

IODINE FROM SEAWEED MAKES EXCELLENT MEDICINE

The iodine that is found in certain marine plants is 200 times as effective as inorganic iodides in its power to bring the thyroid gland back to normal. Dr. J.W. Turrentine of the U. S. Bureau of Soils, who told of his researches at the recent meeting of the American Chemical Society at Philadelphia, said that small doses of iodine-bearing substances coming from seaweed cured simple goiter. The symptoms of iodism that often result from using inorganic iodides were lacking and there were no disturbances such as result from taking thyroid gland preparations.

It appears that the iodine is present in a colloidal form in the marine plants and is absorbed very slowly by the digestive tract. This lessens the chance of over-dosing, Dr. Threntine said. He believes that the use of iodine in this form in the treatment of thyroid disturbances should be generally tried by physicians.

AMERICAN FUR DYEING INDUSTRY LEADS WORLD

America not only does her own fur collar now, but does it better perhaps than any other country in the world, William E. Austin told the recent meeting of the American Chemical Society at Philadelphia. Before the war nine-tenths of all the colored furs used in the country were dyed in Europe and those that were not, were colored with German coal tar dyes. Today, however, America tints her own and uses colors she makes herself.

About forty different dyes are used here now as compared with six about ten years ago. Every color in the rainbow scale is represented, Mr. Austin said, and novel effects in applying coloring matters are being developed. American chemists and engineers have succeeded in putting the American fur dyeing industry on the map, so that today it leads the world in efficiency, modern organization and progressive ideas.

VITAMIN FEEDING MAKES BETTER CHICKENS

Hens given vitamin A in addition to their regular diet not only hatch more chicks but are healthier themselves and lay bigger and better eggs. Dr. Arthur D. Holmes of Boston told of the effect of feeding vitamin-rich cod liver oil to domestic fowl, at a recent meeting of the American Chemical Society at Philadelphia.

Rhode Island Red pullets were given doses of cod liver oil each day and as a result Dr. Holmes found that they laid more eggs. The eggs themselves were larger than usual and their fertility was greater. Fewer eggs contained objectionable blood spots. The greater number and size of the eggs did not make nervous wrecks of the laying hens. On the contrary they showed increased vitality and did not lose weight during the tests. They had a greater resistance to diseases, for fewer of the vitamin-fed ones died than the ones who lived on the normal hen diet alone.
