Catarrh

Is a Constitutional Disease

It originates in impure blood and requires constitutional treatment, acting through and purifying the blood, for its radical and permanent cure. The greatest constitutional remedy is

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In usual liquid form or in chocolated tablets known as **Sarsatabs.** 100 doses $1.

Nasal and other local forms of catarrh are promptly relieved by Antiseptets or Catarrlets, 50c., druggists or mail.

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Stanzas to a Chorus Girl.

I am sorry you can't be my bride, May,
But my father won't give his consent,
And if he, in a rage, cut me off, May,
Why I never could pay for our rent.

But why should we live any more? May,
In death we should not be apart.
I suffer alone, and am seized, May,
With a grief that is searing my heart.

So let's flee from the odious world, May,
Where there's nothing but troubles and cares,
Ah, won't it be grand, when we two, hand in hand,
Are climbing the golden stairs?

The Rub.

Ostend—Pa, what do they mean when they say "Money is easy" in Wall street?

Pa—They mean that it is easy, my son, because they have just gotten it from easy people.

Ostend—Then why can't we get it?

Pa—Because those that have a hold on it are not easy.

An Advantage.

"But your country is so lacking in places of historic interest," said the European.

"That's one of it's great advantages," answered Mr. Cumrox. "In this country a man can travel for hours without being obliged to listen to a lecture."—Washington Star.

He Could Not Tell a Lie.

Inquiring Lady—How much milk does your cow give a day?

Truthful Boy—'Bout twelve quarts, lady.

Inquiring Lady—And how much of that do you sell?

Truthful Boy—'Bout twelve quarts, lady.—Human Life.

There are now over 250,000 words in the English language acknowledged by the best authorities, or about 70,000 more than in the German, French, Spanish and Italian languages combined.

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WHY EGGS ARE HIGH.

Some Ways This Expensive Necessity May Be Turned to Profit.

By James Dryden, Poultryman Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis.

Eggs are 50 cents a dozen, because the hens don't lay. The main reason why they don't lay is because this is not the natural laying season. In a state of nature fowls lay and breed in the spring season, and they haven't got quite away from that habit. Old habits die hard with hens as with men. This explains why with little care the hen will lay in the spring and with much care in the fall and winter she won't lay, or very seldom will. But through centuries of training and breeding the hen is gradually getting away from her old habit of laying a few eggs in the spring and hatching them, and it is possible now, with the proper skill in handling, to make her lay in winter whether she will or no. But the first thing we have to learn is that to get eggs in winter means a fight against nature, against the old hen nature. Winter is not the natural laying season.

When a pullet has reached maturity, no matter at what season of the year, if she be maintained in good health and vigor and gets the proper kind and quantity of food, she will lay eggs if she has the laying capacity. Let us analyze that sentence a little.

The first point raised is a question of maturity. The pullet must be mature before she lays. If a pullet lays in October she must be hatched early enough in the spring so that she will reach maturity in October. A Plymouth Rock hatched the first of April should lay the middle of October or first of November. If they are to lay a month earlier they should be hatched a month earlier. The Leghorns should lay the first of October if hatched the first of April.

The next point refers to health and vigor. The pullet must come to maturity with good health and vigor. She must have had proper care during the brooding and growing period. A stunted chick, a chick hatched from an egg laid by a hen out of condition, a chick that has had to battle with insect pests or a chick that has not had proper food and exercise, will not be a profitable layer in any season. How to maintain the health and vigor of the flock is the biggest problem in poultry keeping. To get eggs in winter the hens must have constitutional vigor.

The third point is that to get eggs the hens must have the proper kind and quantity of food. The hen requires more kinds of food than a cow or a hog. The cow needs no animal food; the hen does. The hen gives more consideration to cleanliness of the product than the cow. She seals it up in a shell of lime to keep it clean, and she therefore must have a liberal supply of mineral matter. All foods furnish a certain amount of mineral matter, but not enough to supply all the shell material when hens are laying heavily.

What foods should they be fed? They should have grain, but grain alone won't do. What will happen if the hen eats nothing but wheat? Remembering that she puts nothing into an egg that she does not eat, that an egg contains about one-fifth ounce of fat and that if she ate nothing but wheat she would get enough fat for three or four eggs a day and about enough protein for half an egg a day, the thing that will happen will be that she will refuse to make eggs. The hen does not adulterate her product, otherwise she could fill up the egg with surplus fat, like some people make butter, out of spurious oil or beef fat. She will make an honest article or none at all. The point is that the hen should have such foods as will furnish the necessary food elements in proper proportions; in other words, she should have a balanced ration. There are different ways of balancing the ration. For instance, if the hen has access to wheat, to clover or kale and to grasshoppers, angleworms and grit, she will balance her own ration. She will eat a little wheat, a little clover and a few grasshoppers or angleworms and eat enough of each to furnish the egg-making elements in right proportion. An occasional feed of corn or oats in place of wheat would improve the ration.

This much for the food. How shall it be fed? Again you must take account of the nature of the hen. She is a busy creature naturally; that is part of her life, and you must keep her busy or let her be busy. If she has free range on the farm she will keep herself busy and her muscle and digestion in good order, but when you shut her up in yards you are imposing artificial conditions and you must provide exercise for her. I have kept hens for a year on a bare board floor in a small pen and fed them well. They laid about three dozen eggs each during the year, and at the end of the year with this sort of luxury and ease they had lost their constitution and their usefulness; while other hens fed in the same way, but with a ground floor and deep litter to scratch in and yards to run in, laid over twelve dozen eggs each, and at the end of the year were still in the business. The hen needs exercise. The demand for animal food may be supplied in different ways. Skim milk, milk curds and buttermilk will take the place of meat if enough of it can be fed. Skim milk is largely water, and a heavy-laying hen can scarcely drink enough of it to get the necessary amount of animal food. There is nothing better than fresh-cut lean meat and bones, the danger from uncooked meat scraps, however, being that they are liable to contain disease germs, and unless it is known to be free from disease it is better to cook it. The commercial article of beef scraps put up by the large packing houses are largely used, some of the stuff sold for poultry food is only fit for fertilizer, however. During seasons of the year when insects and worms are plentiful and the fowls have the liberty of the farm, little animal food may be fed.

Another point about feeding grain: Should it be ground or fed whole? It is known that a certain proportion of the food of fowls is used to produce energy to grind the food, and from this point of view it is cheaper to have the food ground at the mill. But it has been found by experiment that fowls do not do well when fed altogether on ground food.

The final point in this discussion is the laying capacity of the hen. If all the three things mentioned above be properly attended to, there will still be a scarcity of eggs unless the fowls have the laying capacity, and it is no fault of the hen if she hasn't; the trouble goes back to her ancestors.

COMMERCIAL POTATO GROWING

Some Good Points on One of the Most Profitable of Crops.

By A. G. Craig, Assistant Horticulturist, State College of Washington, Pullman.

Potato land should be plowed in the fall and allowed to lie rough during the winter. This favors the catching of winter moisture, and allows the subsurface soil to settle and the surface can be worked earlier in the spring. If the fall plowing is impossible, the land should be disced in the fall so that the surface may be rough and open through the winter. Deep plowing usually gives better results than shallow. The plowed land should be well harrowed early in the spring, and if not immediately planted, it should be frequently harrowed in order to conserve moisture and kill the weeds which start after the first harrowing. Spring plowed land should be harrowed immediately after the plow, to prevent loss of moisture. In the dryer sections, some form of subsurface packer should follow the plow, and this should immediaetly be followed by the harrow to work up a surface mulch. If the soil plows up cloddy, a plank clod masher may be used quite profitably.

The time of planting should be governed largely by the climate and the purposes for which the potatoes are grown. The potato plant needs ample moisture when the tubers are setting; hence, the grower should endeavor to have the plants reach that stage of development at the time when the moisture supply is likely to be favorable. For early new potatoes, the seed should be planted as early in the spring as the soil will permit, on light, warm soil. For late potatoes they may be planted as late as the middle of June, provided the moisture supply is ample and continuous; but where summer rains cannot be depended upon, the earier the potatoes are planted the better, if the danger from frost is guarded against.

The distance between rows and between hills in the row is an important point in the potato culture. Varieties that tend to produce very large tubers should be planted close. Soil will admit of close planting in direct proportion to its fertility and moisture content, and the care given the crop. In high priced land, intensive culture should be practiced and the rows and hills planted as closely as the fertility of the land will permit. Increasing the size of the "seed pieces" will accomplish the same results as close planting, but the danger of sunburned tubers is apt to be increased.

No farmer who grows six or more acres of potatoes each year can afford to do without a horse planter. Of the several methods of hand planting, the following is the most satisfactory:

After the soil is well prepared, open up furrows to the proper depth with a single shovel plow. After the seed is dropped, cover with the plow and harrow thoroughly. The depth of the planting should depend upon the texture of the soil, and upon whether early or late potatoes are desired. Five inches is not too deep for late potatoes, on light, mellow soils, but three to four inches is better for an early crop, or on very heavy, or very wet soil.

The amount of seed to use varies from three to ten sacks per acre, and depends upon the variety of the soil. Varieties which tend to produce very large tubers should have a large quantity of seed. Rich land should receive more seed than poor land. If the seed pieces are not too large, the number of eyes to each piece makes no difference. It is more important that the size of the pieces sohuld be uniform than that there should be the same number of eyes in each piece.

Frequently only a part of the potatoes which are planted come up. This may be due to one or more of several causess, all of which should be guarded against. Cut seed potatoes should never be allowed to remain in piles until they heat, and are thereby seriously injured. Seed potatoes that have been exposed to too low temperature will seldom give a uniform stand. All decayed tubers and those which have brown or black spots through the flesh should not be planted as there are two diseases which are found in this state which are sure to result in an unsatisfactory stand if seed infected with them is planted.

Cut seed should never be planted deeply in the cold wet soil, or unsatisfactory germination is sure to result. Finally, in the dryer sections, potatoes should be planted to uniform depth below the dry surface mulch in order to secure a uniform stand.

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Aesop in "Little Italy."

A school teacher in the Italian quarter of an American city told her children the story of the fox and the grapes. Tony was especially delighted with the story, and eagerly sought his chum, Joe, who was in another class. By good luck, the teacher overheard Tony's version.

In his excited, broken English he told the fable much as it was written, until he came to the end. This was his rendering of the climax:

"De olda fox he say, 'Da grape no good, anyhow; alla sour. I guess I go geta de banan.'"

One More Unfortunate.

The police justice looked at the battered, disreputable specimen of manhood before him and turned to the policeman.

"Officer," he asked, "what is the complaint?"

"Rheumatiz, y'r honor," spoke up the prisoner, answering for himself.—Chicago Tribune.

He Couldn't Tell a Lie.

"Well, good-by, dear!" said Mr. Trueboy to his beloved spouse. "I must go and dictate those letters—twenty-six of them—so you mustn't expect me home very early."

"All right!" was the response. "But I wish you wouldn't work so hard."

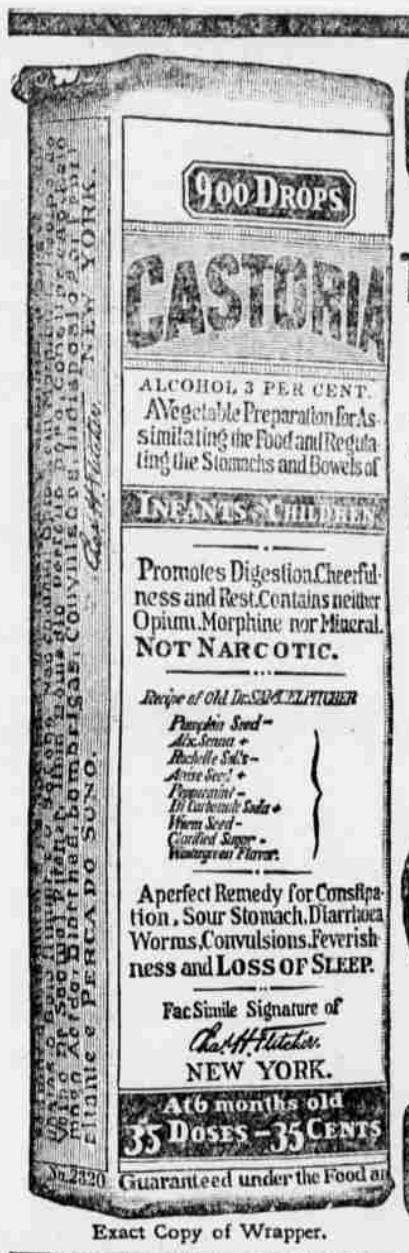
Half an hour later, Mr. Trueboy entered his club and sat down, with three others, at a card table.

"Just a moment, you fellows, before the first hand is dealt. I've got to keep my word with my wife. One of you just take down what I dictate: 'A b c d e f g h i j k l m n o p q r s t u v w x y z.' There! Those letters are off my mind."

By Ear.

Stranger (on horseback)—Uncle, what is the price of oats to-day?

Uncle Jed (sitting on the fence)—We don't sell our votes in these diggin's, mister. Be you a candidate?



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