



TEAM WORK COUNTS!

AN EXPERIMENT IN GROUP OWNERSHIP; OR THE FABLE OF THE PERFORMING MULE

Back in the Dark Ages of American Culture, before the French Accent had found its way to the Farm, and when the Cablage Coaxers in our rural Districts still pronounced Vaudville "vawdavi" instead of "Vodeliv", there lived a Showman whose chief Asset was a performing Mule. The name of the Showman was Wage-Payer and the Source of his Income was dubbed Industry.

Now it so happened that Wage-Payer had spent a number of tedious years teaching Industry to perform certain clever Tricks such as would tend to stimulate the Consumption of chewing gum and Peanut among the gaping Audiences, and had burned

himself on a Ford Runabout in a Field of Superstices. "Where do you come in on the gate Receipts?" asked the cunning Agitator. To which the Muleteers responded: "He gets the Dough and we get the Crumbs."

And so a Delegation of Wage-Earners was sent to interview Wage-Payer.



"Such a Man as is Known as an Agitator."

and at the urgent suggestion of Agitator each delegate carried a knotted cudgel to help along the peaceful Process of Arbitration. When they proposed that he be given a larger Portion of the Gross Receipts, Wage-Payer, who had become nettled by the



"Certain Clever Trick Tending to Stimulate the Sale of Chewing Gum and Peanuts Among the Gaping Audiences."

countless gallons of Midnight Oil studying the Diseases that Mules are Heir to so that He might keep Industry in the best of Health and Spirit; for Industry, like all other Stage Artists, possessed a Temperament, which varied with the condition of his Liver.

In return for the Effort He had expended in the Education of the Mule, Wage-Payer figured that He was entitled to a Fair Share of the Income derived from Industry's Performances, but it appears that his arithmetical

calculations were at variance with the Computations made by the Squad of Hunky Mule Tenders whom Wage-Payer had hired to minister to the material Needs of Industry. Now, these Mule Tenders, who were known as Wage-Earners, had always been content with the Wages they were getting until they appeared in their Mides a Man named Agitator, who never did any Work himself but spent his valuable Time in spreading the Doctrine that the Laborer is Worthy of his "Higher."

And so Agitator took the Muleteers, or Wage-Earners, to the Box office and aroused their Jealousy by pointing out to them the glitzy Spectacle of Wage-Payer raking in the fat Silver Coins with his right Hand. They lost sight of the fact that his Sixth paw was equally busy rolling out the silver clinkers to a hungry crowd of creditors. They only had eyes for the Take, and their Ithieric substantial Wages began to assume the propor-

tion of a nerve Specialist, and went to Bed for a Rest. Meantime, the Wage-Earners, somewhat Parakirick-in by the unexpected turn of Events, set about putting Industry through his Paces for the Matinee Performance, but never having studied mule Pedagogy, they got their Signals mixed and

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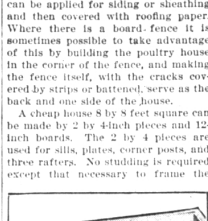


SUITABLE HOUSE FOR FOWLS

Hens Should Be Comfortable, With Floor Space of 3 or 4 Square Feet for Each Bird.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)
The poultry flock should be comfortably but not expensively housed. A house which provides a floor space of 3 or 4 square feet per bird is ample for the purpose, and fowls are often successfully kept with an allowance no greater than 2½ to 3 square feet. Houses must be dry and free from draft, but must allow ventilation. Often there is an unused shed or small building on the place which can easily be converted into a chicken house. The front of the poultry house should be faced toward the south, if possible, so that the sun will shine into it. Perfectly satisfactory houses can be made cheaply from piano boxes or other packing cases. Two piano boxes with the backs removed can be nailed together and a door cut in the end. These boxes should be covered with a roofing paper in order to keep the house dry and to make it waterproof. A portion of the door should be left open or covered with a piece of muslin, so as to allow ventilation. Similar houses can be constructed of packing cases at a relatively small cost. A small amount of 2 by 4 or 2 by 3 lumber can be purchased for framing. The box boards can be applied for siding or sheathing in the corner of the fence and making of the fence itself, with the cracks covered by strips of battened, serve as the back and one side of the house.

A cheap house 8 by 8 feet square can be made by 2 by 4 inch pieces and 12-lath boards. The 2 by 4 pieces are used for sills, posts, corner posts, and three rafters. No studding is required except that necessary to frame the



Good Type of Poultry House.

lower and window space. The boards are pin up and down and add suitable stiffness to the house. They are used also for the roof and covered with roofing paper. The back and sides of the house also can be covered with roofing paper, or the cracks can be covered with wooden battens or strips 1½ to 3 inches wide. In the front of the house there should be left a window or opening which can be closed, when desired, by a muslin screen or curtain which serves as a protection against bad weather but allows ventilation. In the side a door should be provided which will allow entrance. A shed or single-slope roof is best for a house easiest to build. The height of 9 feet in front and 4 feet in the rear is ample. If desired, the house may be built higher, so that it is more convenient to work in the rear in the cold. The ventilator in the rear is not needed in the northern part of the country, but is desirable in the South, where summers are very warm.

Such a house would be ample for a flock of 20 to 25 hens. It can be built quickly and easily and is cheap in construction.

INSURE CHICKENS AND EGGS
Farmers Who Hatch Early in Spring Seldom to Have Best of Argument
—Lay in Winter.

An essential part of the endeavor to insure more chickens and eggs is contained in the maxim—hatch early. The farmer who hatches early in the spring, either by incubation or natural methods, seems to have all the best of the argument. When chickens are hatched early in the spring they mature in the fall and lay eggs in the winter. Then, in the spring, they are ready to hatch early. Late-hatched fowls are late in maturing, do not lay in the winter, and do not sit until late in the following spring.

TYPES OF DRINKING VESSELS
Closed Fountains Constructed to Keep Out Dust and Dirt—Hard to Clean When Foul.

There are two different types of drinking vessels for poultry in common use: The open vessels—pails, pans, crocks and the like; and drinking fountains so constructed that dust and dirt cannot get into the water except by way of a very small exposed surface.

These quiet types of drink fountains are about equally popular with poultry keepers. Open vessels catch more dirt and dust, but are more easily cleaned. Closed fountains may be used much longer without becoming hard to clean thoroughly.

Food for Chickens.
Bran and corn should be the basis of poultry feed in consideration of present prices.

Food for Chickens.
In order for chicks to get the best it is desirable to have food of some kind before them all the time.

Minnows Are Good to Eat.

A conspicuous reason for the little fishes called minnows good to eat—We do not know of any reason why they should not be edible. They are of cleanly habits, free from impurities, and though small, quite messy. Old Isaac Walton in his Angler describes the minnows and says: "In the spring they are the excellent minnow tansies, for being washed well in salt, and their heads and tails cut off, and their guts taken out, and not washed after, they prove excellent for that use, that is being fried with yolks of eggs. The flowers of cowslips and of primroses and a little tansy thus used, they make a dainty bit of meat." The popular English dish of whitebait is much like minnows, but its edibility all depends on its preparation and manner of cooking. The minnow should not be despoiled as an article of food merely because it is so small. What Isaac Walton called a tansy was an old-fashioned name of a little stew, or meat pie.—Exchange.

For Little Draw Men.

In Japan the early part of the month of May is gala time for all little Japanese boys, because it is at that time that the birthday of every one of them is celebrated, notes a writer. The big, general birthday party is familiarly known as the "fish festival." During the fish festival every locality in which there is a boy proudly holds the fact by a flag that floats from a pole in the dooryard. It is desirable to have as tall and as big a pole as possible. In order to get this kind of a pole, it frequently happens that several families will club together and make one thereby pole to do for all. This pole is then adorned with as many flags as there are little boys in the several families.

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