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THAT CARVING LESSON

Father ever was a-blowing
Of his skill with carving knife;
Carving goose no one could beat him—
Well, you better bet your life!

He would swing the knife before him,
Make quick stabs at empty air,
And go through the carving process
As if gander was right there.

"Boy," he said, "go buy a fat goose,
I must teach to you the trick.
You will surely be accomplished
If at carving you are sick."

"Ask the preacher, too, to dinner,
He thinks he can carve a goose.
Well, he'll see an exhibition
When your papa, dear, cuts loose!"

So I went and bought a gander,
Must have been in Noah's ark;
He was tougher than sole leather
Tanned and retanned in oak bark.

Father sharpened up the carver,
Swung it round and round in air;
Then he went for that old gander
With a now-you-watch-me air.

Whang! The knife bounced back from
gander.

Gander made a wondrous spring
And went bouncing round the table
Really like a living thing.

Whacked the preacher on the bald top,
Smear'd Aunt Sarah's best silk dress,
Splashed the preacher's wife with gravy
And just made an awful mess.

No, I never mention carving,
Nor does popper any more.
When that gander took to skiddin'
Pop couldn't hold in—my, he swore!

Did we eat 'im? Well, you bet not!
Old 'Tige's got 'im in the lot.
He's been chewin' for a week now,
But he can't find one weak spot.

C. M. BARNITZ

KURIOS FROM KORRESPONDENTS

Q. Please tell me if the shanks and
soles of the feet of the Black Cochin
and Black Langshan are the same color.
A. The Black Langshan has a pinkish
white sole and bluish black shank and
toes, and the Black Cochin has a yellow
sole and yellowish black shank and toes.

Q. I am raising Belgian hares and
notice you answer questions concerning
them. I have several with ear canker.
Would you use the same remedy for
this as for chickens. A. No. Soak
the canker crusts with lukewarm water,
gently remove and apply powdered
boracic acid once a day until cured.

Q. Will I get a better layer by cross-
ing Single Comb White Leghorns with
White Orpingtons? A. No. The White
Orpingtons are one-third White Leg-
horns, one-third Black Hamburg and
one-third White Dorking. Don't waste
time spilling two good breeds to make
a worse chicken.

Q. What is a serration? A. A point
on a rooster's comb.

Q. I have a Wyandotte cock bird I
wish to show, but find two of his main
tail feathers are broken off. How long
will it take the stubs of these feathers
to drop out and new ones to grow in?
The show is nine weeks off. A. No
telling when the old stubs will drop
out. Better pull at once, and the new
feathers will grow full size in six to
eight weeks.

FEATHERS AND EGGSHELLS.

A farmer at Wilkesbarre, Pa., was
arrested by the scales of weights and
measures for giving short weight on
chickens, but was released after trial
because the court didn't believe he
meant to cheat, though the weight
was wrong. There are lots of anti-
quated scales, many of them out of
gear, and we advise our friends to get
their scales tested lest they make a
mistake and thus lose their reputa-
tions. This includes the town mer-
chant as well as the ruralite. Better
study the law in your state for weights
and measures and scales, for in some
states the use of certain scales is for-
bidden.

A California vacuum cleaner agent
on being turned down everywhere turned
the machine loose in a field full of
grasshoppers. It cleaned 'em right up.
All the farmers now are doin' it. Re-
cently near Newman, Cal., a two horse
team was seen following the cleaners.
The grasshoppers were being sacked
and hauled to the drying shed. Bully
turkey feed? Well, rather!

The principal elements of food are
protein (builder), carbohydrates (fatten-
er), ash (mineral) and fiber (waste).
Such grains as oats, barley and buck-
wheat have much waste; the indigesti-
ble hull is hard to grind. In feeding
them grit to grind and water to soak
the hull should be before the fowls.

John Verhoov, near Paterson, N. J.,
could not understand the disappear-
ance of his chickens. While watching
he saw a flying worm soar over the
fence. An old hen grabbed it, and,
squawk, she was gone! Soon the flying
worm appeared again. The watcher
grabbed it, found a hook and a line
and at the other end caught three boys
with six of his choice hens.

Letting chickens run wild to pick up
their own feed entirely is to reduce
them to a state of nature which means
that they will do all their laying in the
spring, like the rest of the birds.

When a highwayman held up John
Moran of Richfield, N. J., Moran struck
the robber on the head with a turkey
and knocked him flat. Perhaps it was
stuffed with lead slugs like those our
innocent New York friends bought for
Christmas.

It does not take many drone cows or
hens to eat the profit made by the pay-
ing ones, and they should be tested
out. If some farmers would join a cow
testing association they would be sur-
prised to find that few of their cows
pay a profit. It only costs a small fee
to find out.

Winter eggs are extras, as it is only
natural for a hen to lay in spring and
summer. To lay these extras a hen
must have extras, and the fellow who
will not cater to Biddy's appetite in
the cold season will get left.

C. M. Barnitz



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THE POPULAR WHITE EGG—ITS LAYERS.

There's no accounting for some fads and fancies, and among these is the craze for white or brown shelled eggs. While English egg sellers dip white shelled eggs into walnut stain to get the color to catch the fancy price, New Yorkers pay a premium for the chalky white, while in Boston Browning, brown beans and brown hen fruit are synonymous.

No use talking, the pure white egg is a beauty, and the craze for it is so extending that it will soon be national.

Fortunately, the white egg layers are the most prolific and so numerous.

There are forty-three standard varieties that lay white hen fruit, divided



Photo by C. M. Barnitz. WINE LEGHORNS, WORLD CHAMPIONS.

as follows: Leghorns, eight varieties; Minorcas, three; Polish, eight; Game, eight; Hamburg, six; Spanish, three; Andalusians, Anconas, Houdans, Orpingtons, La Fleche, Redcaps, Sultras, Silkies and Sultanas.

Of these the Leghorns excel.

The single comb white Leghorn, "the queen of destiny," is queen of white egg layers, the world's greatest layer, the business hen that holds sway on most of America's egg plants and the egg farmer's dependence to bring the long year. As to which breed lays the largest white egg, the Black Minorca and Houdan fanciers make the same claim, but we rather think the Minorca breeders are easy winners on this point.

Most of these white egg layers are not extra for market.

Some lack in size and juiciness and are hard to fatten, while others have the white skin and pinkish flesh and black or slate blue legs that do not meet the American fad.

Now comes a New York rooster tinner and declares he has evolved a new



Photo by C. M. Barnitz.

PRIZE WHITE SHELLS.

breed, which he calls "the White Egg American Fowl."

He claims this fowl has the laying ability of the Leghorn and the meat quality and size of the Plymouth Rock and Wyandotte.

If the originator can substantiate his claims his new breed will revolutionize the egg industry. We are satisfied to wait and see.

Eggs of this new creation now sell at high prices, so buy early and avoid the

DON'TS.

Don't think hotel garbage is fine poultry feed because it's free gratis for washing. Most of it is fermented, therefore poisonous.

Don't expect birds for the fall show to feather and plump up without special treatment.

Don't worry your gizzard about those chickens if they come from good stock and have been fed and kept right. The fact that's a layer, stayer and payer doesn't show off in a premature egg and then fizzle.