



Helps With the Lessons

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POINTS ON KEEPING EGGS FOR HATCHING. Must Have Cool, Even Temperature and Be Undisturbed When Kept Long.

There are several foolish beliefs and superstitions about keeping eggs for hatching. Some of them are pointed out and explained away by F. C. Hix, poultry husbandman of Clemson College, who further advises the correct method of keeping eggs over a period of several days before putting them under the hen or in the incubator.

The yolk of an egg, said Mr. Hix in giving some of the basic laws of poultry reproduction, grows from a small point to full size in a sack attached to the ovary of the hen. When the yolk is ripe or at normal size, the sack is ruptured and the yolk enters the oviduct, a tube about 18 or 20 inches long that secretes the albumen and two membranes (skins) inside the shell. Just after the yolk enters the oviduct, the germ (a small round spot with lighter center that can be seen on the yolk) is fertilized if the hen has been with a male.

It requires at least 20 hours to complete the development of an egg and during this time the germ is growing rapidly. However, the changes are such that a fertile egg cannot be distinguished from an infertile egg except by examining the germ with a powerful microscope. Some people say they can break a few eggs and tell by looking at the "spot" whether or not the eggs are fertile. This, according to Mr. Hix, is impossible.

When an egg is laid and has become cool, the growth of the germ or embryo almost ceases. The little chick remains in a dormant state until the egg is heated to a temperature of 80 degrees or more. Then the process of hatching continues and if the heat is maintained according to nature's laws, the chick will emerge from its house of shell at the end of about 20 days.

It is necessary to keep eggs that are being held for hatching in a cool room, at from 50 to 60 degrees, if best results are desired. Heating and cooling eggs alternately, or turning them daily, or placing them in the sunlight mitigates against a successful hatch.

The common belief that turning eggs improves their hatching is not borne out by results. Turning does no good and it frequently does harm by displacing the contents of the egg. A warm temperature reduces the density of the albumen and many chicks will die from becoming attached to the shell membrane. Keep the eggs in a basket covered by a cotton cloth in a cool, dry room, advises Prof. Hix. In this way they will keep about 10 days and hatch well; but it is evident that eggs will hatch better if incubation begins within two or three days after laying.

An experiment conducted by Mr. Hix at the United States Experimental Farm near Washington in the spring of 1913 showed that 70 per cent of the weight of the egg when incubation began was the weight of the dry chick hatched from the egg. This illustrates the importance of always setting large eggs. Do not hatch a chick from a small egg, because only a small chick can result. The big chicks grow faster and usually make better layers and breeders. Besides, one will increase the average size of eggs laid by one's flock by always hatching chicks from big eggs.

The Danes, said Mr. Hix, have practiced this system for years and their standard weight for eggs is the heaviest in the world, being thirty ounces per dozen—two and a half ounces per egg. The American standard weight is twenty-four ounces per dozen.

Removes Regents of State Hospital.
 Columbia, Feb. 21.—Gov. Manning sent a message to the senate early Sunday morning announcing that he had removed four members of the board of regents of the State Hospital for the Insane. The action was taken under section 8, article 12, of the constitution. The members removed from office are J. D. Bivens, Frank K. Hunter, A. B. ... and James ...

W. M. Kavanaugh Dead.
 Little Rock, Ark., Feb. 21.—Wm. M. Kavanaugh, former United States senator from Arkansas, president of the Southern Trust company of this city, and for a number of years president of the Southern Association of Baseball clubs, died suddenly at his home here late today. His death is attributed to an attack of acute indigestion. He was 50 years old.

All the machinery of the Glick mills, Anderson, and 800 employees stopped work Thursday because of a strike—over a ten per cent reduction in wages.

LANDSTRUM CALLED OUT. Men With or Without Military Training Summoned.

Hanover, Germany, Feb. 10.—All German men attached to the Landstrum, or last reserve of the army, whether they had had previous training or not, were called out by decree on January 28. The order applied to all men who had not completed their 45th year by August 14, 1914, in the case of those who had been trained, or by December 4 in the case of untrained men. The service of the men is to continue till the end of the war.

The German war department is calling on the elderly men at the present time and is keeping its eyes open to the future. The announcement was made by the minister of war in a recent interview that the recruits due to come up this year in the ordinary course would not be called before the normal date in the fall. This apparent holding back from active service of good material in the shape of young men was decided on as a precaution for the future. The recruits of this year will be needed to form the basis of the new army when the war is over, since the ranks of the standing army, whenever peace may be declared, will certainly be found to have been depleted by casualties to a large extent. To this depletion must also be added the large number of men who will be entitled to return to civil life before the expiring of their full term of service with colors since war, service will give them the right to claim their discharge before they otherwise would have been able to do so under conditions of peace. As this will leave the army much below its proper strength, the war office has resolved to retain the younger men to build the nucleus of the standing army at the conclusion of peace.

On the other hand, the youths from 16 to 20 years old, who have volunteered to serve in the army before reaching the regulation age for military service, as well as the regular contingent of recruits called up last fall, are being assiduously trained in depots in all parts of the country in preparation for transportation to the firing line either in the east or the west. The young soldiers display great enthusiasm for the field work in which they are undergoing instruction under the care of experienced non-commissioned officers, some of whom have returned from the front suffering from slight wounds, which do not hinder them in their work. Much of the usual stiff drill of the German army has been done away with in order that the youths may devote more time to and make rapid progress in the more useful warlike arts of shooting and trenching. Many of them were at first exercised in their civilian clothes or in old uniforms in consequence of the lack of sufficient stores to supply them, but the gray field uniform for all was soon provided.

HAD MANY FINE MEETINGS.
Fertilizer and Economy Day Success in Nearly All Counties.

Clemson College, Feb. 23.—W. W. Long, State agent of demonstration and director of extension at Clemson College, expressed much pleasure and satisfaction at the reports received from all counties telling of the "Fertilizer and Economy Day" exercises held Saturday, February 13. In some counties, the agents reported, the occasion called out crowds that broke local records for agricultural meetings. Some of the state's leading thinkers spoke at some of the meetings. A very valuable feature of many of the meetings was the round-table discussion that followed the addresses.

Must Not Ride Astride.
 Nashville, Feb. 21.—The old question of whether women can ride astride in parades of Confederate veterans has been brought up by Gen. John P. Hickman, commander of the Tennessee division of the United Confederate Veterans, and the result is that a ruling will be made by the authorities of the coming Richmond reunion that no sponsors, maids of honor or any other woman attached to the annual parade will be allowed to ride astride.

Farm Planning.
 If each farm in any community is clean, tidy, and well kept, presenting a thrifty, home-life appearance, the whole neighborhood will be attractive to visitors and satisfying to residents. Local and county fair boards might create a very valuable farm improvement habit by offering a liberal prize for the best planned farm in a neighborhood or in a county.

Federal Judge C. A. Woods, of Marion, was married in Atlanta, Ga., on Thursday to Miss Amelia Spain, of Darlington. The wedding took place at the home of the bride's sister, Mrs. Waddy Thompson.

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W. R. Burrows, of Belle Plains, Kan., owns a pitchfork made on the day of George Washington's election to the Presidency. A camera small enough to be swallowed, to photograph the interior of the stomach, has been invented by a Danish surgeon.