

**POULTRY NOTES**  
BY  
C. M. BARNITZ  
RIVERSIDE  
CALIF.

RESPONSES  
SOLICITED

**ROCKING THE CHICKLET CRADLE.**

When twinelets arrive, order a cradle for two. When it's triplets, order a fit for three. But when it's chicklets you generally order a chick kid cradle for 100 or one to fit the incubator capacity. It is then the chicken furniture man often violates his guarantee and sends a cradle that is too small for those bounding baby boys and girls, and there come sad days to chick babydom. The undertaker gets busy. You cuddle them to sleep in a brooder cradle that should rock only seventy-five. The next morning twenty-five lie outside the cradle in the cold. The seventy-five left is the capacity of the cradle, and you should lose 20 per cent naturally, but they have been weakened by overcrowding, overheating and bad air, and in a few days most of your chicklets will decess. You are ready to hang the murderer of your pretty fluffy birds, but take the lesson that all most learn—never crowd chicks under hens or hovers.

We gave a hen forty peeps. She raised thirty-nine. Gave her the same number the second season. She raised six. "Tell us why." "Woman's contrariness." "No. Too much family. First season was warm and dry; second season, cold and wet. The old hen's heart was big enough, but her white wings and warm breast and big fluff couldn't cradle them all.

Chicks need air under hover. Room needed. They develop rapidly. More room still. Fill the cradle at the start; in a week it is one and a quarter full and the next week worse. You may be able to carry that much, but a chick cradle can't. If you're bound to hatch more than your cradle capacity, let your wife bring the surplus up on the bottle. The next spring she will gladly give you all her Easter hat money for more brooders and sympathize more when you brood.

A brooder run in a brooder house uses less oil, and chicks generate heat. Keep a thermometer in your house and watch the one on your hover, but be sure they are true. We taper down the heat in the incubator nursery to 55 degrees. After thirty hours we remove them to the hover. The first week brooders should be run from 85 to 105 degrees, or according to the height of the hover and the position of the thermometer. After that taper down. Follow the brooder rules unless you find them impractical, and use your own think. Watch the thermometer, but watch the chicks. If they pile in a heap, not sufficient warmth. If they stand up with their mouths open, too hot. If they huddle outside in a corner, the hover is too hot or not warm enough to be inviting. If they lie down like lambs, with their bright eyes peeping out from beneath the hover, it's about perfect. If they are lively as crickets at the dawn, you are master, but if dumpy and not ready for breakfast the ventilation is not right, there is soot under the hover or they had too much supper or got chilled.

**Important Pointer.**—Put a ten-day-old houseless chick in with the new hatch and he will adopt them, teach them to eat and drink and put them to bed. High, round, drumless hovers, with lamp box and chimney outside the brooder, are best. Hot water brooders are hot water breeders. If lamp goes out easily and often or continually smokes, discard machine.

Ventilate the brooder according to rules, but use your own think. Keep the smoke vents open. Brooders with lamp underneath sometimes have hot floors. Prevent with a thick layer of dry lumpy sand. Use this until chicks know what not to eat; then run dry wheat straw through the clover cutter for bedding and scratch floor. But be sure sand and straw bedding are warm and dry. Set in a box of moist earth for playground to relieve dryness of shanks and feet that comes from brooder heat. When chicks parade to sun parlor, change water vessel to keep cool. If soot leaks up into hover, turn brooder over on side, brush off and cover joints with stove cement. Keeping chicks on a board scratching floor for two weeks will prevent gapes. We have scratching playground for a thousand. They are all white. When they tumble into that wonderful scratching stunt for their breakfast they are the prettiest and liveliest moving picture ever.

**DON'TS.**

Don't allow one failure to make you a pessimist. You're mighty small if one can do it.  
Don't forget to provide fat roasts for your own dinners. It's a funny fancer that neglects No. 1.  
Don't get discouraged when the order rack stops. You can take the slack time to count your profits and plan for greater things and shove-the-now.  
Don't wonder that your horses try to run away. Your hens deserted the lousy pen for the barn. Now the barn's lousy, the horses are lousy, and you're a lousy old bughouse yourself.

**Winter Pasture.**

Good place to winter cattle; plenty of pasture, straw and hay; good water and shelter. Address J. H. WINDOM, Culver, Or. 9-10t

**Horses Broke.**

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**Hogs for Sale.**

Hogs for sale, all sizes; inquire of J. E. Wilson, the shoemaker, or E. D. Wilson, Prineville, Or. 9-24

**Fruit and Flowers.**

**BOSTON FERNS.**

They Should Be Grown in a Bright and Airy House.

Preparations for the summer crop of Boston ferns and the various other nephrolepis that are included among the florists' stock are in order. These ferns are readily multiplied by means of their many runners. Plant out the stock plants on a bench, giving them about four inches of good soil of very similar character to that one would plant roses in, and in a few weeks there are likely to be some young plants that may be taken off and potted. When first planted the nephrolepis bed will not require very frequent waterings, but as the plants become well rooted and grow freely they will take up a great deal of water, for they should be grown in a bright and airy house in order to keep the young plants short and stocky. A night temperature of 60 to 65 degrees is quite warm enough, states Gardening.

These nephrolepis are sometimes troubled with a rather flat, brown



**NEPHROLEPIS SUPREBESIMA.**

scale, but the young insects are white and at first glance resemble tiny pieces of white cotton on the underside of the frond.

This insect is very destructive, and its ravages soon show in the form of light colored spots that appear on the upper side of the leaf, proving that the insects have been satisfying their appetites with the juices of the leaf. A dipping in tobacco extract will help in killing this pest, but strong tobacco solution is also liable to injure the tips of the fronds. The growing tips of the nephrolepis fronds are quite tender, and it is better to throw away a plant that is badly infested with this scale than to risk further trouble with it. Be very careful to plant out none but clean plants for stock, else the trouble will become more marked the following season.

Instead of risking fine specimens of new sorts of nephrolepis by continued division of all the stock put a few in a bench solely for the purpose of increasing the stock and leave the others alone. Instead of mutilating good sized plants when enough small plants to increase the stock are not on hand buy small plants of some one who has them in abundance.

**Transplanting Evergreens.**

I have transplanted many hundreds of evergreens, and where I kept a good ball of earth about the roots and quickly got the trees from the old to the new location, so that there was no drying out of the roots. I have invariably had success, remarks a writer in Country Gentleman.

The native white spruce and the native white pine are beautiful trees, the former being found fully branched to the ground at a known age of fifty years. Many trees of this variety will be found having a decidedly bluish color—as blue as many of the sister variety, the Colorado blue spruce. I have seen quite extended areas on the coast of Maine that were a perfect mass of blue. The spruce delights in a moist soil, and this should be kept in mind when planting the trees. Sandy soil and dry sections of country are commonly associated with pine trees, and while this tree does have the ability to grow under such conditions, it does not follow that it will not do very much better as regards growth if given moist and richer soil.

**Leaf Spot of the Violet.**

Circular brown spots on leaves. This and other violet diseases can best be controlled by growing only the strongest and healthiest plants that can be secured and keeping them under the best condition throughout the year, removing or burning all diseased parts and disinfecting the houses and beds.—T. B. Symons.

**The Low Headed Tree.**

The low headed tree is much easier pruned, sprayed, picked and the trunk protected from sun scald. Cultivation can usually be easier done with low headed trees than with high headed ones, as they are usually grown. Ordinarily the trees are not kept pruned and the limbs droop so as to hinder cultivation.

**Well Drilling.**

If you are contemplating drilling a well, any depth, write JOHN MOORE, Redmond, Oregon. 9-10t

**Horse Lost.**

Gray mare, branded 24 on left shoulder; strayed from Barney place on Mill creek; information wanted leading to recovery. Address ARTHUR MINKLER, Prineville, Or.

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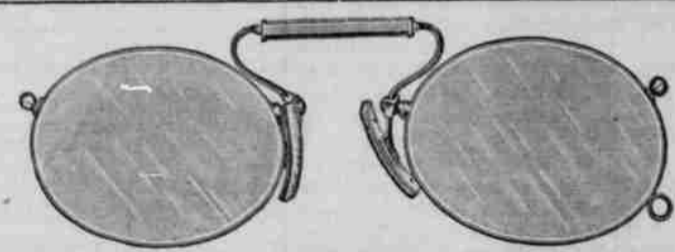
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