curved poke brim and finish the quaint bobbed-off back of the bonnet. Ties of the ribbon fasten in a soft bow under the chin, and against the hair under the brim there is another knot of gauze. A spray of wild flowers is set loosely on the top of the bonnet, and a close quilting of the ribbon about the brim adds width and softness to the effect. Nothing could be daintier, and—whisper—the 18-year-old sister will look a dream in this same bonnet, if she is only crafty enough to borrow it when she wants to make a special impression on the handsomest man in the world. The soft hair is tied in against the cheeks when the bonnet is in place, and delicate blending of colors in ribbon, straw, and flowers makes the face framed in the wide brim look like a sweet, wild rose, whether it is the 3, the 12, or the crafty 18 year old's. The very high crowned sailor is becoming to no one, no matter what their age, and fearfully undignified on any one past first youth. So, if you invested in such a one, better confess it a mistake and either give up a sailor entirely this season, or try again and buy a moderate crown and a brim to match. The bands of sailor hats are elaborated this year by putting a second band on, only a

rather flat, but had loops of ribbon standing up high at one side of the front; around the crown of this hat chiffon was knotted in a manner much affected just now. Rosettes or fans of chiffon are also much used on this season's hats, by the way. Another bridesmaid wore the costume shown here. The skirt had a strip of lace running up each side with three rosettes on each. The waist was chiefly lace, which formed the yoke—cut very long on the shoulders—the three strips reaching from the yoke to the waist and the gathered epaulets over the large sleeve puffs. It might have been called a lace wedding.—The Latest in Chicago Daily News.

Of French Design.
The numerous alpaca and canvas gowns seem to foretell the decline of



crepon, yet the latest reports from Paris are to the effect that all the new materials being manufactured for winter use are creped in novel designs, and either striped, plaid, or changeable in color. Meanwhile the gowns in evidence, and not those of the future,

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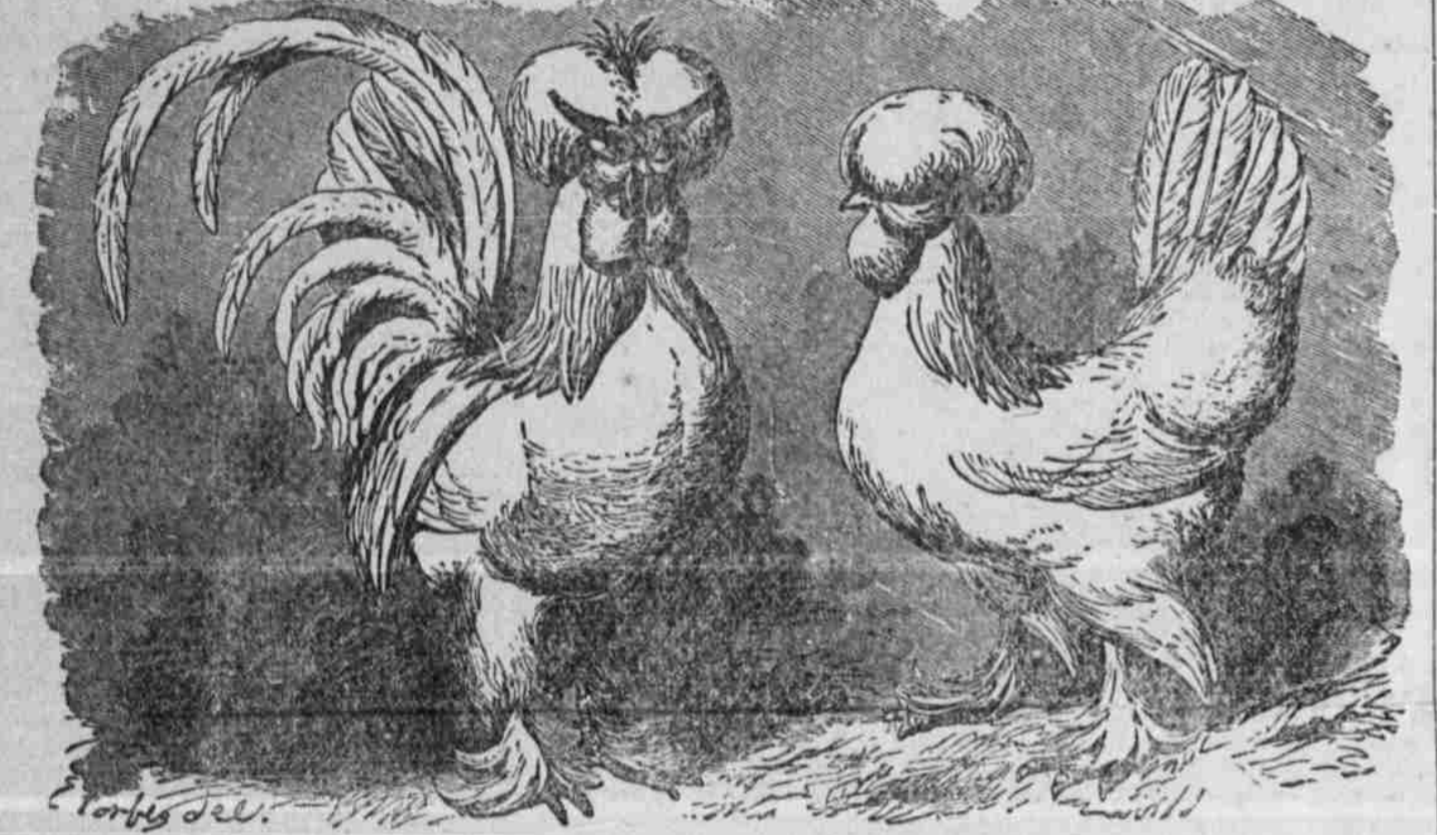
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The fowls shown in the illustration on this page are Sultans, so called because they were imported into Europe

from Constantinople, where they are known as "Sultan's Fowls." They somewhat resemble White Polish, but have

more abundant feathers and shorter legs. They are good layers, their eggs being large and white.

Not only does the consuming public demand that its milk supply should be as free as possible from foreign impurities, so that it will retain its keeping qualities for the longest possible time, but the relations of milk to the public health, especially to the welfare of infants and children, is a question of paramount importance. The recognition of the fact that consumption in its many phases is a common disease of dairy cattle and that the possibility of infection exists through the use of milk of tuberculous animals has done much to awaken the public interest in a closer examination of milk supplies. The various epidemics of typhoid and scarlet fevers as well as diphtheria that have been traced directly to an infected milk supply show conclusively that the possibility of infection being transmitted by means of milk is not to be ignored. In considering the ways in which it is possible to render our milk supplies purer and more wholesome, the hygienic side of the question must be considered as well as the economic phase.

Poultry of To-day.
"The magnificent hen seen today, weighing eight to ten pounds and producing twelve to fourteen dozen of eggs yearly, is not an accident," said Dr. G. M. Twitchell before the Massachusetts board of agriculture some years ago. "She has been evolved out of the brain and hand of man through centuries of breeding and feeding. Left to its native state the product would be only what is necessary to perpetuate the species." The poultryman of today has learned that the matter of feed is far more important, commercially, than breed. True, we have varieties that are better adapted to extensive egg production than others, yet the laying of eggs depends altogether upon the quality of ration the hens of any breed get. Scientific men tell us that an egg is an ounce and a half of concentrated food made up of lime, soda, sulphur, iron, phosphorus, magnesia, oil, and albumen. The hen is the mill to grind, says one, the crop the hopper, and the egg the grist. Every particle of the egg, yolk, albumen, and shell, must come from the assimilated food through the blood cells. If we give a fatty or heating ration we check egg production, because the proper material is missing. Corn contains 86 per cent fat and heat elements, hence is no egg food. We must not guage economy by cheapness. Corn may be the cheapest ration as far as dollars and cents are concerned, in its market value, but it undoubtedly is a dear egg food, for it cannot produce what is wanted. Farmers have the idea that corn will make eggs and for proof refer to the fact that their hens get nothing else, but they forget to note that their stock are allowed perfect freedom, that they gather much in their foraging trips. Worms, bugs, grass, wheat, oats, and what not are to be found on the daily trips of the feathered tribe. So it is not the corn, but the variety of other feed the hens collect that make the eggs, and the former gets the credit. The cheapest egg food, then, is that which gives the most eggs; such a quantity of food, too, as will be thoroughly digested and assimilated. All this science and knowledge the poultryman of today has gleaned and he is keeping on learning.—Ex.

profitable business in England, notwithstanding the general depression, but it is conducted on somewhat different lines from here. They say: The industry is divided into two branches, those of rearing and fattening, carried on, as a rule, by different persons, but combined in a comparatively few instances. The rearers breed and keep chickens till the birds are three or four months old, when the fatteners purchase them at 1s 8d to 1s 6d each, according to the season of the year. Occasionally early birds fetch as much as 3s 9d or even 4s. In spite of losses from disease, rooks, and vermin, rearing must be a very profitable industry, as it is estimated that the average cost of a bird when fit for the fatterer is only 1s. But this branch of the industry is profitable because it is underdone, the fatteners being rarely able to obtain as many chickens as they require. Dairy farming is usually combined with poultry breeding and rearing, the skim milk being given to the fowls and butter being made. The largest rearing farm mentioned by Mr. Rew is one of 200 acres, on which about 8,000 chickens are reared annually, ten dairy cows, other cattle, and some sheep and pigs being also kept.

Government Crop Report.
The July returns to the statistician of the department of agriculture by the correspondents thereof make the following averages of conditions: Corn, 99.3; winter wheat, 65.8; spring wheat, 102.2; oats, 83.2; winter rye, 82.2; spring rye, 77; all rye, 80.7; barley, 91.9; rice 84.4; potatoes, 91.5; tobacco, 85.9. Acreage of potatoes compared with 1894, 107.9, and of tobacco 84.8 per cent. The report on acreage of corn, which is preliminary, shows 107.8 as compared with the area planted in 1894, which was a little over 76,000,000, being an increase of 6,000,000 acres, and aggregating in round numbers \$2,000,000 acres.

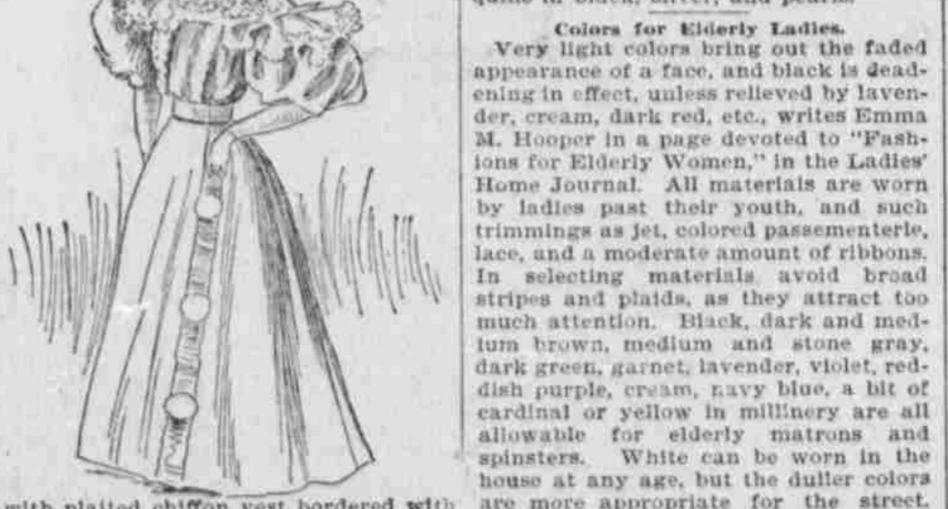
The averages for the principal corn states are: Ohio, 104; Michigan, 104; Indiana, 104; Illinois, 105; Wisconsin, 105; Minnesota, 115; Iowa, 106; Missouri, 107; Kansas, 117; Nebraska, 107; Texas, 112; Tennessee, 107; Kentucky, 102. The average condition of corn is 99.3, against 95 in July last year and 93.2 in 1893. The average of condition of winter wheat is 65.8, against 71.1 in June and 83.2 last July. The percentages of principal states are: New York, 78; Pennsylvania, 88; Kentucky, 85; Ohio, 60; Michigan, 69; Indiana, 85; Illinois, 50; Missouri, 68; Kansas, 42; California, 82; Oregon, 95; Washington, 93. The condition of the spring wheat is 102.2, against 97.8 in June and 68.4 in July, 1894. State averages are: Minnesota, 112; Wisconsin, 98; Iowa, 109; Kansas, 46; Nebraska, 80; South Dakota, 112; North Dakota, 102; Washington, 94; Oregon, 90. The average condition of all wheat for the country is 76.2.



FOR HOUSE WEAR ON WARM DAYS.

third as wide as the first. All combinations of color are admissible, the wide band white and the narrow one yellow being often seen. A few hats have been shown with the narrow hand buckling with a jeweled pin.—Florette in Chicago Inter-Ocean.

Seen at a Wedding.
At a recent wedding party these gowns were worn: By the bride, white faille



with plaited chiffon vest bordered with duchess lace. By the bride's mother, light-gray satin with a panel in the front of the skirt ornamented with a four-looped satin bow near the bottom; the bodice had a blouse trimming of jet, strands confined at the waist with a satin belt and reaching only to the bust, where an immense jet butterfly perched and stretched his wings. Lace epaulets stood out over the immense satin sleeves and the collar was of satin like the belt; and how on the skirt. One bridesmaid's gown was made of fine striped silk in a blue and gray tint. The skirt was perfectly plain; the bodice was a blouse with a wide collar edged with white lace points. Her hat was round and

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