

# BEAVER STATE HERALD

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## Making Money On the Farm

### XIII.—Poultry Parasites and Diseases

By C. V. GREGORY,  
Author of "Home Course in Modern Agriculture"  
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**T**HE most discouraging thing about the poultry business is the great number of parasites and ailments which affect the flock. Unless special precautions are taken the fowls are continually dying from one cause or another, and the profits shrink correspondingly. Most of these troubles are easily preventable if a little care is taken. One of the most important considerations is cleanliness. The house should be cleaned out frequently and sprinkled with quicklime or some disinfectant. Lime scattered about the yards also helps. The coops and smaller buildings should be moved from place to place frequently. Whitewash should be used liberally everywhere. One of the best kinds of whitewash is made according to what is known as the government formula, as follows:

Slack half a bushel of lime in boiling water. Strain and add a peck of salt that has been dissolved in warm water, three pounds of ground rice boiled to a thin paste, one-half pound powdered Spanish whiting, one pound of fine dissolved in warm water. Mix these well and then let the mixture stand for several days. Heat before using and apply hot.

**Importance of Pure Water.**

One important means of keeping fowls healthy and one that is often neglected is giving them a constant supply of pure water. Because fowls do not require water in as large quantities as other animals it is often thought that they can get along without any except what they get in puddles in the barnyard. They will drink such water if they can get no other, but it is just as bad for their health as it would be for yours. This is a matter which is too often overlooked, and poultry raising for profit becomes impossible on that account.

Water put out in open troughs soon becomes warm and dirty, and if there should happen to be a contagious disease in the flock it will be rapidly spread through the water. A common hog waterer attached to a barrel on the shady side of the poultry house is one of the best ways of supplying water. If filled once a week or so no further attention is needed. A jug or large bottle of water inverted over a shallow pan in such a manner that the opening is just covered by the water in the pan makes a good drinking fountain. The water will run down into the pan as fast as it is used. There are several types of metal fountains on the market which work on this same principle. Most of them are cheap and satisfactory.

almost the entire flock. These diseases, like contagious diseases of man, are caused by bacteria or germs. These are tiny cells which gain entrance to the body and grow there. Death is not caused by the germs themselves, but by certain poisons which they give off. After germs gain entrance to the body they are difficult to combat, since anything that will kill the germ will usually kill the fowl also. Germs cannot gain a foothold in a perfectly healthy bird; hence one of the best means of combating contagious diseases is by keeping the flock so healthy that they cannot get a start. Another important measure is the liberal use of disinfectants about the poultry houses and yards. Plenty of sunshine in the poultry house will help to keep it clean. Selling off the old stock before it becomes feeble and useless is a great help, since it is these old birds that are the first to succumb to unfavorable conditions.

One of the most serious of these contagious diseases is cholera. The common symptoms are great thirst, listlessness and yellowish or greenish droppings. Heroic measures are needed to stamp out this disease. All sick fowls should be killed and burned. The yards and houses should be thoroughly sprinkled with some disinfectant solution. A coal tar dip mixture is good, or carbolic acid may be used at the rate of one gallon to twenty gallons of water. The drinking water should be disinfected by adding one part of corrosive sublimate to every 2000 parts of water. There is no way to cure the fowls after they once get the disease. All that can be hoped for is to save the well ones.

Probably the most common poultry disease is roup. This is really a germ disease, but the germs cannot well get a foothold except under special conditions. These are found when the bird catches cold. The germs work mostly in the nasal passages, causing a cheesy secretion that has a very disagreeable odor. The head swells, the eyes often being swollen entirely shut. An affected bird may live for a long time and sometimes even get well, but it is seldom worth anything. The treatment consists in killing the affected birds and removing the cause. Exposure to cold and dampness is among the chief causes. A dry, warm house, especially one with a curtain front to provide for plenty of ventilation without drafts, is one of the best preventive measures. The curtained roosting apartment also helps to keep the fowls from catching cold in severe weather.

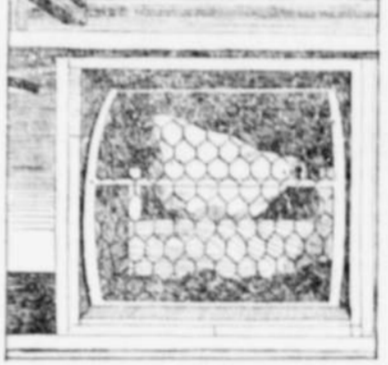


FIG. XVI.—TRAP NEST IN OPERATION.

agreed odor. The head swells, the eyes often being swollen entirely shut. An affected bird may live for a long time and sometimes even get well, but it is seldom worth anything. The treatment consists in killing the affected birds and removing the cause. Exposure to cold and dampness is among the chief causes. A dry, warm house, especially one with a curtain front to provide for plenty of ventilation without drafts, is one of the best preventive measures. The curtained roosting apartment also helps to keep the fowls from catching cold in severe weather.

**Lice and Mites.**

The most troublesome parasites of poultry are lice and mites. These pests are very different in their habits. The lice remain on the bird all the time, eating the feathers and skin. They are not usually present in large enough numbers to do any considerable damage, except to sitting hens and small chicks. One of the most effective means of combating lice is the dust bath. This is simply a convenient sized box filled with fine dust in which the hens can roll. Lice and other insects breathe through tiny holes along the sides of their bodies. The dust fills these holes, and they die of suffocation. A little turpentine added to the dust bath makes it more effective.

The dust treatment is usually all that is required to keep the lice in check. Where they get unusually bad pyrethrum or tobacco dust blown in among the feathers is effective. This plan takes too long to be used extensively, however. Lice frequently make their way from the hen to the chicks at hatching time and often cause the death of many of them. The best way to prevent this, of course, is to see that the hens are free from lice before the chickens hatch. One of the best remedies is to dust the chicks with insect powder or paint them around the neck and under the wings with a sulphur and hard mixture.

Mites are much worse pests than lice. They live in the crevices in the walls and roosts, attacking the fowls at night. They do not eat the skin, but bore through it and suck the blood. Mites are so small that they can hardly be seen with the naked eye, but the damage they do is not measured by their size. Half the so-called diseases to which poultry are subject are caused by mites. When fowls sicken and die without any apparent cause it is time to look for mites. Painting the roosts and adjacent walls thoroughly with crude petroleum or kerosene will destroy many of them. The same treatment should also be applied to coops and nest boxes. The litter under the roosts is often a breeding place for mites. It should be cleaned out frequently and hauled away. After cleaning out, the floor should be thoroughly soaked with a strong solution of some coal tar dip. If the poultry house is fairly tight burning sulphur in it will effectively destroy all mites within reach of the fumes. Keeping vermin and disease in check requires considerable work and constant vigilance, but it is work that will be well repaid in the improved health of the flock.

**DAD'S (PAY) DAY.**  
Dad must be gettin' nervous now,  
Because his day is near,  
It's not just like dear mother's day,  
When all is love and cheer.  
The women folks all pull his leg,  
The kids all stand around and beg,  
The girls just grab him round the neck  
And noller, "Where's my Christmas check?"  
It's "Dear old daddy!" "Darling Pa!"  
But, oh, if he don't quickly pay  
Behind his back those women jaw,  
"He's gettin' tighter every day!"  
Say, dad, now, how do you pull through  
With everybody after you,  
When every day you hear them say,  
"This is your day. Now pay, pay, pay!"  
But when dad puts up Christmas cash  
What does he get for being rash?  
Those women hunt a bargain sale  
And buy him junk all worn and stale.  
Cigars a Greaser wouldn't smoke,  
Suspenders always going broke,  
While to outsiders go the best,  
Bought by the cash from poor dad's chest.  
Hist, dad! Your day is comin' nigh,  
You better hang your pants up high,  
Those women folks are round to say,  
They'll steal your wallet on the fly.  
C. M. BARNITZ.

**OUR SHOW BIRD DRYING MACHINE.**  
Who can blame that fancier's wife for knocking when he blocks her tidy kitchen with show coops in which washed roosters are hung up to dry? Hardly think a judge would withhold a divorce if he saw those roosters



SHOW BIRD DRYING MACHINE. Scratching sawdust on to the floor or was awakened in the morning at 4 by those kitchen crows disturbing his snore.

Now, to prevent family jars and to make it easy for showmen to dry their birds evenly and quickly we present a picture of our drying machine. A dry goods or piano box may be easily converted into this convenience.

Place door in back to admit stove, ventilators below in front, register in floor in back of drying room, ventilator in top and a drop curtain.

Use a smokeless heater, regulate temperature by wick and thermometer and don't forget that too fast drying makes a rooster look like a red-headed white chrysanthemum.

**OH YOU CHRISTMAS TURKEY!**  
Hats off! The gobble's passing by.  
See him show off his red necktie,  
What a bay window! Oh, what a strut!  
See his bronze wings flash open and shut!  
Gob, you're a dude, you dandy sport,  
I dressed in gold brocade and big fan tail too!  
No sport on Broadway can prance like you do.  
Ah, there, you dandy, you pretty peach, you!  
Oh, you plump turkey! My, you're a dream!  
Oh, juicy breast meat, richer than cream!  
Stuffed and gravyed—my, but you're fine!  
Roast pig for England, but turkey for mine!

Say, there, my tailor, make that waist wide.  
Need lots of room for turk Christmastide.  
Now pass the turkey. Oh, you rich taste!  
Life here without you would be a waste!  
C. M. BARNITZ.

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### EDITORIAL COMMENT

IT IS NOT the Herald's intention to take up anybody's quarrels or local differences. Several attempts have been made recently to use our columns for this purpose and in some instances matter has been used that we afterwards found was not worthy of space. We hope that our acquaintances will not supply us with information relative to their local or neighborhood quarrels, or jokes of a personal nature, expecting to have such material placed in print. The less said about a quarrel the better, and even though the Herald is a small institution, it is too large to lend its favors to those who wish to advertise neighborhood dissension or private misunderstandings.

**A. L. MILLS**, president of Portland's biggest bank, evidently knows what he is talking about when he says the Pacific Northwest is the most prosperous section of the United States. He says capital of the country is easy and it is coming this way for investment in large quantities. Prospects for this year are the best, he says, the Northwest has ever known. He naturally attributes a very large part of the activity and hustle hereabout to the large amount of railroad building now under way. This work, he says, is showing the confidence the leaders in the financial world have in this section and it naturally breeds confidence in others.

**JOHN F. STEVENS**, president of the Oregon Trunk railway, now under construction up the Deschutes to central Oregon, says 5000 men are at work on the 109 miles now under construction, or nearly as many men as were ever employed on the construction of the 370 miles of the North Bank road. He says the new line is of the most modern construction and the whole thing is being pushed to the utmost possible energy. The present plan is to build south only as far as Bend, although maps have been filed from Bend south to the Klamath Indian Reservation.

**THESE** fine spring days are just the time for an annual clean-up and righting of fences. Burn all the trash and thus catch the insects that have housed therein during the winter, and prune the currant and berry bushes. Burn the stems with the other trash. Better get cultivators and plows out and see that they are in good repair, for if you can't use them now you will soon need them and save time by being prepared.

**THE** work on the new buildings at the Oregon agricultural college is progressing rapidly. Every effort is being made to put the campus in order for the big quarter-century celebration which will be held during commencement week.

**D**ESPITE heavy weather of the past winter, inquiry into crop and stock conditions show that losses have not been so general as was feared. Some stock was lost on the range but the percentage is not large. Prospects in the extensive grain districts of Eastern Oregon are reported to be excellent for a bumper crop. Grain prospects in the Willamette Valley are said to be somewhat less satisfactory. Because of the unusually heavy snowfall in the mountains during the past winter, there will be plenty of water for irrigation purposes this year.

**WORD IS OUT** that County Clerk Fields is to be independent candidate for re-election. There is no reason why this announcement should not find general favor. Mr. Fields has made a good officer, and it is cheaper to keep a good experienced officer than to take chances of getting a poor inexperienced one. Getting the experience necessary to conduct any office economically is always expensive to the county and should always be avoided if possible. The office has no political importance and can as easily be considered independently as not.

**WE HAVE** just received a letter from Edward A. Beals, U. S. weather bureau of Portland, seeking information in reference to snowslides and avalanches. Isn't this Oregon, and do we have such calamities here? Does he think this is a cold, mountainous country like Washington, where transportation is blocked a month at a time by snowslides? And yet we are only six miles from Portland.

**A Sprained Ankle.**

As a rule a man will feel well satisfied if he can hobble around on crutches in two or three weeks after spraining his ankle, and it is often two or three months before he is fully recovered. This is an unnecessary loss of time as by applying Chamberlain's Liniment as directed, a cure may as a rule be effected in less than one week's time and in many cases within three days. Sold by Gresham Drug Co.

**Stomach Trouble Cured.**

If you have any trouble with your stomach you should take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. J. P. Klotz of Edina, Mo., says: "I have used a great many different medicines for stomach trouble, but find Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets more beneficial than any other remedy I have ever used." For sale by Gresham Drug Co.

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A store's advertising is an unfailing test of the store. The thermometer does not more surely record degrees of heat or cold than the store ad records the degrees of enterprise and enthusiasm in the store management.

**Fever Sores.**

Fever sores and old chronic sores should not be healed entirely, but should be kept in healthy condition. This can be done by applying Chamberlain's Salve. This salve has no superior for chapped hands, sore nipples, burns and diseases of the skin. For sale by Gresham Drug Co.

You can get The Herald for one year, Farm Journal two years and Horse Secrets for only \$1.50. You should take advantage of this combination.

**Strong Vitality Necessary.**

Many of the diseases to which poultry is subject are due to inherited weakness. Experiments have proved that vitality and vigor are readily transmitted from parent to offspring. In an experiment at the Cornell station two pens of fowls were selected. One had especially strong vitality, and



FIG. XXV.—BREAKFAST IN POULTRY YARD.

the other was only medium in this respect. The progeny of each of these pens was given the same kind of feed and care, and in the fall the results were tabulated. It was found that the chickens from the strong vitality pens matured from three to four weeks earlier and were worth 25 cents apiece more at maturity. It is this lack of selection for vitality that causes so many of the fancy varieties to run out. Vitality is the most important single point to be looked to in poultry raising, especially in selecting fowls for the breeding pen. If such selection is made, the health and vigor of the flock will be greatly improved and the losses correspondingly decreased.

**Contagious Diseases.**

Poultry is subject to a few contagious diseases, which often wipe out

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Lents Junction	7:30 8:45 9:45 10:45 11:45 12:45
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