POULTRY

The Hen and the Mortgage.

I want to tell the Farmers' Review how we have been getting along with our mortgage. In a word we have pitted the hen against it. The mortgage used to be a great burden on our minds. Father and mother used to lie awake nights thinking about it and wishing it could be paid off, as we were always getting behind with the interest. One day my older brother was in town and the banker that holds the mortgage said: "Why don't you set the hens to paying the interest and make them do it? Then you wouldn't have to worry about the mortgage. I don't want my money. I only want the interest on it, and to know that my investment is secure. Put the hens to work."

My brother came home and told the rest of us about it, and we determined that the hens would have to pay the interest, which was $120 per year, 6 per cent on $2,000. Then we went to studying the matter of productive hens and found that we didn't know what our hens were doing or how little they were doing. We determined that we would keep not less than 200 Leghorn hens and we bought an incubator to help us get the 200.

It took us about a year to get rid of the old mongrel flock and get 200 Leghorns. That was about five years ago. Since that time we have not felt the weight of the mortgage. The 200 Brown Leghorns turn out enough eggs every year to pay the interest and they yield a good deal of revenue besides. The male birds are shipped as broilers to New York when a few weeks old. It may seem strange to some that we should use the Brown Leghorns for broilers, but the market there seems to think a good deal of that kind of a broiler.

The feed for these hens does not cost a great deal. First and last the farm produces a great deal of the food that would go to waste without the Leghorns, especially at threshing time. The amount of green grass consumed by them is a big factor in their support. We have also found that 200 hens are not many hens. As we see them walking about the farm we are almost sure sometimes that half of them have died or been stolen, but when we come to count them all are found to be there.

I feel quite sure that on most of our farms the flock of hens is too small by half.—Phoebe Caldwell, Butler Co. O., in Farmers' Review.

Records of Egg Production.

Records of egg production are generally incomplete. We have not yet got down to the point of keeping a strict account with each hen of a large flock. On the farm this is more so than anywhere else. The farm work always interferes with any such pastime even if the farmer has a liking for it. But it is a mistake for our poultry raisers to be entirely ignorant of the individual capacities of the fowls that constitute their flocks.

Adjustable Poultry Houses.

Adjustable poultry houses are coming into vogue in many places, but it will be a long time before many of them are found on our farms. Such a house is a very good thing to have in a village where the resident is a tenant and does not wish to build something that will belong to the owner of the place. The same is true of the renter on the farm. In some of our states there is a law that every building erected that is in permanent contact with the soil belongs to the owner of the soil even though it may have been constructed by the tenant. But a house such as we have indicated is not in contact with the soil in the sense in which an ordinary building is in contact with it, where a cellar is dug or where posts are set into the earth. The poultry house that can be taken down and moved about is, therefore, an advantage to the tenant farmer.

A Venerable Goose.

A Kansas man sends the following interesting goose story to the Kansas Farmer: "I have a goose that was hatched out in April, 1852. Eggs were placed under a hen and three goslings hatched. When grown they proved to be two geese and a gander. Treated as pets by the old lady who had them in charge, they were always very tame, and she was never quite ready to part with them, so they were permitted to live on until their age unfitted them for market. And besides, as the years went by, we began to venerate them, and the younger members of the family politely doffed their hats when in their presence. Thirteen years ago the gander died, and five years later one of the geese. The survivor is yet hale and hearty, eyesight as good as ever, and in every way appears just as nimble and sprightly as her younger associates."

Finished Lumber for Coops.

The use of finished lumber for coops is to be commended. It is a mistake to use old half rotten boards for the construction of such coops, even though they may be used for but one season. The mites will find the numerous cracks great harboring places, and the rats will be able to gnaw through them if they have occasion to do so. The painting of such coops is a discouraging job, while the painting of the smooth lumber is a pleasant pastime. When properly painted well-made coops may be kept for years. They can be made so that they can be easily taken to pieces when the time comes to put them away for the winter.

No Over-Supply of Eggs.

The supplying of eggs is an industry that we may be assured will never grow less than it is at the present time. Farmers and professional men have been increasing their flocks and fowls and yet the price of eggs has been going up from year to year. The cold storage houses used to carry some stock till late winter, but it is regarded as certain that they are sold out every winter before the season is half gone. Let us push the production of eggs.

Trouble Hunting

When you goes a-huntin' trouble
Take yoh banjo on yoh knee,
An' perhaps you'll find dat trouble
Is a-sleepin' quietly;
When you goes a-huntin' trouble
Learn to sing a little song,
An' you'll fin' de trouble marchin'
Purty peaceable along.
When you goes a-huntin' trouble
Talk' no use o' gittin mad,
'Cause it gwinter growl an' scratch you
In a way dat's mighty bad.
You must keep yoh wits about you
While you exercise yoh will,
You kin nearly always tame it,
But it's mighty hahd to kill.

—Washington Star.

WHITINGTON WHITINGTON

BY SHANNON BIRCH

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Nobody knew so well the inscrutable mainsprings that set in order the beauty, the wit, the sprightliness, the hopes and achievements of the fair members of Gold Handle Street—nobody knew these things so well as Whitington Whittington, and knowing well the capabilities of this select sphere of the social world, he enjoyed its environments and assumed control of its destinies, preserved in his task by an intimate knowledge of its many matrimonial pitfalls.

To be young and to be fair, in the catechism of Gold Handle Street, was to be in love with Whitington Whittington. To be in love with Whitington Whittington was generally known to be, with Whitington Whittington's own consent, curable; it was an event against which there seemed no desire to become immune. Like a spell of the measles it was serious enough while it lasted; it was considered inevitable, and finally mended only when ended.

Whitington Whittington was believed never to fall in love in return. To have fallen in love would have put him beyond the leadership of Gold Handle Street society, and beyond the gentle remembrance of many and many a Gold Handle Street graduate whose romantic reminiscence he continued to be long after they had passed to wider stages of action.

At last, however, be it known, uncertain rate decreed that Whitington Whittington should labor in the shadow of impending matrimony, for he was at last profoundly loved by a maiden that knew not to falter, indeed her age was ten years or more beyond the class of callow maidens to whom Whitington Whittington had so long made love professionally. It was the second attack, for in fact Rosina Crosby had fallen under the customary charm of Whitington Whittington ten years before, and he had counted that the incident, in the usual diplomatic sequence, was closed. Indeed he had always been led to believe that Rosina herself treated it as a closed incident, and was only, alas, undeceived in the ripening stages of his association, within the confines of Gold Handle Street, with the newest of its opening buds, Annette Van Tank.

The unprecedented vigor with which Rosina Crosby, now no longer young, and for that reason the more dangerous, pressed her rejuvenated claims was something never heard of before in Gold Handle Street society, and was the more perplexing to Whitington Whittington as her's was a display of tactics wholly out of line with his entire experience. Love had perished in every other instance with Whitington Whittington simply by the statute of limitations, it just run along until it was outlawed, indeed he considered that Rosina Crosby had followed safely in the footsteps of all Gold Handle Street, and that between him and her there existed nothing more tangible than a pleasing aroma of other days. In fact Whitington Whittington had been further led to suppose that Rosina had not only forgotten her early flame, but that she had found eternal solace in the manifest gallantries of Professor Van Tank, whose wife had died young and left to his care their only daughter, the truly beautiful, Annette Van Tank.

Whitington Whittington could not, however, forget his value as a matrimonial catch, and trembled for his fate at the hands of Rosina Crosby. Nothing like it had ever happened before. Rosina took charge; she dined

Whitington Whittington.

him; she wined him; she monopolized his precious time and absorbed entirely his valuable attention.

Something must be done or he was lost! Thoughts of Annette—of love for Annette, that flew through his mind, merely served to aggravate his distraction. Could he save himself? for Annette? Could he save himself at all? Could he, if he could at all it should be for Annette. It was worth while to be saved for Annette; for himself it would not be worth the superior effort. In the case of resolutions as admirable as Whitington Whittington's it is a pity that anything should ever prevent their consummation, but when we take into consideration that these resolutions were made in the absence of Rosina we can see how easily they might, as of course they did, "go awry and lose the name of action."

Would Whitington boat. So would Rosina! Would Whitington drive? So would Rosina! Would Whitington rest? So would Rosina! And so on to the end of the chapter. Finally would Whitington Whittington please Rosina enough to become her guest at supper with Professor Van Tank and his daughter, Annette? Behold, here was a green spot! Yes; he would dine, gladly, under these conditions.

Whitington Whittington on the day

Annette.

he dined found the conditions as stipulated, but with an unmistakable air of marriageable thing about. Was Rosina about to execute some unexpected masterstroke? Was innuendo to be used? Was he, Whitington Whittington, willy-nilly, to be announced? Was Annette thereafter to count him among the lost? Alas for his tongue that clave to the roof of his mouth! In the midst of these perturbations Professor Van Tank arose from the table and asked permission to make known a condition of affairs the most delicate and happy that could fall to the human lot. In the private gathering around him he wished to call on all to drink to the happiness of two people who had consulted the calendar of love, and found the stars propitious; he wished to call on those present to drink to the happy event, known to all present but one (whereupon Whitington Whittington looked despairingly at Annette); "known," the speaker continued, "to Rosina, Annette and—and—and to myself, of course, and now announced first and specially to our dear friend, Whitington Whittington. I refer to the early prospects of marriage between—(a long pause, amounting to suspense)—Rosina Crosby, whose guests we are, and—(another long pause, still more excruciating)—and the speaker, your servant, Alcibiades Van Tank!"

"Our health!"

Whitington Whittington, passing from death to life, arose with Annette, and with the most intense look of gratification possible to the human countenance, exclaimed exuberantly, as he lifted his cup:

"Delightful! Delightful! Professor, your health! Your health!"

Rosina arose and looked the sphinx on all except on Professor Van Tank; to Professor Alcibiades Van Tank she was sweetness itself.

Whitington Whittington at once turned an awkward eye on Annette, who was never laughter; his spirits could not be subdued, and he promptly made an important resolution with reference to any further delay; he then resumed his seat, murmuring:

"Ah! Delightful! Delightful!"

Iowa Student Goes to Oxford.

Jacob Van Der Zee of Sioux Center, Iowa, a student at the Iowa state university, has won one of the Rhodes scholarships at Oxford, England. Young Van Der Zee is a native of Holland and came to this country fifteen years ago. His father is a carpenter and the lad had to work his way through the university. The Rhodes scholarships require applicants to have an athletic as well as a classroom record, and the fact that young Van Der Zee excels in the mile run and is also a good foot-ball, baseball and tennis player no doubt aided him in passing the tests.

"Paper" Lessons Not Enough.

Prof. John Dewey tells the following story to illustrate the futility of certain present-day educational methods when applied to the affairs of practical life:

"There is a school in Chicago," said he, "where they teach boys to swim without any water. All the motions necessary for swimming are taught scientifically and correctly. I asked one of the graduates what he did when he got into the water.

"He replied laconically, 'Sunk.'"—New York Times.

$5.00 Silk Waists Open the Year at $3.95

These are the much-talked of Tailor-made Waists that have carried off so many honors among the new modes.

They are of Soft-finish Taffeta Silk in Black, White, Blue, Pink, Red and Brown. The style is severe, but full of beautiful lines.

This Waist is a very representative $5.00 value, but we open the Waist Season this week by offering a limited number at $3.95 each.

We believe this offering to be unusual enough to attract the attention that such a waist and price deserves. All sizes, and color assortments complete.

$7.50 Skirts at $5.00

We offer this week fifty very handsome Mohair, Cheviot and Panama Cloth Skirts at $5.00 each—regular value $7.50. The colors are Blue, Brown and Black.

These skirts are in the most approved spring styles. Round length, very full with forty gores, each gore terminating in a graceful pleat. In colors and variety of fine materials this offering should meet the requirements of nearly every woman.

The price, $5.00, is for the next few days to stimulate business in Spring Goods.

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They have discarded the old remedies used for ages by the medical world and which it would be folly to depend upon any longer for they do not cure, as thousands die depending on them for relief.

The fact that these Specialists have discovered entirely new treatments and natural cures, gives them control of the Nervous System, Heart, Stomach, Lungs, Kidneys, Catarrh, Consumption, Epilepsy, Deafness, Male and Female Weaknesses, Cancers, Tumors, Piles and other Chronic Diseases.

They treat deafness by an entirely new method and hearing in many cases is restored at once. Catarrh in all its varied forms cured so it will never return. If you have weak lungs or consumption do not fail to be examined.

All cases treated can and will be cured, no difference who you have seen or treated with heretofore. Thousands who have given up all hope of being cured, now have an opportunity to consult specialists of reputation.

Don't fail to call as a visit costs you nothing and may save your life.

If you suspect kidney trouble, bring a two ounce bottle of your urine for chemical and microscopical analysis.

REMEMBER:—The free offer is during this visit only and will not be given again. Persons commencing any treatment after this trip will be required to pay, but not one cent will be asked of those commencing treatment during this visit for any medicine necessary to effect a cure; also a positive guarantee to cure will be given to patients accepted under their system of treatment. Those having long standing and complicated diseases, who have failed to get cured and become discouraged, are especially invited to call as thousands who have given up all hopes can testify to permanent cures obtained.

NOTICE:—Married ladies must be accompanied by their husbands.

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Has to Quit His Crouch.

"I find that in six-round fighting I have to come up out of my crouch," says Eddie Hanlon. "The six-round game is fast from the jump, and the

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A novel railway system has been invented by Abraham Abelson of New York city. This system is particularly adapted for crossing rivers, gorges, ravines and the like, says the Scientific American, and it is designed to effect an economy over existing systems of transportation.

It consists of a tower at each anchorage built of skeleton framework, in the center of which an elevator operates. Cables are suspended from a cradle at the tower top and anchored near the base of the opposite tower. Pivoted counterweights are provided, which serve to keep the cable taut and to compensate for any variations in cable lengths. These weights also remove the lateral pressure of the towers, producing instead a downward pressure thereon.

The system does not require any elevated approaches to the bridge entrances. The transporter cars are suspended from swivel trucks, which travel on the cables. In practice a car is raised by means of the elevator to the top of a tower, the trucks being turned so as to clear the cables. When the top of the tower is reached the trucks are turned back to normal position, so that the descent of the elevator they will rest on the cables supporting the car. The car thereupon descends by gravity to the opposite tower. The cars are entirely independent of each other and the speed of the descending car can be regulated at will, thus affording a saving of time over such systems as employ two counter-balancing cars.

CHANGES IN WHEAT BELT.

Vermont, Once the Granary of New York, Falls Far Behind.

Vermont was once the granary of New York city. It now produces only one bushel of wheat to more than 200 in Minnesota, the banner state.

Rochester was once known as the "flour city." Now it is called the "flower city." But New York still raises as much wheat as Wisconsin. Maryland produces more than either, Texas nearly twice as much and Pennsylvania three times as much. Only eight states surpass Pennsylvania in wheat raising.

Kansas produces nearly as much wheat as both the Dakotas, which are much more often mentioned as wheat states.

Only a trifle more than half of the wheat crop grows west of the Mississippi. Illinois, Indiana and Ohio still produce 80,000,000 bushels, which is more than any far western state, and over one-eighth of the whole crop.

Little Delaware raises more wheat than all New England. Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and North Carolina raise 25,000,000 bushels.

New York is the second flour-milling center in the United States, though far behind Minneapolis, which can grind 82,000 barrels a day to New York's 14,000.

Schools in Bangkok.

The primary schools of Bangkok are now attended by over 10,000 pupils of both sexes.

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