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TO THE POULTRYMAN:

A Weekly Letter Containing Practical Pointers in the Management and Care of Standard Bred Poultry, Taken From the Daily Log Book of Sunny Crest Poultry Farm, Bear River, P. E. I. by the Manager.

(Republished by Request)

In the past three weeks we have had a great many calls from information in the handling of chicks from the time they are hatched until they are three weeks old such as brooding, feeding and housing, and while I have touched on this at different times in the past, I think it would be well to give a brief outline which the novice can follow from the start without having to supplement the brief outline with ideas of his or her own which are very often formed without considering just how the things are going to work out to the end with the result that during the latter period of brooding one is liable to find that although their plans were alright for the handling of the little band while they were small and requiring very little besides heat and sleep, there were a thousand and one things necessary that they had not thought of that the chick requires when they begin to take an interest in larger things than the inside of a hatched lined box, or a kerosene heater hover.

On the Plant here we handle all our chicks in units of five hundred, and while as the manager of the many brooders now on the market will always tell you in his advertising matter that the same methods can be applied to a brood of fifteen as to that of one thousand, it is neither practical nor economical to apply them, the heat and apparatus required for the proper handling of five hundred chicks is surely going to be a pretty expensive method for the brooding of one from twenty five to one hundred chicks which is the usual amount raised yearly by the farmer or the town poultry man.

Let us take the case of the one who purchases one hundred day old chicks which will make a good unit to work on and the methods described herein can be either enlarged or reduced to suit the individual needs of the one who wishes to either enlarge or reduce this number.

The coal burning colony hover is rather an expensive way of brooding small numbers, although it has a number of advantages. I will make a splendid job of it and for the fancier who does not mind the expense I would say to stick to it, simple directions are supplied with every machine which will make its operations very little trouble, but do not confuse the coal burning hover with the kerosene lamp heated affair. We have experimented with practically every make of the latter and have yet to find one that will do the work properly and give the desired results, new ones are forever coming out with new means of generating the oil to vapor with a view (I presume) to cutting down the fumes under the hover and to provide a warm area which at the same time will allow a constant current of pure warm air through the machine, up to the present time I think this ideal lamp heated affair is still in the making and it would be well to leave it alone until you see some of the larger breeders adopting it, they have a better idea of values than you and if the thing is workable and economical they will very quickly take it up.

In shipping Day Old Chicks we are constantly asked the best method of caring for the little fellows when they are received by the purchaser, and in order to arrive at some plan which would necessitate the smallest possible outlay thus making it practical for anyone wishing to raise even a dozen

chicks, and at the same time on that was simple enough for the veriest amateur to bring them through healthy and hardy, we went to work on a small home constructed fireless brooder, and when we thought we had the thing in workable shape we brought out a hatch of one hundred chicks and dividing them into two flocks, fifty each we assigned them to two of the brooders which we had made off the plan.

From the very first the thing was a success and although we had to correct several minor details the general plan was good and embraced the very points we were after, namely, simplicity of operation and economy for its first cost, as little or nothing and the cost of running it just whatever value you place on your time in the ordinary care of a clutch of ten hatched chicks, and I might add that the brooder is far less trouble and eliminates the danger of all lice mites (with reasonable cleanliness) and loss by rats or cats. Up to the present time we have not lost a single chick other than the weaklings which we have killed off in culling and at the present time they are the healthiest, finest bunch of youngsters we have ever had on the place, but to get on with the handling of them from the beginning.

We tried in all our work to imagine just how the buyer of day olds would proceed with the work and with just what material would be available on most any farm and here is the outline that has given all desirable results.

Chicks were twelve hours hatched when taken from the incubator and put in the brooder at about six o'clock in the evening and were simply put a layer of clean dry sand on the floor of the latter and covered it with about two inches of chaff and after putting the chicks in a cloth was thrown over the whole thing and they slept for the following twelve hours or until well after daylight the next morning. Plenty of small white grit was dropped over the floor during the day and the little fellows spent some of the time poking it over and getting a certain amount of it and the rest of the time in the back or hovepart sleeping, this made an ideal start for it must be remembered that they were still being nourished with nature's supply of food, and the little bits of grit and sand they were picking was helping to properly digest it and at the same time put the organs in shape to receive food.

An the evening a small saucer of sour milk with a cup turned mouth down so as to prevent the chicks from soiling up, was placed in the pen and it was very few minutes before most of them were sampling it, any that we noticed were backward about tasting it, we held and dipped their

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Sunnycrest Poultry Farm

Bear River, P. E. I.

Sunday School Lesson

Lesson VIII. May 21, 1922

HILKIAH FINDS THE LAW

BIBLE

The Golden Text—The word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.—Ps. 119: 105

The Lesson Text—2 Chronicles 34: 14-23

The Time—B. C. 622

The Place—Jerusalem in Solomon's Temple

Lesson Text Illumined—Hilkiah's wonderful discovery was made at the time when Josiah the reigning king, after the fashion of his great grandfather, Hezekiah, had set about restoring and cleansing the House of God. Josiah's predecessors Manasseh and Amon had defiled the temple with idol worship, and Hezekiah himself had been obliged during the latter part of his reign to strip it of some of its adornments in order to pay the tribute exacted by Assyria.

Now however, under the direction of Shaphan the scribe, the Hilkiah trials were assembled to carry out the task of restoration and a voluntary contribution of money was collected from the people. This money was probably kept in a strong room of the temple and when it was brought out "Hilkiah the priest found a book of the Law of the Lord given to Moses" (v. 14). Scholars differ as to just what "Book of the Law" was actually found. According to some opinion the "Book of the Law" is regarded as the Pentateuch (the first five books of the Bible) which during the years when the people had fallen away from God had been lost to public knowledge except as a tradition. Others hold that it was the legal portions (chapter twelve to twenty six and chapter twenty-eight) of our Book of Deuteronomy which calls itself "The Book of the Law" and also "The Book of the Covenant" in the belief of some, the book had been thrust aside and forgotten, or else hidden to escape destruction during the apostasy of Manasseh. It was the theory of others that it was a new and enlarged edition of the "Book of the Covenant" prepared for the needs

of the times but kept hidden until such time as Huldah and Hilkiah thought it was a good opportunity to bring it forth. The book was not such a one as we know but was a manuscript written on skins, the strips of skin being fastened together to make a roll. The writing was in vertical columns being strip was passed from one roller to successfully brought to view as the other.

It has been contended by some as inconceivable that a book so significant as the "Book of the Law" should have vanished leaving no trace behind, but in the history of ancient manuscripts and parallel cases in Egypt from time immemorial it was the custom to bury sacred books or laws at the feet of a god or in the foundation of a temple where they remained concealed under depths of rubbish—often for centuries.

Hilkiah's new-found treasure was entrusted to Shaphan for delivery to the king. In Hilkiah's discourse with Shaphan the text says that Hilkiah answered and said: "The question is recorded by the very 'nawered' is often asked when the answer is to it, unexpressed thought, Shaphan when he came before the king behaved in a most natural manner. He made his business report, stating that the work of restoration was progressing satisfactorily. He then brought forth 'The Book of the Law' which Hilkiah had found. Being a scribe (or man of books) himself, Shaphan was able to understand the value of this one which he proceeded to read aloud to the king. When Josiah had listened to the reading of the book and perceived how greatly he and his people had fallen away from its teachings he was much distressed. Anxious for consolation and advice he sent his representatives to make inquiries of the prophetess Huldah, Jeremiah and Zephaniah were prophets contemporaneous with Josiah but the reason Huldah was consulted and not the others is probably because she dwelt in Jerusalem (v. 22) where the others may not have been at the time. Huldah delivered her verdict that consequences could not be averted but gave assurance that because the king had humbled himself the punishment should not be meted out during his reign. After hearing this the king called together a representative assembly of the people at Jerusalem and before them he endeavored to keep God's commandments calling upon the assembly as well to stand to it, i. e. to signify their willingness also to obey, probably by a rising vote. As long as the king lived they kept their covenant.

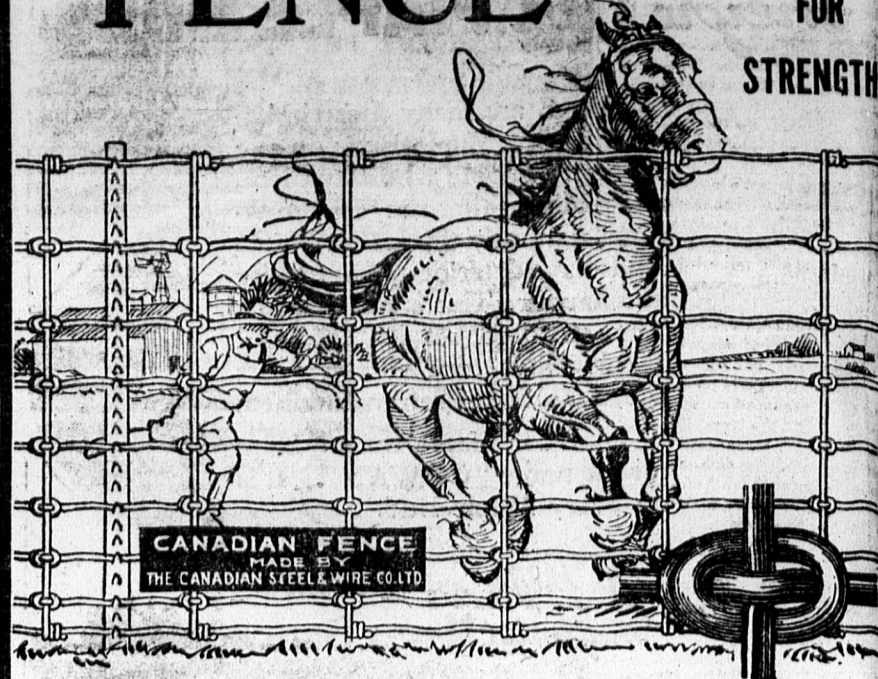
Today as in the time of Amon and Manasseh there are ways in which the Bible may be lost, it may be buried beneath the rubbish of vain interpretations, or it may be the confusion of extreme

and contradictory criticism. It may be practically lost through sheer neglect. We may become so engrossed with the cares or pleasures of life or so hot-footed in the pursuit of the almighty dollar, that we have left little time for the

use of the Bible. Ruskin has summed up the regard for the Bible in the following words: "All that I have taught of art, daily read with me a part of the Bible, and daily made me learn every greatness that there was part of it by heart."

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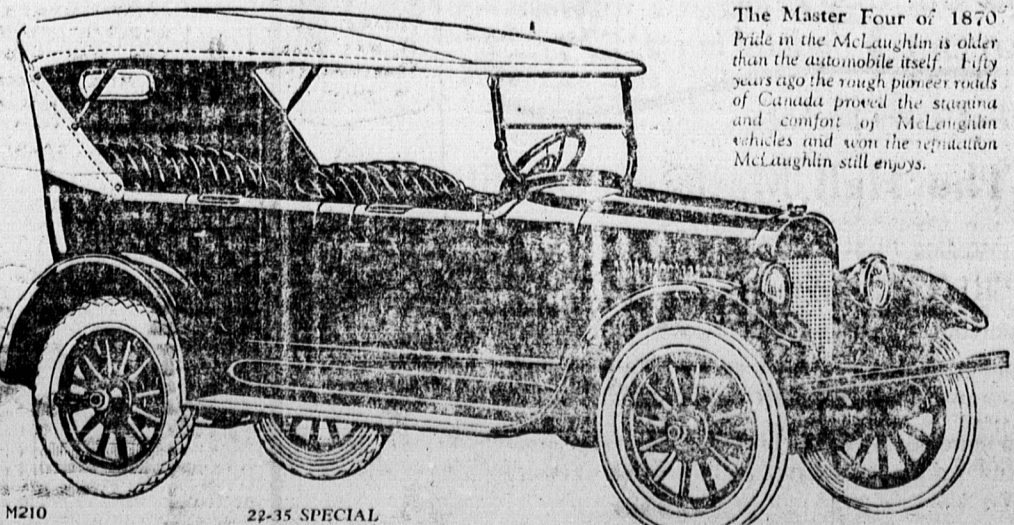
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