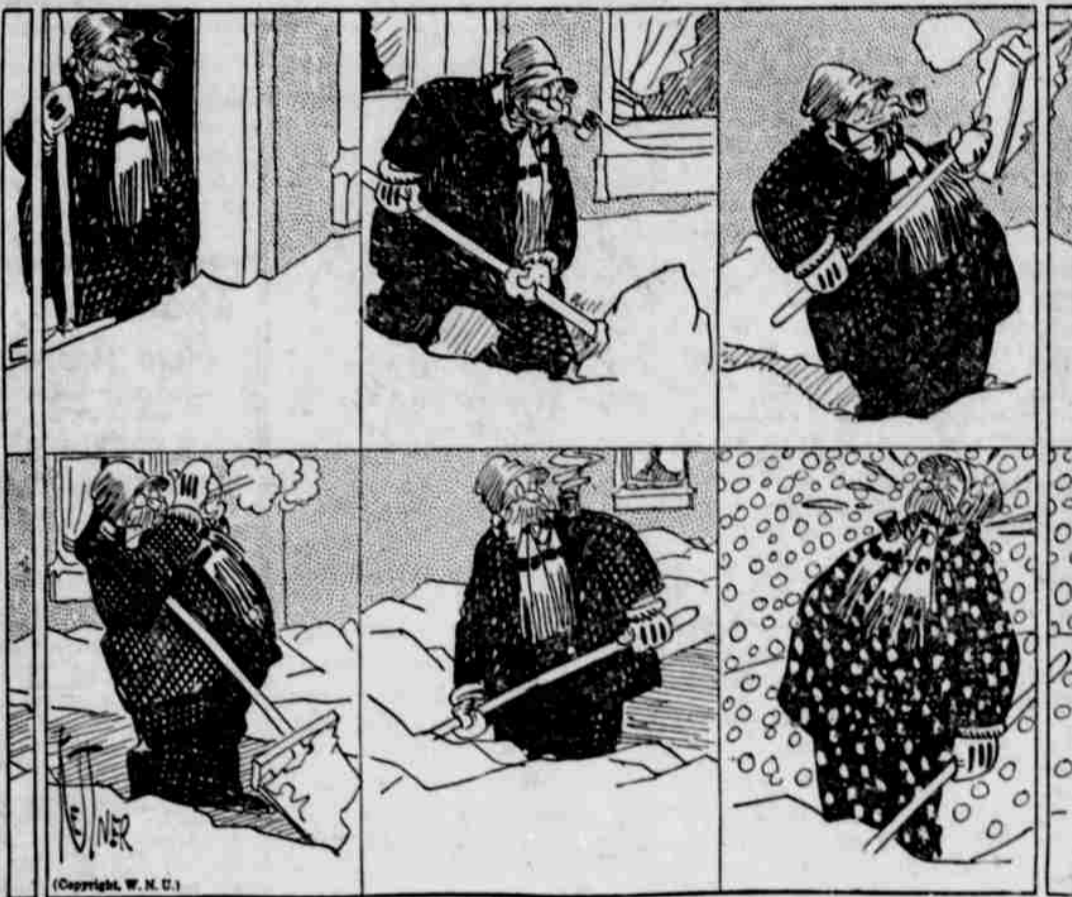
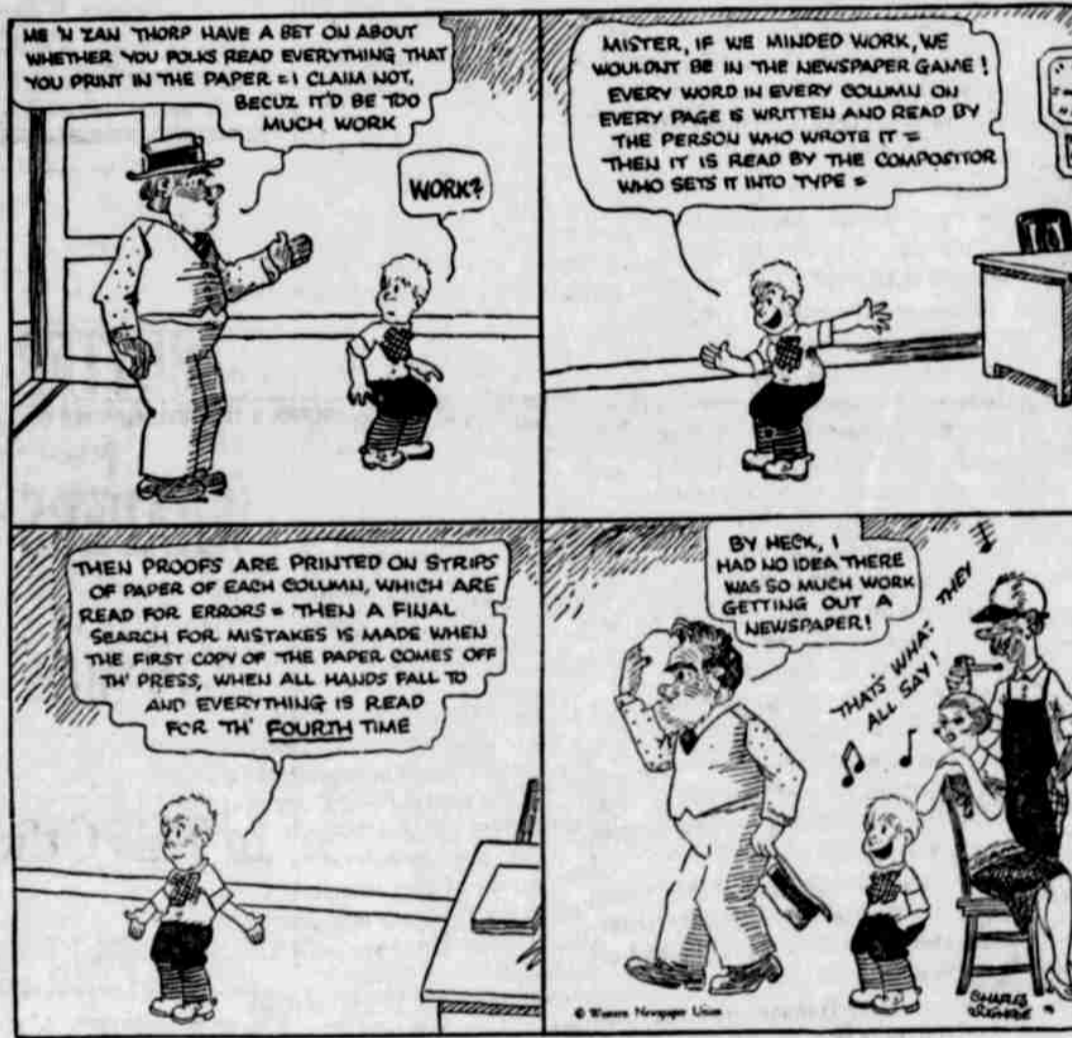


OUR COMIC SECTION

Our Pet Peeve

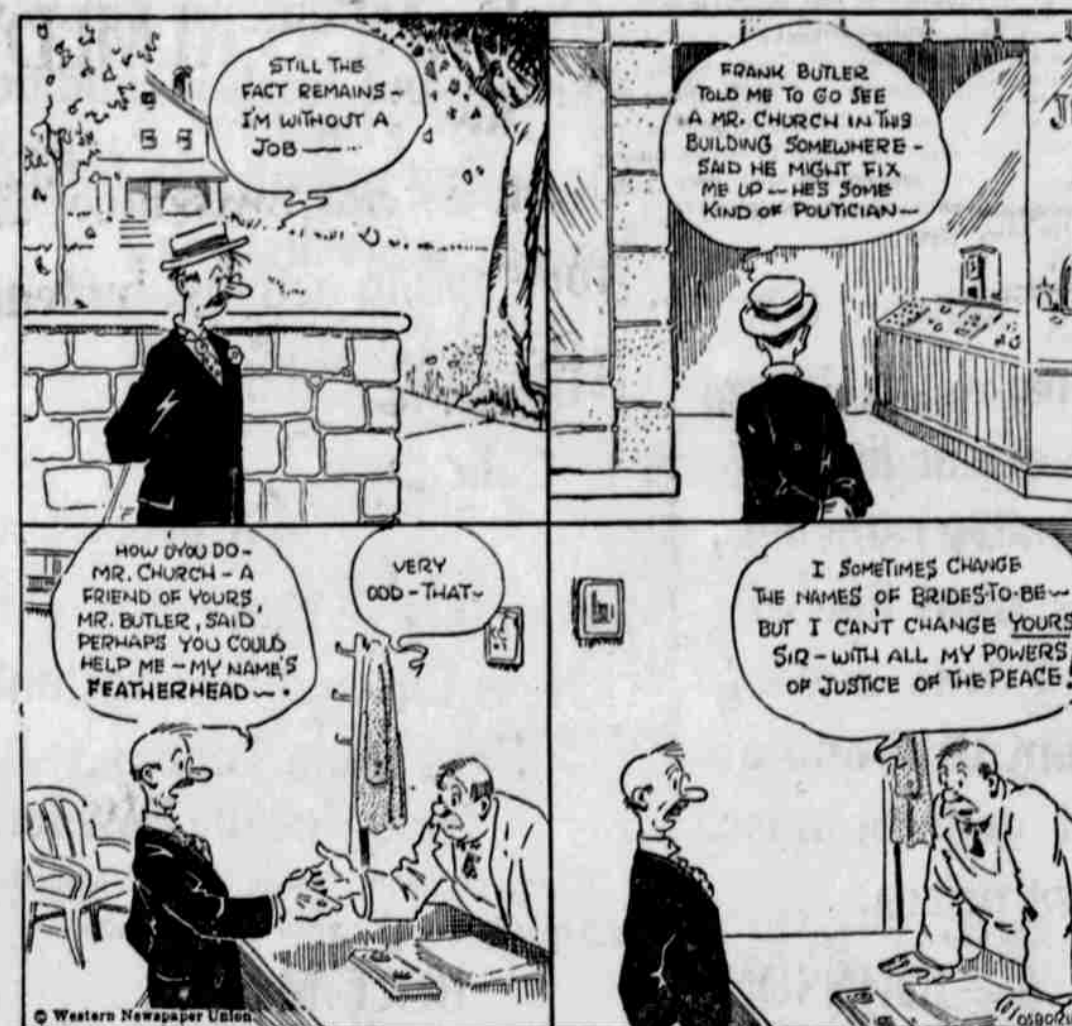


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THE FEATHERHEADS

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DAIRY POULTRY

UNDERFERD COWS ARE EXPENSIVE

It costs more to underfeed a producing cow than to feed her properly. A cow giving her maximum amount of milk will return nearly 48 per cent of the feed she eats in milk. The other 52 per cent is used in maintaining her body. A cow that is underfed will keep using enough feed to maintain herself and let the milk pail suffer for the feed shortage. Ivan McKelip, extension specialist in dairying at the Ohio State university observes.

In feeding a cow for maximum production it is necessary to feed the right quality. The various food elements, as protein, carbohydrates and fat, must be fed in correct proportions. Ohio cows as a general rule are fed enough carbohydrates and fats, but very often they are underfed in the protein ration.

Balance to the ration is important for milk production, for it must be made according to nature's formula. The cow has no part in the composition of her milk. If she is underfed in any one of the foods the milk pail suffers.

It takes \$75 to \$125 a year to maintain a cow that produces 300 pounds of butterfat a year. The variation comes in feed prices that are different in the different parts of the state.

Feeds can be substituted if costs for certain kinds of commercial concentrates go too high. Milk cost \$4.23 a hundred pounds when the ration was silage, timothy hay, corn and barley. The same ration, excepting that red clover hay was fed instead of timothy to the same cow, enabled her to produce milk at \$1.63 a hundred pounds. When alfalfa hay was substituted production costs were cut to \$1.21 a hundred pounds of milk.

Stanchions Will Prove Useful in Raising Calf

Stanchions for calves not only insure that each animal will get the feed required but it also keeps them from sucking one another's ears after they are through drinking their milk. For these reasons most people who make a practice of raising their calves also provide calf stanchions in their calf barn.

Calf stanchions may be from 36 to 42 inches in height, and 28 inches in width. A space about 4 1/2 inches in width is about right for the neck of the average calf. The feed trough should not be too wide, about 14 inches generally proving satisfactory. Stanchions and feed troughs of this kind can be constructed the same as many of the cow stanchions, except that the material will not need to be so heavy.

Calves should never be fed milk in a trough. Some will drink much more rapidly than others and get more than they should have for best results, while others will not get the amount needed. Separate buckets should be furnished for each calf. After the calves are through with their milk they can be given grain in the trough. If the trough is partitioned it will give better results for the same reason that favors separate pails for the milk.

Temperature Variations Cause Digestive Ills

The milk which is given to the calf should be the same temperature as when it comes from the cow. Variations in temperature, especially the feeding of cold milk, will very often cause digestive troubles. For the first five or six days a quart of milk three times daily will generally prove sufficient. Then the amount can be gradually increased until the calf is taking two quarts, three times daily. When the calf is about ten days to two weeks old some whole grain can be added to the milk. A handful will be sufficient so as to get the calf started. At this time it is possible to change to two feedings a day. The calves should also have access to hay. Bright clover hay is good, providing there are no symptoms of scours. If scours are noticeable then it is better to give the calves access to wild hay until their bowels are normal. Calves should have all of the pure water that they wish to drink.

Dehorning Calves

When the calf is young and the beginning horn growth is small, the horn button and matrix from which it grows may be removed with a small chisel or strong-bladed knife. Or the hair may be clipped around the button or small horn and the skin around the base of the horn covered with lard or tallow. Then wet the button or horn with water and rub the end of a stick of caustic potash all over the button or horn. In a short time the button or little horn will slough off.

Increase Milk Flow

A lack of plenty of drinking water cuts down the milk flow, as every dairyman knows. Having plenty of good water to drink at all times increases the milk flow and makes the water system a paying proposition from a purely dollar-and-cents standpoint. When there is water under pressure a length of garden hose and a nozzle yield a stream of water which is fine for flushing out stable gutters and washing down cement floors and pavements.

POULTRY SUFFER FROM DISEASES

Poultry suffer from colds and associated troubles in winter just as do human beings, but a little care and doctoring will help to keep down the heavy annual toll that these diseases exact from poultrymen. According to Dr. B. F. Kaupp, head of the poultry department at the North Carolina State college, the birds suffer most from diseases of the respiratory tract in cold weather.

Common colds result from the birds becoming wet or chilled because of poor housing, quick changes in weather or cracks in the house permitting a draft to blow on the birds. One of the signs of this disease is a discharge from the nose. Any bird so affected should be immediately removed from the flock, states Doctor Kaupp, because the discharge will contaminate the drinking water and give the disease to the other birds. In the case of colds, the nose should be cleared out by syringing with a 10 per cent solution of argyrol or a purple solution of permanganate of potash. In the case of roup where there is a stinking discharge, pure iodine should be used in the syringe and the bird treated morning and night until cured.

Weak pullets come from crowding in the summer and they must have proper feed and care in the laying pens. Most of them will develop sore head even in a new house. These pimples should be greased with carbolic grease.

Sore eyes is another familiar winter-time trouble. The eyes need to be swabbed out, states Doctor Kaupp, and a drop of a 10 per cent solution of argyrol or a 1 per cent solution of sulphate of zinc placed in the eye twice each day.

Canker or diphtheritis is a winter disease which attacks the mouth. It forms a spot where the sore is covered with a cheesy material. Scrape this off, states Doctor Kaupp, and use on it a canker pencil, pure iodine or powdered chlorate of potash. Repeat once each day until the sore has been cured.

Early Hatched Pullets Produce Eggs in Winter

The results of laying tests at the Massachusetts experiment station show that early-hatched chicks of the heavier breeds make the best winter layers. Rhode Island Red pullets which were hatched in March gave a winter egg production of 42.95 eggs. April-hatched pullets gave a winter production of 35.40 eggs and May pullets gave a production of 22.50 eggs.

The profit in producing eggs comes largely from producing them at a season of the year when they are highest in price. This means that we must plan to produce eggs during the winter months. The Massachusetts experiment shows that, with the general-purpose breeds, the early-hatched chicks are the ones which mature in time to start laying in the latter part of October and continue throughout the winter.

Poultry Hints

Cull out the hen that is persistently broody.

Isn't it funny? Almost everybody's hens start to lay like fun when the price drops.

The incubator should be located, preferably in a cellar, having good ventilation. If no such location can be had, a room facing the north is the next best place.

Goings dress easier in warm weather than they do in cold, as the feathers do not set so tightly, and in picking them the flesh is not so likely to be torn.

Many of the old, unfit poultry houses now found on farms could be remedied at little expense and trouble in such a way that they would provide a comfortable home for the flock.

Plan to get chicks out on the ground in the sunlight as soon as possible, or for a short while each day.

It will soon be the season for gape worms, and all yards not sown to green feed should be spaded or plowed up. If the worms are thick, scatter lime about the yard before plowing.

Brood coops for the crop of growing young fowls need strong wooden floors and the openings in front should be closed tight each night to keep down the losses from rats and weasels.

When the eggs begin to hatch, the hen should be confined and not disturbed until the hatching is complete.

Hens in the breeding flock should be allowed out of doors in direct sunlight during the winter and encouraged to take plenty of exercise.

The little chicks are not one bit better off where you insist on feeding them before they are 48 hours old. In fact, their chances for developing into useful birds are much enhanced by such delay.

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W. N. U., San Francisco, No. 7-1927.