

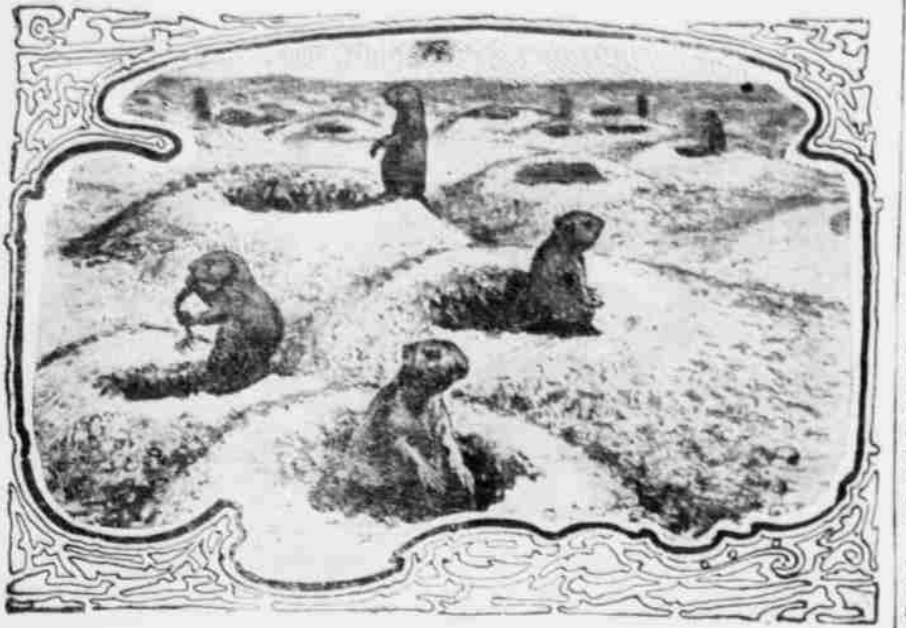
**TO BREED UP A DISEASE.**

Efforts of the Government to Start a Plague Among Destructive Varminis.

GUY ELLIOTT MITCHELL

Did you ever see a rat or mouse or wild rabbit sick from what might be termed natural causes? Any one who can contribute such an animal to the Department of Agriculture may unwittingly confer a benefit of millions of dollars annually on this country.

be bought by the pound and spread on bread. The contagious quality has not developed yet in any of the foreign cultures tried.



**PRAIRIE DOGS.**  
One of the Pests of the West.

and one of the rodents should be forthwith dispatched to Secretary Wilson. He will be glad to get it.

**TASK OF THE SCIENTISTS.**  
To cope with these pests is one of the most interesting tasks of the biological survey of the Department of Agriculture.

**ERNEST THOMPSON SETON'S FIND.**  
Some years back the survey lost just the chance it had been looking for. Ernest Thompson Seton was in Canada, where there was a pest of rabbits, and noticed that they were rapidly dying out.

There is a field mouse disease that is harmless to domestic animals, and the survey is trying hard to make it virulent enough to do business with some of the larger pests.

There has been a number of reports from abroad of the wonderful things foreign bacteriologists have succeeded in doing in the line of contagious diseases for small animal pests.

**THE RABBIT PEST.**  
The biological survey has been able to do a good deal in a practical way with the rabbit pest.

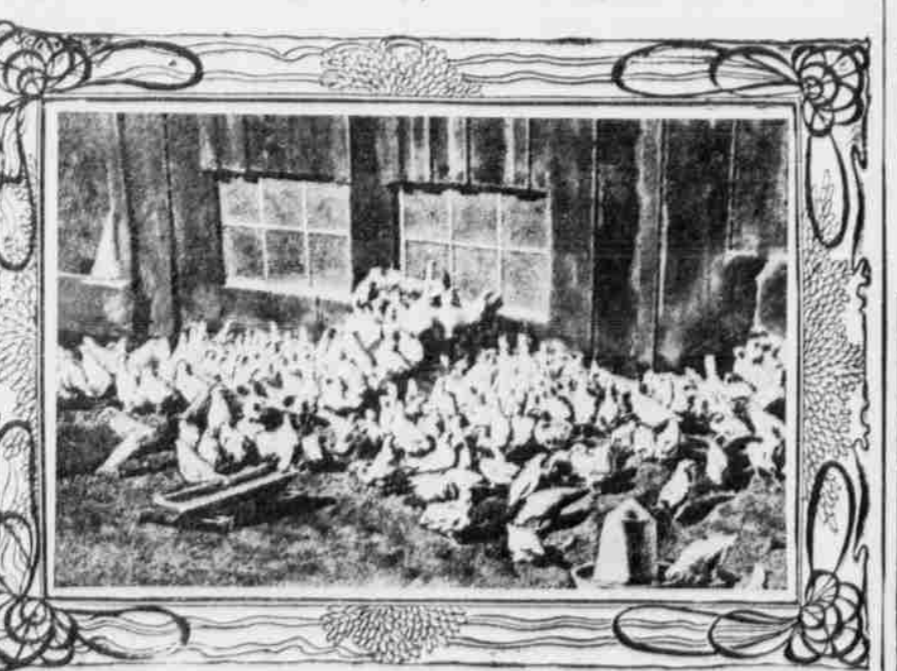
The construction of proper houses, the selecting of proper breeds and the proper caring for them has built up an enormous egg business through that section of the country.

In this the biologists confessedly took a leaf out of the book of the Plute and other desert-dwelling Indians. The Plute have been caching food supplies of pine and piñon nuts in the desert for hundreds of years.

**PLAGUE OF THE WOLVES.**  
But it is the very presence of the forest reserves that has bred the present plague of timber wolves in the West.

The biological survey has sent out Mr. Vernon Bailey, one of its best men, to study the wolf problem, and he has been skedging and snowshoeing through Wyoming and Montana while the snow was on the ground and the wolves were particularly easy to track and study.

There is no month in the year in which they can not find more or less animal and vegetable life for food upon the range.



**AN OUT OF DOOR BROODER AND FLOCK OF YOUNG WHITE LEGHORNS.**

and the poisons and traps are related to each other. The wolves get so crafty that they will not swallow a piece of meat without mouthing it, and if they get the bitter taste of strychnine or arsenic they drop it and look for something else to eat.

**Egg Farms of California.**  
By T. F. MCGREW.  
Many years ago I assisted a friend in the loading of a car of poultry for California.

The climate of Southern California, the beauties of the scenery, the pleasure of fruit cultivation, and the profitable growing of poultry have attracted many hundreds to that section to embark in these pursuits under pleasant conditions.

**PROTECTION AGAINST DAMP IMPORTANT.**  
The buildings used for poultry in these localities need not be so expensive in construction as is necessary in that portion of the country visited

feeding the fowls; and the facility with zero weather during the winter months. Protection from rain, damp and vermin is the most necessary adjunct to a properly constructed poultry house when the poultry can not run at large and range over the land.

**THE SCOURGE OF THE COUNTRY.**  
made two entire failures, one in 1895 and one in 1901. In 1895 it was very near a failure, only 3 bushels per acre. Less attention was paid to oats and only 679 acres were raised. This

with which squab breeders can fly their birds at large, continually adds vigor and strength to the breeding stock, which naturally assists in the quick growth and size obtained in the squabs.

The quotation of eggs, dressed poultry and squabs in the California market, while not the equal of the New York and Boston markets, will grade well in value with the average markets of our larger inland cities. The expense of living as to food

and other necessities is not so high as in the colder parts of the country, as much of it is locally produced near at hand. All of these things combine to make the regions of Southern California most attractive to poultry growers, who may be seeking a softer climate to lessen the aggravation which the rigors of winter heap upon some members of the family.

**ALL CANNOT SUCCEED.**  
All do not succeed. This can not be in any following of life. Those who do succeed usually have more or less experience in the business before they embark upon it.

**GREAT BEAR COUNTRY.**  
Representative Bede of Minnesota Tells the President About Big Game Hunting in Duluth.

How it happened that the war correspondents at Washington found out about J. Adam Bede's conference on bears with President Roosevelt does not appear.

**BUSINESS METHODS IN FARMING.**  
Successful Kansas Farmer Who Has Kept Trace of Receipts and Expenditures for Twenty Years.

The Kansas City Journal of the success of A. L. Hollinger, a well-to-do Kansas farmer who opened a set of books when he began farming twenty years ago and who has kept his accounts as accurately as a bank does its.

**MALE HELP WANTED.**  
BOOKKEEPER: Man thoroughly experienced in double entry bookkeeping.

**TO THE LAME.**  
There are only two kinds of shoes that are worn by the lame.

**125 PIECE CHINA DINNER SET FREE**  
SEND NO MONEY—WE PAY THE FREIGHT  
We will gladly send you as a present one of our Beautiful Dinner Sets, guaranteed full size, for family use, high-grade porcelain (no cheap imitation), floral design, elegant and pretty with colors faded in gold, the kind that is all the rage in fashionable New York.

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