

* The Farm. *

Keeping up the Egg Supply.

I am now in October getting nearly as many eggs from my hens as at any time during the spring and summer, and these eggs are mostly laid by pullets hatched last year late in the summer or in the fall. People who have setting hens in August and September often ask me if it will pay to set them at that time of the year. My answer has been that late hatched chicks can be made to pay well under the right conditions. Chicks hatched in September will have several weeks of warm weather before winter; then, if you have a warm house for them and feed them well they will begin to lay in May and continue to lay until the late fall or early winter, as they will not moult so early as the spring hatched chicks. These late chicks will help to keep up the egg supply during the fall, which for me has been the most profitable time to produce eggs. I think the poultry keeper should plan to keep up the egg supply during the whole year, instead of producing the greater part of them in the spring and summer when the price is the lowest. It may cost a little more to feed the chicks in the winter, for unless the house is very warm, extra food is needed to maintain the animal heat of the body, and this food does not go to make growth and develop the chick, but the chick should lay later in the fall, when the price of eggs is higher, so you are compensated in this way for the greater cost of growing the chicks.

For the winter supply of eggs we must depend on the early hatched chicks. Leghorns and Minorca pullets hatched in April and May, with good care, begin to lay in October and continue to lay during the winter. If the chicks are hatched too early they will moult in January or February and stop laying when the price of eggs is the highest. To keep the hens laying during the winter, one must have a very warm house for them, so warm that on the coldest day you can stay in the house without being uncomfortable. When I built my house I double boarded it, placing tarred paper between the boards and under the shingles. I try to make the surroundings as near like summer as possible, and provide food which the hens naturally seek when given the run of a large range in the summer. I feed cut meat and bone and clover, and green food, as cabbages and other vegetables. They should be supplied with grit and shells and fresh water, and small grain should be covered with litter to keep the hens scratching. An incubator is needed to hatch the early chicks. One reason why the fall is a profitable time for me to produce eggs is, at that time there is a good deal of refuse from the garden and grain fields, which save a part of the grain ration, and then there is the clover rowen which is cut with the clover cutter and fed to the hens. Sometimes there is sufficient refuse to keep the hens laying well without other food.—(W. H. Jenkins, Delaware County, New York.)

Mushroom Culture.

Among the requisites for successful mushroom culture are a dark room of an even temperature, a bed of prepared soil composed largely of decomposed horse manure, healthy spawn for seed, and a good share of patience, coupled with considerable experience in caring for the beds. The spawn is kept for sale by all extensive seedsmen. It comes in the form of bricks of dried mushroom bed soil prepared as a starter. These are broken into small pieces, which are pressed gently into the surface of newly prepared beds and slightly covered with the manure of the bed. After a few days the beds are covered, or "cased," with good fine loam, in which the mushrooms will finally show themselves. This casing may be an inch and a half or two inches deep. It should be pressed rather firmly, with the back of a shovel.

It may be from four to seven weeks before the crop will make its appearance, the time varying according to the temper-

ature of the soil and the air of the room. When gathering the mushrooms, they should not be cut, but pulled or twisted out, for stub or stem or root left in the ground will soon decay and endanger the health of those remaining. They cannot be shipped in bulk like potatoes, but should be put in small packages of a pound or two each, as berries are packed in baskets or crates. A beginner would do well to visit a dealer and learn how he desires them packed.

There is money in growing the crop if one can do the work a little better than others are doing it, and thus be able to send in better stock and at times when it is most difficult to produce it. As more go into the business the prices fall, but the consumption increases, so the demand is greater and there is less danger of overstocking the market. A cheaper production would tend to increase the demand in country villages instead of being confined as at present to the cities.—(A. W. Cheever, in New-England Farmer.)

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A Shelter and Roost for Chicks.

A rough barn roof can be set up on stakes to make a roosting-place for chicks during the summer months. Board up the gable ends to keep off draughts. Take old strips of burlap and sew little rings into one edge. Drive nails along the crosspieces of the windy and rainy side and end, on which hang the curtain on stormy days. This gives a shelter for the chicks that will be appreciated. Or one end and side can be roughly boarded up and left so.

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The Salvation Army.

THE LIFE OF THESE SELF-SACRIFICING WORKERS OFTEN ONE OF HARSHNESS.

While on Duty Capt. Ben. Bryan was Stricken With a Supposed Incurable Disease and Forced to Relinquish the Work—He Has Now Recovered His Health.

From the News, Alexandria, Ont.

The life of a Salvation Army worker is very far from being a sinecure. Their duties are not only arduous, but they are called upon by the regulations of the Army to conduct out-of-door meetings at all seasons and in all kinds of weather. This being the case, it is little wonder that the health of these self-sacrificing workers frequently gives way. Capt. Ben. Bryan, whose home is at Maxwell, Ont., is well known through his former connection with the Army, having been stationed at such important points as Montreal, Toronto, Kingston, Guelph and Brockville, in Canada, and at Schenectady, Troy and other points in the United States. While on duty he was attacked by a so-called incurable disease, but having been restored to health through the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, a representative of the Alexandria News thought it worth while to procure from his own lips a statement of his illness and recovery. He found Mr. Bryan at work, a healthy, robust man, his appearance giving no indications of his recent sufferings.

The story of his illness and the subsequent cure by the use of Dr. Williams' Pink Pills reads like a miracle, and is given in his own words as follows:—"While stationed at Deseronto, in July, 1897, I was attacked with what the doctors called 'Chronic Spinal Meningitis.' The symptoms were somewhat similar to those preceding a pleuratic attack, but were accompanied by spasms which, when the pain became too severe, rendered me unconscious. The length of these unconscious spells increased as the day advanced. After spending four months in the Kingston General Hospital, and on the Salvation farm, Toronto, I regained some of my former strength and returned to my work. The second attack occurred when I was stationed at Schenectady, N. Y., in October, 1898, and was more severe than the first. The symptoms of the second attack were very similar to those which preceded the first, the only apparent difference being that they were more severe and the after effects were of longer duration. Owing to the precarious state of my health, I was compelled to resign my position after the second attack and return to my home at Maxwell. While there a friend advised me to try Dr. Williams' Pink Pills, and I began using them in March, 1899. I have used only a dozen boxes and am once more enjoying perfect health. I feel that I am perfectly well and can cheerfully say that I attribute my present state of health to the effects produced by Dr. Williams' Pink Pills. Mrs. Bryan has also used the pills and has benefited very much thereby."

A well chosen Reference Library should be in the possession of every church, either in the name of its Sabbath School or its Young Peoples' Society. This need not contain more than ten well chosen books. As a beginning for such a library here is a suggested list:

Smith's Bible Dictionary.

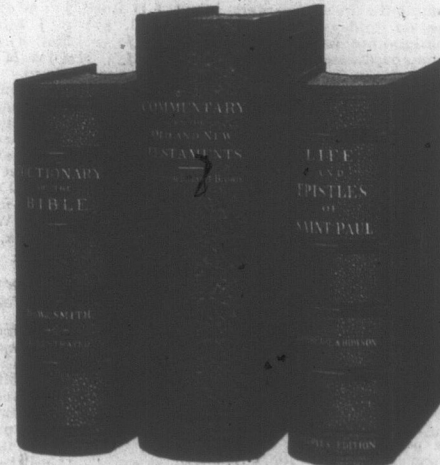
Cruden's Concordance.

Edersheim's Life and Times of Jesus the Messiah.

[2 Large Volumes.]

Jamieson, Fausset & Brown's Commentary.

Life and Epistles of St. Paul.



These books make good foundation stones upon which to build. Recently they have been issued in large editions at prices but a fraction of those formerly charged. They are bound in cloth, printed on good paper; contain a vast amount of the best help within easy reach.

Our terms are:

Ten new subscriptions to this paper.

What Church would fail if it tried to raise this Club?

Let us see how many will respond!