

OUR COMIC SECTION

Along the Concrete



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THE FEATHERHEADS

So Felix Discovered

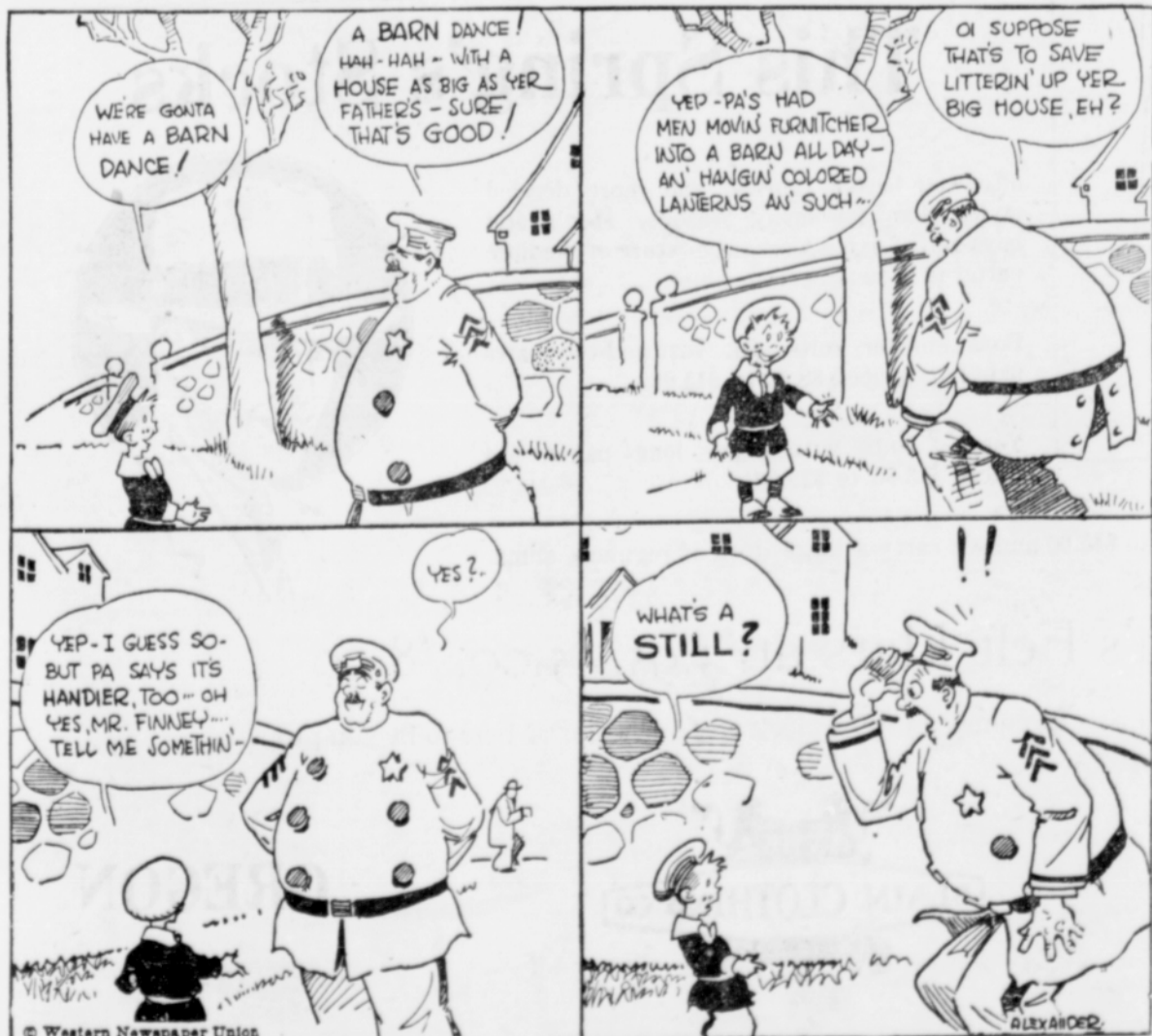


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CASBORG

FINNEY OF THE FORCE

Little Willy Lets Something Out



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ALEXANDER

POULTRY

FIRST WEEK IS CHICK'S CHANCE

The first seven days are the hardest a baby chick has to live. It is during this week that careful feeding and close attention to brooding and temperatures are especially important.

Many poultrymen feed their chicks too young. A few make the mistake of waiting too long to give them their first feed. The proper time is between 48 and 60 hours after hatching, says J. G. Halpin, poultry specialist at the Wisconsin College of Agriculture. A chick ration, developed by poultry specialists at the college farm and used by thousands of poultrymen in Wisconsin and the Middle West, consists of 80 pounds ground yellow corn, 20 pounds wheat middlings, 5 pounds each of raw bone meal and chick-size oyster shell, and one pound of salt with skim milk to drink and plenty of sunlight.

This ration may be used as the first feed and continued until the chicks are several weeks old, says the specialist, who emphasizes that all ingredients must be of the highest quality. Using musty or moldy feed invites disaster to the brood and the same is true of the litter on the brooder floor.

Close brooding and high temperatures also take their toll. The chicks will thrive better if given an opportunity to run about in the sun and kept at a slightly lower temperature during the day. He cautions against letting the temperature fall too low, which may cause crowding and smothering of the weaker chicks.

This attention should be carried through the following weeks, too. The chicks, after coming safely through the first week, must be kept growing every day if they are to return their owners the biggest profit.

Grains Are Essential

in Any Feeding Plan

Farm-grown grains, corn, wheat and oats are good feeds and are essential in almost any feeding plan, but unless a good mash is also fed, they will do little more than maintain the life of the bird. Most state experiment stations have worked out formulas for mashes that may be home mixed, also numerous concerns are manufacturing prepared mashes. Either the home-mixed or commercial mash will give good results when fed as directed. They do not direct, however, that a little be fed today and some more next week, but tell you to keep it before the birds at all times. No one should expect one sack of mash to go very far in feeding 50 or 100 birds, any more than they would expect one feather to make a feather bed.

Give Chicks Chance

Taking the first hatched chicks away after they have become dry and fluffy may prevent the hen from leaving the nest with them before all the hatchable eggs are hatched. This is the chief advantage; they are not likely to be killed by the mother hen. Accidents in the nest do occur, of course, but, in consideration of possibilities, they are few. If chicks are taken away, they should be kept in a warm place in a covered basket and, when returned, given to the hen at night.

Poultry Hints

Comfort and contentment are necessary if hens are expected to lay well.

From the hens' standpoint, the house that is dry, wind-proof, light, bright, and clean is most satisfactory.

Milk and water are not interchangeable, and milk is a real food for protein building when hens require it most.

The newly hatched turkey is a weak little creature and must have the best of care. It is said that only about 50 per cent of the turkeys hatched ever grow to maturity.

Profit made on a flock of poultry depends not on the cost of the house in which they are kept but upon the kind of house.

The turkey hen can hover about 14 eggs. If more are given, she is liable to let them chill, as her body cannot keep them warm enough to incubate.

Water forms a large part of the ingredients of the egg, and if the hen has not everything that goes into the manufacture of an egg, her body will, of course, refuse to produce one.

When one gives baby chicks all the milk they will drink it is not advisable to put any meat scraps in the ration. If no milk is given to them, then a combination of meat scraps and dried milk would be all right.

Doctoring roup is not very satisfactory. Probably the best treatment is a dose of epsom salts, one-half pound to 100 grown birds, in the drinking water. Afterwards put enough potassium permanganate in the drinking water to give it a wine color.



A BRUSH A PAIL and



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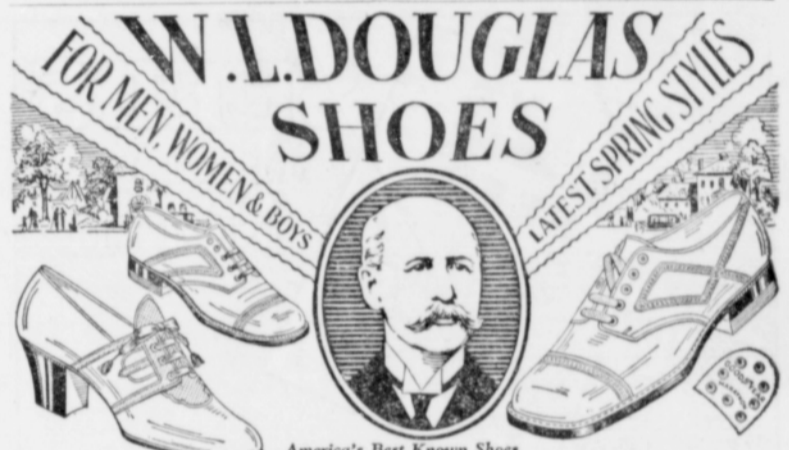
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