#### THE CHICAGO SUNDAY TRIBUNE: NOVEMBER 21. 1909.

# Chicago Prepares for Another Massacre of the Turks; "Ship 100,000 Birds and Twice as Much Trimmings.

MME the drumstick, please, an the gizzard, an' a piece o' the breast, an' a whole lot o' stuffin'." That is what little Willie will say next Thursday when father

FIFTY CAR LOADS OF

TURKEYS

rves the turkey. In so far as the little Willies of Chicago are , nearly a hundred thousand o be served, for Chicago has laid in d breaking stock of turkeys for the

carloads at least, the market men the an average net turkey weight of, ounds to the car-1,000,000 pounds of for one Thanksgiving dinner, with greater avoirdupois of ducks, geese, serve to keep the cooks

d the carvers busy. This one feast will cost Chicago in the dighborhood of \$250,000, just for fowls one, but nobody cares. Chicago works, so at its little Willies and Marys can have on Thanksgiving day and skates on as, with a few unimportant necessi-ing the rest of the year. The fact that turkeys are a few cents a pound dearer this year than they were last is not troubling those who have the money to buy. And if of the question, why chicken is just as good eating.

#### Middle West Contributes Share.

here do all the turkeys come from for ago's Thanksgiving dinner? Most of a come from the farms of Illinois, with in Indiana, and Michigan doing share to meet the demand But the n the farm is a far different bird than ey in town. Little Willie, who reroyal drumsticks as merely a crea-e eaten, should be told that this

is the bird of romance. he come to be called "turkey," le should have been called

if some scatterbrained dub, two or undred years ago, hadn't jumped to clusion that this lordly "Meleagris o" was a native of Turkey!

vo " was a native of Turkey! Thanksgiving turkey was called simply because some ornithologist I that the bird came from Turkey. We the name made a hit and it's never

tie has developed on his shirt ont. He's too hard to chew. But, strutting as he does and "goggling"

silly chest tones at anything animate, eserves commiseration of all men. is the turkey hen who refuses the do-It is the turkey hen who refuses the do-mestic life. She isn't mean to him about it. She simply won't nest anywhere in the neigh-borhood. Anywhere from 300 to 900 yards from the strutting haunts of her lord and master strikes her as about right for a nest, particularly if there be thick woods, under-brush, briar patches, hedgethorns, and like impedimenta for human feet. The nest isn't up to much. She's a slouch in this respect. It is mostly dead sticks and branches, built a good deal after the flat

8885555 PESSES THOM

The nest isn't up to mitch. But a south of the second sticks and branches, built a good deal after the flat architecture of the platter upon which she's afterward served in season. And to the annoyed, worried, searching farmer's wife it's a temptation often to serve her on the farm table interrested of the Theatsetting or ble irrespective of either Thanksgiving or

To have turkeys at all on the farm, it's necessary to know where the turkey's nest is. How to find the nest is the difficulty, and, as How to find the fact is the uniform, and, and, significant of the troubles of the search, many farmers' wives pay 50 cents to \$1 aplece to neighbors' children for every tur-key's nest that is located, marked, and dia-grammed to the farmer's wife's full satisfac-

key hen at all, you wouldn't risk touching that first egg for a silver dollar. Sneaking in after the hen, you are more than satisfied to mark it ten or fiften feet away, then back up, putting all the thorny shrubbery into up, putting all the thorny shrubbery indo place again as carefully as it was before. For in the early stages of the egg laying a turkey hen may quit the job at a suspicious sight or scent of human intruders and will take another flat, probably 400 meters re-moved from the first one. She despises rub-ber necking more than the city dweller in a sightseeing houlevard

Fool Makes Discovery Possible.

It's only that the turkey hen is such a fool that her nest ever was discovered by her owner. She has sneaked back to the farm-yard for any possible feeding in prospect the yard for any possible leading in prospect the night before and has gone to roost with the bickering flock, anywhere from the giant limbs of an orchard apple tree to the ridge of the hay barn itself. Next morning she descends to the farm-

ward levels, flocking with her kind around the fool gobbler and expressing her hypocritical "Put! Put! Put!" with the worst of them. She reminds the old, experienced "roomer" of the city of that typical, talk lean, somber faced landlady who between skimping at the

table and keeping her face long enough is dreadfully overworked. But it is this hypocritical attitude of the turkey hen that betrays her secret nest. She overdoes it. Her egg ordinarily is faid in the morning. There may be ten or a dozen Foolish Chromo for Turkey. That's where the sympathy element comes in so strongly, for the silly turkey father, strutting with wings dragging the ground and

ediate community surroundings

come of him? He so pleased with himself, strutting, that he hasn't an eye for his mate's slobbiness and fool disposition generally. Purple red over his head, "snout," jowls, and wattles, he is self-sufficient, wholly. And when his black, hairy brush develops fully on his chest, his gobbling chestiness is imening the distance between himself and the bird and is pretending to more hard work than he willingly would do in fact in a whole ens are supposed amicably to settle them-selves for the night, there are rows among the turkey families that attempt to congretwive hour day. He marks the approach to the nest in the bird's increased agitation and the turkey families that attempt to congre-gate at all, such as would bring a patrol wagon to the costlicit stone mansion in Mich-igan avenue. "Talk turkey" is an expres-sion among men where one needs to hold the other to brass tacks. But if the average man and woman talked turkey as it is talked among the turkey females at roosting time, the criminal courts would be swamped with murder trials. hypocrisy and when he has found it at last, the old task of finding the needle in the hay-

stack may not appear at all so much. That prime reason for chasing down the turkey hen in her nesting makes the saddest possible aspect of the vain, silly, gobbling turkey father. Eighty-five per cent of all his hildren have stepmothers. They are hatched to the condition. Only in those cases where numan ingenuity fails in discovering the real mother's nest is the turkey chick denied the gentle, mothering instinct of an adopted parent, who is the domesticated hen of the

farmyards. Left to herself to brood over her own eggs, the fool turkey hen sits on about six or eight eggs in her hidden flat. One day she comes eggs in her hidden hat. One day all context stealing back to the farmhouse-preferably in a heavy dew or rain storm—draggling her poor, drenched children after her. If she has nested half a mile away, these chicks are piteous little candidates for the warmest, softest baby incubator that is on the market. piteous little candidates for the warmest, softest baby incubator that is on the market. Chances are that two or three of the broad have given out in the long, wet tramp, and have died by the wayside. At nightfall, pro-vided there's a hen determined to sit when the farmer's wife doesn't want her to, these



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ren Streets

op's Emer a & the Mous

the name made a hit and it's never nged. Then as history has moved how the half of the sense indications that this orni-changed. Then as history has moved it's been found that Turkey itself is ally indigestible to European nations ally indigestible to European nations rally, and the name "Thanksgiving iey" stands.

thologist who misnamed the American Thanksgiving bird in early colonial days ran over from London on a visit; that he overate going back-having it in for furkey and the Turks-simply handed one to

Certainly he never got far into the New England Indian woods, as he would have seared up a few flocks of both. Both were native, with the turkey wilder and keener of intuition than was the Indian.

#### -Turkey an Untamed Bird.

As a matter of truth the turkey never has amed and reduced to a state of barndomesticity. Only the huge, lordly, strut-gobbler of the flock has reached anypproaching it, and he doesn't amount as a table bird after his ornamental

immediate community surroundings. "I believe that old, black turkey hen has a nest somewhere," the farmer's wife re-marks, asking John or Annie to watch her. Watching, that person trying to trail her to the hidden nest himself must be mov-ing around a hundred feet away, hypo-critically pretending to be busy at something a theorem will removed from turkeys. He chooses a landscape that is most inviting to every wild mammal that is fond of suck-ing eggs. No one knows how many eggs a ing eggs. No one knows how many eggs a turkey hen lays preparatory to brooding over them. How can he, when it's days and days after she's begun laying that her nest is found? Can he tell how many eggs have been eaten by skunks, weasels, muskrats, raccoons, and such, simply by counting the eggs that are in the nest when he finds it? Finding them, these eggs are about twice the size of the egg of a big, booted, Cochin-China chicken hen. They are of a fragile, silver gray spotted color, with small dots of the color of a healthy summer freekle on a tanned pose. The point of the egg is delicate-by sharp, tapering from a large, rounded base. Holding the turkey egg to the sunlight you may see your finger shadows through it. But if you know anything about the tur-

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#### Some Work to Track "Hen."

Some work to track then. She may go all around Robin Hood's barn in making for the nest. She's likely to move first due north in case the nest is due south. In the meantime, the farmer sleuth is length-

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turkey chicks are transferred to her in the dark and next morning the stepmother leaves her nest, delighted with her changelings

which she looks after with all her mother! domesticated sympathies and love

Philosophy of Experience.

"Keep your turkey chicks out of the wet nd cold" is the philosophy of the farmer's

wife, gained from experience. When her good fortune allows of the stepmother her hatching the birds in the chicken house, that

first "treatment" of the turkey chick is a grain of black pepper, shoved into its plaint-ive beak and forced down its throat. After-

ward, for several days, its diet must be watched carefully and regard paid to the

doors. But in view of the sneaking, slouchy, fool-ish turkey wife, don't you see how kindly nature has helped the father bird over a rough place in life merely by making a cox-comb of him? He's so pleased with himself,

At roosting time, when all civilian chick-

Yet the turkey is to be the bird of birds on a

million tables next Thursday. If it isn't and

some one drops in for dinner unexpectedly.

lack of this plèce de résistance. Probably the housewife will explain that

As Close as Possible.

rkey is too rich and too indige

the family-which often is gospel truth.

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