

A FEW HENS

THE POULTRY PAPER FOR BEGINNERS.

VOL. 4.

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NO. 2.

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A FEW HENS, Box 2118, Boston, Mass.

EDITORIAL HINTS.

- Be kind.
- Dog days.
- Dress cool.
- Be humane.
- Lazy weather.
- Don't weaken.
- Disgust hurts.
- Advertise well.
- Keep a moving.
- Love your birds.
- Delightful shade.
- Care for comfort.
- Feed for comfort.
- Know your hens.
- House for comfort.
- Separate the sexes.
- Plenty of broodies.
- Economy is an art.
- Feathers are flying.
- Sweat out the blues.
- See Our Symposium.
- American fowls lead.
- Give us your opinion.
- Read our egg contest.
- How's the water pan?
- Watch for the enemy.
- Keep up the interest.
- Molting season begins.
- New breeds are needed.
- Answer Our Symposium.
- Have you "robber hens?"
- Hot weather and vermin.
- Export rather than import.
- Keep up the water supply.
- Renewed that subscription?
- Break up the breeding pens.
- American hens mean business.

Experimental Farm Notes.

The Champion of Last Month Goes Back a Few Pegs, While the Struggle for Supremacy is Equally Divided Between a White Wyandotte and a White Plymouth Rock—Second Place is Held by a White Plymouth Rock—General Notes and Comments.

There is a tie for first place this month. White Wyandotte hen, No. 45, a small bird, has 88 eggs to her credit, and so has White Plymouth Rock, No. 52. Second place is held by White Plymouth Rock, No. 46, and third place by Wyandotte, No. 26, with records, respectively, of 87 and 85. Rhode Island Red hen, No. 86, has 84 eggs to her credit, and may yet cause a surprise in camp.

The following tables tell the story completely:

During the month of June, the following number of hens and pullets were laying:

Pen No. 0	10
1	12
2	9
3	8
4	6
5	19
6	13
7	16
8	11
9	13
R. I. Reds	6
Miscellaneous	3

Total, 126
A loss of 21 layers during the month.

The above table represents the following number of layers of each breed:

Brahmas	52
Wyandottes	41
White Plymouth Rocks	24
Rhode Island Reds	6

During the month the following number of eggs were laid (not including those by Leghorn, Silver Wyandotte and Single Comb White Wyandotte):

Brahmas	52 head, 589 eggs; average 11.17
Wyandottes	41 head, 609 eggs; average 14.35
W.P. Rocks	24 head, 298 eggs; average 12.10
R. I. Reds	6 head, 72 eggs; average 12.00

This month the Wyandottes again take the lead, and by a good average, while the Brahmas drop down to the tail end.

The highest number of eggs we gathered in one day, during the month of June, was 67, and the lowest number 38.

The highest number of Brahma eggs received in one day was 25, and the lowest number 13.

The highest number of Wyandotte eggs received in one day was 27, and the lowest number 14.

The highest number of White Plymouth Rock eggs received in one day was 14, and the lowest number 6.

The highest number of Rhode Island Red eggs received in one day was 4, and the lowest number 1.

The standing of individual layers is as follows (from January 1st to July 1st —excluding all that laid under 50 eggs in that time:)

No. 45, White Wyandotte	88 eggs
52, White Plymouth Rock	88
46, " "	87
26, White Wyandotte	85
86, Rhode Island Red	84
16, Brahma (Felch)	81
28, White Wyandotte	80
31, " "	79
75, White Plymouth Rock	79
63, " "	78
52, Brahma (Cost)	77
17, White Wyandotte	76
16, " "	74
6, Brahma (Roberts)	73
59, " (Cost)	72
22, White Wyandotte	72
18, " "	71
43, Brahma (Felch)	69
56, " (Cost)	69
39, " "	69
46, " "	67
76, White Plymouth Rock	67
Silver Wyandotte	67
21, Brahma (Felch)	66
62, " (Cost)	66
66, White Plymouth Rock	66
77, " "	66
47, Brahma (Cost)	64
4, White Wyandotte	64
7, " "	64
37, " "	63
32, Brahma (Felch)	63
61, " (Cost)	62
13, White Wyandotte	62
17, Brahma (Felch)	61
21, White Wyandotte	60
70, White Plymouth Rock	60
45, Brahma (Cost)	59
34, " (Felch)	59
11, White Wyandotte	59
28, " "	59
5, " "	58
73, White Plymouth Rock	58
64, " "	57
25, Brahma (Cost)	57
58, " "	56
54, White Plymouth Rock	56
91, Rhode Island Red	56
43, White Wyandotte	55
40, Brahma (Cost)	54

No. 51, White Plymouth Rock	.....54 eggs
67, " " " "	.....54
Single Comb Wyandotte	.....54
27, Brahma (Cost)	.....53
8, White Wyandotte	.....53
34, " " " "	.....52
35, " " " "	.....52
65, Brahma (Cost)	.....52
1, Brahma (Roberts)	.....51
33, White Wyandotte	.....51
50, Brahma (Cost)	.....50
81, White Plymouth Rock	.....50

* * *

The highest individual record during the month belongs to Light Brahma hen No. 34, she having laid 22 eggs.

The total number of eggs laid on the farm during June was 1621.

During June the highest price we received retail for eggs was 17 cents a dozen; lowest, 16 cents; average, 16 2-3 cents.

The plum trees in the poultry yards are just loaded with fruit, and especially tempting are the Ogon and Abundance varieties. The Abundance is a large, sugary plum, while the Ogon is a firm finely flavored yellow plum. The trees made a lot of wood this year, which furnished a generous shade, and then, it seems, wishing to outdo themselves they bore an immense lot of fruit. We were compelled to prop up the branches.

The most satisfactory tree, however, is the peach. They grow the quickest and give a liberal amount of shade.

Eggs and Egg Farming.

Build Up Your Business on a Substantial Foundation—Carelessness is Costly—Painstaking Efforts are Doubly Rewarded—Good Eggs Strengthen the Market—Doubtful Eggs Lessen the Number Consumed.

Solicit a family trade.
 Fresh eggs are scarce.
 Prices are holding good.
 Mixed colors hurt the sale.
 Small flocks give best results.
 Don't try to dictate to the market.
 The demand for *fresh* eggs increases.
 Hot weather is crippling the egg supply.
 Rub the dirty eggs with a damp cloth.
 By her fruits (eggs) ye shall know the hen.
 A run without shade tells on the egg crop.
 Extremes of heat and cold checks egg production.
 Egg farming should be the basis of all poultry ventures.
 Duck and goose eggs are not in demand at present in the markets.
 On an average the thoroughbred will lay three eggs to the mongrels two.
 How to get Summer eggs is equal to the question of getting them in Winter.
 Empty egg crates are returned by the railway company to the shipper free of cost.
 Eggs being a staple article, there is no reason why a well-regulated egg farm should not pay.
 In actual practice, performance is of more value than pedigree, says Texas *Farm and Ranch*.

Color of yolk, quality of contents, and shape of egg are all more or less governed by the food and feeding.

It does not matter so much whether the eggs are brown or white, as it does that there be a uniformity of color.

Poulterers during July, August and September run their hens without males, as it is better for the keeping quality of the eggs.

Farm and Home says the shell of a newly laid egg is delicate as a piece of white silk. A washed egg is not so clean as one that never needed washing.

G. B. Douglas, Trenton, N. Y., writes: "I notice in June A FEW HENS, that it is claimed that it costs 10 to 12 cents per dozen to raise eggs. I hold I can buy every ounce of food for my hens and produce eggs at from 7 to 8 cents per dozen.

According to a Providence, R. I., paper, "Mrs. McNally's hen laid 12 eggs on Wednesday, 9 yesterday, and 3 this morning. In all she laid 289 eggs in 38 days, a daily average of 7 3-7 eggs." And now the State Experimental College is going to investigate the matter!

O. D. Shock says there are too many farmers who fare sumptuously on eggs in their various forms, who never for a moment take time to think how much money they should necessarily expend were they obliged to purchase this same healthful, strength-giving food.

A correspondent in *Rural New-Yorker* says: "With fowls as with cows, the greatest producers are more liable to disease than those of more moderate production, and I believe that the average keeper should set his mark at a fair average production, rather than an excessive one."

The wedge-shaped hen may be the layer and she may not; that is an open question. But the hen that has a quick movement, especially of the head from side to side, and is never content to mope, is certainly the business hen, and may be relied on to give the desired egg, says J. H. Shedd, in *American Agriculturist*.

The *American Poultry Advocate* says: In producing eggs for market, pains should be taken to prevent them from becoming soiled or dirty. When this happens there is no cure for it. The advice is very commonly given to wash the eggs that have become dirty, but a washed egg has no keeping quality, and very quickly becomes a bad egg. The water appears to dissolve the gelatinous substance which seals the pores of the shell, and air is thus admitted and soon starts decomposition.

The following method for determining the age of eggs is practiced in the markets of Paris, according to the *Backer und Konditor Zeitung*. About 6 ounces of common cooking salt is put into a large glass, which is then filled with water. When the salt is in solution an egg is dropped into the glass. If the egg is only one day old it immediately sinks to the bottom; if any older it does not reach the bottom of the glass. If three days old it sinks only just below the surface. From five days upward it floats; the older it is the more it protrudes out of the water.

To say that there is a best breed would be to do away with all but one breed for everybody would want to keep the best breed, says Iowa *Homestead*. In

all breeds egg laying strains are found just as there are milk strains in dairy cattle. With all the breeds these are largely family characteristics, although more pronounced in some breeds than in others. Some of our readers live far in the country, and some near town, some near large markets and others remote. Some near a market that demands one kind of an egg, and some want another. We have readers in the smoky city as well as in the clear country air, and each will want a breed suited to his especial needs. For this reason there is no best breed.

The *Georgia Poultry Herald* says statistics furnished by the government show that the average number of eggs laid, for all the hens of the country, is about 60 eggs each per year, but good average hens of any breed, or even good mongrels, well cared for, will produce 10 or 12 dozen eggs a year each. Thoroughbreds of any of the egg-producing breeds will lay from 150 to 200 eggs in a year. The 200-egg hen is not very common, but there is occasionally one and with care in breeding they can be produced. But generally speaking 100 to 150 eggs is all that one has a right to expect from a flock of fowls of any breed, unless they have been bred for egg production by careful selection of the best layers year after year.

About Broilers and Roasters.

A Poorly Dressed Carcass, no Matter How Attractive it Might be Otherwise, Will Always Meet with a Poor Sale—Have Regular Shipping Days, and Aim to Hold Those Days the Year Round, as that Will Establish a Weekly Income.

See that the poultry is well bled.
 Flavor the carcass with good food.
 Carefully remove the pin feathers.
 The Houdan is a grand table fowl.
 The fat hen hath its reward—in the pot.
 Games of all kinds are king-pins for table use.
 The meat of the Langshan is in a class of its own.
 Carefulness in dressing pays for extra pains taken.
 Over-exercise toughens the flesh of even a young fowl.
 A good breast is half the race for a valuable table fowl.
 A stag is better eating than a cock bird that has been mated.
 Hens, as a general thing, make better roasters than do cocks.
 The demand for table poultry is still greater than the supply.
 A hen bagging down behind is very unattractive as a carcass.
 Mongrel poultry is fast disappearing from the stock of the market poulterer.
 The White Wonder, as a table fowl, is in the same class with the Plymouth Rock.
 The Silver Wyandotte produces a more yellow skin than does the White variety.
 The Cornish Indian Game is very hardy, a good meat breed, and a very good bird for fine flesh.

To attempt to properly fatten poultry while on a free range, is to throw away time, money and good eating.

According to the *Illustrated Poultry Gazette*, Ex-Vice-President Levi P. Morton has quit active business speculation, and gone to raising broilers at his farm Eilerslie, near Rhinecliff, N. Y., for the Waldorf-Astoria, Delmonico's, and the fashionable clubs.

More attention must be given to dressed poultry and eggs in the show room, says Geo. W. Miller, if the poultry industry is to go ahead as it deserves. At all our leading shows the individual fancier should not only make an exhibit of his best breeding specimens alive, but of the dressed birds that are produced from such stock.

The unusually hot weather of July in New York city, told sorely on live poultry arriving, and the shrinkage was very heavy. In one week the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals seized considerable of the Southern express, while one car of Southern springs had over 1,000 dead and some cars of Western lost as many as 900 head in transit.

P. H. Jacobs, in *Farm and Fireside*, says the farmers who raise poultry for market owe much to the breeders of fancy poultry, for despite all mistakes they have made, they have preserved the purity of the breeds, and as their standard is only in its infancy, the time will come when all the breeds will combine not only the characteristics of utility, but convey also the outward evidences of the purity of the stock.

It is our candid opinion that nothing is as poorly marketed as poultry, says the *Northern Fancier*. If alive they are in a little crowded coop, all sizes and colors. If dressed, well, from what can be observed on market days, our appetite for chicken is never increased. We see no reason why dressed chickens cannot be put on the market in a more inviting condition. Make your customers want chickens, then you will get your price. People do not hesitate on price for a nice, clean, tasty article.

The Light Brahma is the largest and most popular fowl in the Asiatic class, and they are very hardy, a meat breed, lay brown eggs, and have combs pea shaped, says *Poultry Farmer*. This breed is very popular with poultry keepers of all classes. Though considered a meat breed they are good layers when handled properly, and they produce most of their eggs when they are bringing the highest price. They make good broilers and fries, and as roasters full grown fowls are not surpassed.

Cold storage fowls will never have the place in the popular regard that the freshly dressed fowls have, says *Farmer's Review*. There is great room for development in the business of poultry raising. Every item of information on how to get our poultry and eggs to the consumers in a perfect pure state is of immense value; for if the consumer can know his eggs are fresh the demand will increase. The people will before long find themselves shut up to eggs, poultry, fresh fruits

and vegetables, unless we have some radical legislation in the interest of pure foods.

Farmers, why not raise poultry? asks *Poultry Farmer*. Fat hens are worth from one to two and a half cents per pound more than hogs or cattle. Early Spring fries bring 16 to 20 cents per pound. Get an incubator and brooder and raise more broilers. Commence hatching the first of January, and by the middle of March the chicks will weigh 2 or 3 pounds each, and will sell for 16 to 20 cents per pound, the price advancing till June 1st for broilers weighing from 1 1-2 to 2 pounds each. This weight is better than heavier broilers, demanding a higher price per pound than it could should it weigh 2 1-2 to 3 pounds.

Geo. W. Miller, of Canada, says: "The increased trade that would come to the fancier by giving prominence to dressed poultry and eggs in the show room, would be very large, I am convinced. Let me illustrate: An exhibitor, we will say, wins on Plymouth Rocks in the live department. A farmer comes along and admires the beautiful feathers on these specimens, but doubts their utility. The exhibitor takes him over to the dressed poultry exhibit and points out the fowls prepared for market that came from his winning cock, or the eggs that his winning hen or pullet produced. Will it not be vastly easier to make a sale to that farmer than if no such object lesson was at hand?"

Our Brevity Symposium.

A Hearty Response to Our Call for Answers and Experiences—Here is a "Farmer's Club" to Perfection—Our Readers are Certainly Interested in this New Move.

We are more than gratified at the prompt and hearty response to our Symposium call. It is very encouraging to see that our readers are so wide-awake and ready to help to make A FEW HENS one of the best poultry journals in existence. By filling each issue with a host of brief practical items of advice, by giving the experiences of our readers, and by having the readers generally assist in making the paper valuable, we can do a lot of good. We hope our readers will keep up this interest, and that the department may be a permanent monthly feature.

We have used all the replies that have been received to date. Should any be received too late for this number, they will appear in our next.

In all cases, unless advised to the contrary, we give the full name and address of each correspondent.

Correspondents should bear in mind that all matter pertaining to the Symposium, as well as anything intended for the Editor, should be addressed to Hammonton, N. J., and not to the publication office in Boston.

NO. 1.

What methods do you pursue in fighting lice, and have you been reasonably successful?

By applying kerosene (coal oil) and cold tar (half pint of latter to quart of oil)

to the roosts and nest boxes, and by dusting the fowls with Persian insect powder when necessary, I have been reasonably successful in keeping down lice.—L. J. Ryerson, Pompton Plains, N. J.

For the past 10 years I have had no trouble with lice, either on hens or chickens. I got through my troubles in that direction by an accident, so to speak. I once put up a roost which was a board 3 inches wide, planed smooth and painted with a varnish paint, which made it very smooth and glossy. In caring for my various houses I never found lice on that roost, although they were on all other roosts during hot weather. The result is that I have smooth painted roosts (no cracks) that rest on movable uprights. I would not have the roost hit the side of the house. During the Summer I go to the roosts two or three times a month with a kerosene oil can. Sometimes I mix the oil with some old paint that I happen to have and go over the roost with a paint brush. I have not seen a louse in my house for years, but go around from force of habit formed years ago. I always see that their is a place of loose ground in the yard, free from stones, so that the fowls can dust. My theory is that if I keep the roost clear they will keep their bodies clear. I change nests two or three times through the Summer. I keep lice from chickens by dusting the hen three times while sitting, with Death to Lice, and keeping the houses clean. I don't use whitewash—never have.—L. H. Shaw, Brockton, Mass.

I use a first-class Lice Killer once a week on roosts, with good success.—W. H. Card, Bristol, Conn.

Persian insect powder for body lice; lard for black head lice; kerosene roosts for red mites. Have fair success.—Wm. E. Anderson, Belvidere, N. J.

Lice Killer, made by Lee, painted on roosts and dropping boards say every week and keep a good sand bath handy for the hens. After use of the Lice Killer, usually get an increase of eggs. I also whitewash the houses at least twice a year.—E. R. Reid, Englewood, N. J.

Put kerosene on the roosts one week, and crude petroleum the next.—A. DeR. Meares, Hyattsville, Md.

Kerosene oil on roosts, whitewash on walls, moth balls in nests of sitting hens, and Persian insect powder on stock, has kept lice down.—Robt. Atkins, Esopus-on-Hudson, N. Y.

By always being on the watch for them, changing nest material every week, coal oil on roosts every three days, burning sulphur once a month, whitewashing every four months, having a dust bath in the house, shaking Death to Lice on hens, and keeping sitting hens away from laying stock. I have been reasonably successful.—J. W. McCarty, Windsor, Vt.

I dust the hens with insect powder in the Spring, when sitting and after hatching, and repeat every two weeks for about two months. I also spray wall, roof and roosts with a composi-

tion made of coal oil, bi-sulph. of carbon, and carbolic acid. I keep coal ashes on the floor, and at times add air-slaked lime. The house is lined with tar paper.—Matt G. Robson, Port Leyden, N. Y.

By using Lee's Lice Paint, and Lambert's Death to Lice, I have been successful.—W. W. Osgood, Haverhill, Mass.

Plenty of coal oil; good success.—J. W. Strowbridge, Dundee, N. Y.

For roost mites, a squirt can (for cracks) loaded with kerosene; a paint brush for flat surfaces; a rag wrung dry for body lice—coal ashes and a sandy farm. Satisfactory results all around.—Chas. A. French, Sandypoint, Me.

Have cedar roosts, with branches hung around hen house, and cedar clippings. Good success.—Mrs. I. L. Millikin, Saco, Me.

I have a dry and very clean house, 8 x 16 feet for 20 hens. Keep it sweet and clean. I catch each fowl, rub sulphur under the wings and on the neck, and give a little in the mash. Then with a large atomizer (made for spraying potatoes) I thoroughly spray roost and all parts of the house with kerosene oil and a little of Rice's Lice Killer. In 10 days not a louse can be found anywhere.—R. M. Shurtliff, Keene Valley, N. Y.

I dust my fowls with an insect powder and grease the heads of little chicks with an ointment, also use insect powder in nests, dust boxes, etc. Have been successful.—M. A. Summers, Lewisburg, Ky.

Prompt removal of filth. Use plenty of dust.—W. A. Penfield, Waterville, N. Y.

For young chicks I take a handful of Lambert's Death to Lice and throw this over them at night in the coop or brooder. For older stock I use Lee's Lice Killer, and keep the coops perfectly clean. I am not troubled with lice.—J. A. Ainge, Dover, N. J.

Coal oil torches to singe about the hen house, and Lambert's Death to Lice on the fowls. Good success.—Bertie Boling, Ladoga, Ind.

Mix air slaked lime and sand, equal parts, and let the hens clean themselves in it.—Wm. G. Good, Bowmanville, Pa.

Lambert's Death to Lice dusted into hens and nests; Lee's liquid Lice Killer in Cyclone sprayer every 10 days. Ointment of sweet oil, sulphur and carbolic acid for head lice, is well enough on old fowls, but kills some chicks. Cedar oil fetches out head lice amazingly, but soon evaporates. Clean houses every day. Successful? Yes.—B. A. R. Stocker, Wyoma, W. Va.

Get one gallon of prepared tar or pitch, and place in a warm room, or in the sun during Summer. Pour in as much carbon oil as will mix with a stick. Add a tablespoonful of crude carbolic acid to about one gallon of oil, after it is poured off. Use for roosts and dropping boards. Then take a small tub of water into which is put 25 cents worth of crude carbolic. Stir up, and with a sprinkling can sprinkle the houses.—G. P. Binder, W. Newton, Pa.

Earthen floor in house, about one foot higher than outside. That will keep it dry and dusty. Clean dropping

boards and floor of house at least once a week. Have dropping boards and floor always white with air slaked lime, and lice will never bother your chickens. At least so 6 years of experience tells me.—C. D. Pantler, Evansville, Illinois.

Keep houses well whitewashed, change straw in nest boxes often, clean dropping boards and sift ashes on them every morning. Have no trouble with vermin of any kind.—Irving C. Hutchins, Rochester, N. Y.

The best thing for mites is lard or any old grease and coal oil for roosts, nests, etc., if well applied with a brush. It will keep them away for at least three months. Ashes thrown hard so that the dust will settle in cracks, are also good, but have to be applied often. For body lice nothing is better than Lambert's Death to Lice. A light box about two feet square to catch the powder that falls off, with a wire crook, such as used for catching fowls, fastened on a handle at the right height over the box to hold the fowls up by the legs while dusting, is very convenient. I cannot see that whitewashing is necessary if the house is kept clean.—Emory E. Banks, Crittenden, N. Y.

Kerosene roosts occasionally. Dust box in each pen, filled with sifted coal ashes. Dust sitting hens with Lambert's Death to Lice twice while sitting, and grease chicks on top of head with sweet oil. Kill off all laying stock every year in August and September. For several years have not been troubled with mites. Have some large lice on hens, but consider ourselves successful in keeping lice in check.—J. W. Bromley & Son, Southbridge, Mass.

No. 2.

In raising Leghorns, or any of the Mediterranean breeds, what do you do when the wing feathers grow so rapidly that the chicks droop?

Prevent by proper ration of animal food.—W. A. Penfield.

When wing feathers grow too fast I trim them with a pair of scissors.—M. A. Summers.

Pull them out.—Mrs. I. L. Millikin. Had Leghorn crosses once, and was troubled that way. Thought if they had vitality enough they could hold up their wing feathers.—Chas. A. French.

Clip wings. Not a case this year out of 494 chicks.—J. W. Strowbridge.

Clip them.—W. W. Osgood.

Never had any trouble that way.—Matt G. Robson.

So long as the Mediterranean breeds of chicks are thrifty and kept growing, the wing feathers do not droop. The drooping is caused by some oversight in care, feeding, exposure or lice—mostly lice. Correcting the oversight and clipping the wing feathers may save the chick if done in time.—L. J. Ryerson.

I out-breed, and have no trouble that way.—W. H. Card.

When three weeks old I cut off the wing feathers and find it successful.—J. A. Ainge.

Trim off the long feathers. Give bone meal.—B. A. R. Stocker.

No. 3.

What six rules do you find the most important in successful poultry culture?

Hardy breed. Hatch early or very late. Breed from the fittest. At first signs of Fall winds or early frost, shut the chicks and hens up at night, and above all things don't let chicks out on the frost. They are liable to catch cold, roup, and something like diphtheria. It is a strong point with me to keep them all in unless the weather is fit for them to be out. I have tried both ways. Warm houses; no ventilators. Generous allowance of meat in some form (prefer good beef scraps) and green food in Summer. In Winter cured clover in dry form, where they can help themselves, or in the drinking water so that they can pick it out as wanted.—L. H. Shaw.

Clean coops. Fresh clean water. Clean sweet food. Plenty shade. Plenty sun. Plenty run.—W. H. Card.

A breed or breeds of young fowls suitable to your locality and purpose of business. Proper buildings for housing same. Nutritious food properly fed, and water. Cleanliness. Fondness or love for poultry, and reasonable intelligence. Personal attention to every detail.—L. J. Ryerson.

Personal attention. Balanced ration. Scratch for their grain. Plenty of greens (cabbage, etc). Cut bone or other meat food. Freedom from draughts, fairly warm quarters in Winter, and move roosts to the scratching sheds in Summer.—Wm. E. Anderson.

Close attention. Cleanliness. Gather the fresh eggs. Separate the male from the females during molting season. Keep fowls healthy. Be a wide-awake poultryman.—Wm. G. Good.

Fresh water. Wholesome food. Dry house and yards. Clean house and yards. Make the hens work for their food. Printer's ink.—C. D. Pantler.

Breed from strong, vigorous high-scoring birds. Feed regularly and intelligently of ground and whole grain, ground bone and green stuff. Plenty of fresh water in Summer; lukewarm water in zero weather. Keep stock, old and young, free from vermin. Do not keep too many birds, old or young, together; and shaded runs if possible; all sick birds eliminated from well ones. When selling stock and eggs treat others as you desire to be treated.—Irving C. Hutchins.

The very best thoroughbred poultry. Cleanliness. Comfortable and convenient houses and yards. A well-balanced wholesome ration and pure water. Regularity, especially in feeding. Systematic details.—Emory E. Banks.

Hatch the chicks early (from February 1st to May 1st). Market all laying stock in August and September (when about 18 months old). Market surplus cockerels when they will dress from 2 1-2 to 3 pounds. Feed a variety of food (the morning mash and grain scattered in litter in the Winter). Keep a breed suitable to the demands of your market. Be thorough and business-like in all details of the work.—J. W. Bromley & Son.

Have names for all the hens, and know them personally. Have them tame, never scared. Attend to all their wants faithfully every day in the year. Secure a good market. Market early and often. Weed out every unprofitable bird. Study A FEW HENS.—B. A. R. Stocker.

Keep free from lice. Clean. Dry. Feed good sound food and provide plenty of shade and fresh water.—Bertie Boling.

Good vigorous stock. Unceasing attention to details. Cleanliness. Good food of a variety; no garbage. Water and grit handy at all times. Comfortable quarters and freedom from vermin.—A. DeR. Meares.

Feed regular. Sound wholesome food. Good care. Number of fowls according to your ability. Always be on lookout for sickness and lice. Take a good poultry paper, such as A FEW HENS.—J. W. McCarty.

Love of the business. Do things from a business standpoint. Don't be afraid to learn. Get there. Keep your eyes wide open and your brain active. Summed up, plenty of backbone or grit.—Matt G. Robson.

Cleanliness. Best of grain. Plenty of pure water. Exercise. Regular hours. "Be there all the time."—J. W. Strowbridge.

Subscribe for A FEW HENS. Don't borrow it. Stay among the hens and look after their wants. Feed sound grain. Give them lots of air in Summer and room in Winter. Sell everything as soon as possible after it is ready. Earn a reputation for square dealing.—C. A. French.

Dry clean houses. Pure water. Exercise. Grit and charcoal. Regular, nourishing food twice a day. "Whatever ought to be done do it."—Mrs. I. L. Millikin.

Keep the house clean. Plenty of sand. Feed twice a day cracked corn, oats, mash and as much variety as possible. Turn the hens out in the afternoon where they get plenty of green food as well as insects.—R. M. Shurtliff.

Cleanliness. Free from vermin. Plenty room; comfortable housing. Wholesome food. Plenty fresh water. Thoroughbreds with yearly infusion of new blood.—M. A. Summers.

Cleanliness. Systematic care. Close culling. Careful mating. Comfortable quarters. Honest dealing.—William A. Penfield.

No. 4.

In market culture, what branch do you make the specialty—eggs, broilers or roasters—and why?

Eggs. Think them more profitable.—M. A. Summers.

Eggs. Better market here.—Mrs. I. L. Millikin.

Big brown eggs and roasters. Can sell eggs for several cents above market quotations in Boston; roasters and fowl in Bangor, 25 miles away, hot weather shipments bringing more there than in Boston. No market in Bangor for broilers.—Chas. A. French.

Eggs. Best market.—J. W. Strowbridge.

Eggs. Good market.—W. W. Osgood.

Eggs. Broilers as soon as I can.—Matt G. Robson.

Eggs. Because nearest market calls for them.—J. W. McCarty.

Eggs. Find them the most profitable.—Robt. Atkins.

Eggs. Plant not large enough to have a constant supply of broilers.—A. DeR. Meares.

Early broilers. Because of good prices.—Bertie Boling.

Eggs and broilers. Feed is high in West Virginia, and prices poor.—B. A. R. Stocker.

Eggs and Spring chickens, dressing the chickens when they weigh headed and drawn, 2 1-2 to 3 pounds. The demand in local market good. Not much demand for broilers (2 pounds or less) here. We sell our yearling hens as roasters. Great demand. Do not keep Spring chickens for roasters for the price declines rapidly towards Fall.—J. W. Bromley & Son.

I have, in past years, made eggs a specialty, because they pay as well as anything. I could not raise broilers, and there is not much money in roasters here.—Emory E. Banks.

Eggs and roasters, because I live in a city of 35,000 souls, with no end of the demand for fresh eggs. I raise the roaster because they pay for the keep of themselves and one sister, as I look at it.—L. H. Shaw.

Eggs in Winter and broilers at two lbs. dressed in Summer. Because Winter eggs pay and are easier to get than Summer eggs from heavy breeds, and two-pound broilers is our best market among the wealthy people.—Wm. E. Anderson.

Eggs first, table fowls second.—L. J. Ryerson.

All three. They pay better that way.—W. H. Card.

No. 5.

What breeds do you keep, and why do you prefer them to others?

Buff Rocks and White Wyandottes. Because they equal any layers, and are superior as market fowls at any age.—W. H. Card.

Am experimenting with several breeds, half breeds and mongrels.—L. J. Ryerson.

Barred Plymouth Rocks and White Wyandottes. Best for me, because general purpose and Winter layers. Next year think I will stock up entirely with White Wyandottes, as breasts are plumper.—Wm. E. Anderson.

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Rhode Island Reds. I think the American class the best; clean legs, medium weight, active, good layers, and if looked after properly will nearly equal the Leghorn family, and raise a hatch of young besides. Do not require such high fences, and will lay practically the year round. For table purposes are O. K. Asiatics want careful feeding, or else they get too fat and stop laying, and are generally clumsy when hatching and rearing young. I kept Brown Leghorns last year, 1899. They laid well, but did not set, and the eggs are rather small compared with the Rhode Island Reds.—E. R. Reid.

Brahma, either clear or else crossed with White Wyandotte or White Leghorn. I prefer them for qualities wanted in this section—brown eggs and yellow carcasses. I always want some Brahma in my stock, all or half preferred, as I have had trouble with all other breeds tried, my land being clay subsoil, and what would be called heavy grass land. Were I to choose only one breed, it would be Brahma bred for utility; if confined to one cross, I would toss for White Wyandotte or White Leghorn.—L. H. Shaw.

Rose Comb Brown Leghorns. I keep hens for the eggs they lay, and I think the Leghorns are the best layers. I keep Brown Leghorns because the chicks are not so easily seen by hawks as White and Buff ones, and that means a great deal to me. Brown does not get dirty like Buff or White. I have the Rose Comb because our Northern New York Winter does not affect it as it does the Single Comb,

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for incubators, nurseries, hospitals, greenhouses, kilns, various buildings, or other places. \$5.00 buys a thermostat to operate a valve damper or trip or all combined, that will keep the predetermined temperature within a fraction of a degree, in a variation outside the chamber of from 40 degrees below zero to a 100 or more above. We are needed wherever artificial heat is used and a close heat regulation is desired. This invention appeals to the art as the most practical, reliable and satisfactory heat regulator invented in this or any other country.
Scientific Thermostat Co., Stoughton, Wis.

and a hen with a frosted comb does not lay for a long time.—Herbert Fisher, Greenwich, N. Y.

Buff Plymouth Rocks. Mature quickly; yellow feet and skin; plump body; good layers, sitters and mothers; good hustlers and healthy; no dark pin feathers; most fashionable color.—C. D. Pantler.

White and Buff Wyandottes. Grand Winter and Spring layers, good foragers, grow rapidly and excellent table fowl.—Irving C. Hutchins.

I prefer the Light Brahmas to all others, because I believe that with proper care they will give the most profit. With me they lay as well if not better than the Brown Leghorn at all times, and lay much better in Winter. I like the Buff Wyandottes. They are better for general purpose than the Barred Rocks, although they usually lay a small egg.—Emory E. Banks.

White Wyandottes. Points of superiority in our case, are round breasted, yellow meat and legs, white pin feathers, and the best of layers.—J. W. Bromley & Son.

Buff Cochins and Blue Andalusian. Eggs all the year round, especially when they are high. Cochins make big, stout chicks. All as tame as cats.—B. A. R. Stocker.

Barred Plymouth Rocks. Rapid growth.—Bertie Boling.

White Wyandottes and Single Comb White Leghorns. They pay me the best.—J. A. Ainge.

White Wyandottes. Adaptability to climate, appearance when dressed, and personal liking for breed.—Robt. Atkins.

White and Buff Wyandottes. Because they are best for our climate; mature in best stage, and easy to raise. Look the best to have around. Lay well, and you have a fine yellow and tender body to eat.—J. W. McCarty.

Single Comb Brown Leghorns. Beautiful and good layers.—Matt. G. Robson.

Brown Leghorns and the four colors of Wyandottes. Leghorns for eggs; Wyandottes for poultry.—W. W. Osgood.

S. C. White Leghorns. Started with them, and don't know any others.—J. W. Strowbridge.

Grade Light Brahmas. Brown eggs, hardness, few dark pin feathers, yellow skin and legs.—Chas. A. French.

Brown Leghorns for eggs, but am raising White Wyandottes this year for broilers.—Mrs. I. L. Millikin.

Light Brahmas. For their beauty, good nature, and not flying or scratching.—R. M. Shurtliff.

Barred Plymouth Rocks. They are good mothers, easy kept, good layers of large brown eggs.—M. A. Summers.

S. C. White Leghorns. Heavy layers, non-sitters, white eggs.—Wm. A. Penfield.

Buff Cochins and Rhode Island Reds. The Cochins with me will lay more dollars worth of eggs than anything I have tried. They are hardy, easily fenced, and you can eat a year old cock without using a cleaver to cut him up. The hens are good sized and good table birds. I raise Rhode Island Reds to sell as there is a demand for that breed.—S. P. D.

No. 6.

What experience have you had with trap nests, and what make of nests do you use?

Since February 1st, 1900, have used a nest of my own invention, which was published in *Farm-Poultry* of recent date.—J. W. Strowbridge.

I have used Troy nest for two years, a home-made pattern. Find it one of the best things out to pick out drones from our flock, and which hens lay brown eggs. By its use have increased egg average from 140 to 185 and 190 per hen a year.—J. W. McCarty.

We use the Cuckoo nest. Have had good success. Twice the door did not close, so another hen could have got in.—A. DeR. Meares.

Used trap nests two years. Indispensable. My own device.—Wm. A. Penfield.

* * *

No. 7.

In using trap nest what per cent. of eggs have you found outside the nests on the floor, on the boards, or in the runs?

Rarely any after the hens become accustomed to them.—Wm. A. Penfield.

About one in one hundred.—A. DeR. Meares.

At first a large per cent., but after the hens got used to them found hardly any outside of nest, excepting soft-shelled eggs.—J. W. McCarty.

Less than one per cent.—J. W. Strowbridge.

* * *

No. 8.

What success have you had this year in hatching and rearing chicks by hens? Have results been as good as they were last year? If not, to what cause do you attribute losses?

No hens used.—J. W. Strowbridge.

During March and April had fine success. But many chicks died in shell, more than any other year. As to raising chickens, have not lost any compared to last year.—J. W. McCarty.

Use incubator exclusively.—A. DeR. Meares.

Early in season, poor; later, good success. Cause, snow banks and late Spring.—William A. Penfield.

Hatching poor, caused from too-close confinement of sitting hens, being housed during incubation. Rearing of chicks better than last year.—M. A. Summers.

Hatches have been good; better than last year. The earlier ones were not quite up to expectations, but the later ones were excellent.—Robt. Atkins.

I have gotten 11 chicks out of 13 eggs from those eggs that were set out for me. My own Leghorns gave about 11 out of 13. One brought 13 out of 13. Those that got eggs from me all did well, getting 12 out of 13, and some all. Lost two chickens out of eleven by hen getting excited and tramping on them. Lost two out of a brooder lot of fifty, hatched by hens.—Matt G. Robson.

Fair to middling.—W. W. Osgood.
Good. Better than last year.—Chas. A. French.

Very poor. Not nearly as good as last year. Poor fertility of eggs. Chicks chilled. Cold rains. Not as large per cent. hatching. Vitality not up to the average.—J. W. Bromley & Son.

Good; better than last year. Losses in latest broods caused by nests too warm and dry.—B. A. R. Stocker.

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Fair success this year with hens, rearing 70 per cent. Not as good as last year, caused by too cold Spring.—J. A. Ainge.

Hatched 80 per cent., raised 50.—Bertie Boling.

Hatched on an average 10 chicks out of 13 eggs. Reared 7 on an average.—C. D. Pantler.

Results were as good as last year.—Wm. G. Good.

My hatching is done artificially. All chicks raised in brooders. Eggs have been very fertile. I very rarely lose any young stock. Credit results to good care.—Irving C. Hutchins.

Had good success in hatching and raising chickens with hens this year; better than last. The main thing is keeping lice away.—Emory E. Banks.

Hatched under hens this season 56 1-2 per cent. of eggs, as against 49 1-3 per cent. for season of '99. Have lost a large number of chicks this season, about 20 per cent., attributable to the extreme hot weather.—L. J. Ryerson.

Only fair success. Results not as good as last year. I lost 40 chicks out of 160 hatched by having them on very tough "brash" grass. They would mysteriously die until I discovered the cause. The grass would not digest, and finally killed the chicks at about two or three weeks old. I at once moved all, and have since lost but three from all causes.—Wm. E. Anderson.

Better success than last year. Lost some by cats.—E. R. Reid.

Very good. Better than last year.—W. H. Card.

* * *

No. 9.

Have you ever made the comparison of natural and artificial methods in hatching and rearing chicks? If so, what have been your conclusions?

Yes. Brooders beat hens in raising chickens, but hens beat incubators in hatching them.—W. H. Card.

With equal fertility of eggs, regard the artificial methods superior in hatching and rearing chicks.—L. J. Ryerson. Artificial incubating and brooding is best as it saves much time and work, and with proper attention more fertile eggs can be hatched than by hens, and as many chicks raised.—Emory E. Banks.

I have. Prefer artificial. No vermin to contend with and results as to hatching as good as with hens.—Irving C. Hutchins.

I have. I have had better results with artificial methods in hatching and rearing. With the incubator I have no broken eggs, no getting off and leaving the nest, and the least work. With my home-made brooder I have reared 90 per cent. They don't go off and leave the chicks at three weeks, or take them off and leave part to get on as best they can.—J. A. Ainge.

Yes. Concluded to discard the old hen and patronize the incubator as extensively as possible.—B. A. R. Stocker.

A good sitting hen will hatch more chicks from a given number of eggs than the incubator, but so many break up and many are poor sitters that we get as many chicks from a given number of eggs in the incubator as under

hens. In raising we prefer brooders.—J. W. Bromley & Son.

Yes. No difference.—W. W. Osgood.

Yes. I think about 80 per cent. from hen against 50 per cent. from incubator, is about right. That is, good strong chicks. I can hatch from a hen what would have been weak from an incubator. I don't use eggs more than 3 days old under either system. If chicks are strong don't see any difference in them, but if weak the natural way seems to be the best.—Matt. G. Robson.

Yes. Would rather attend to 220-egg incubator than one broody hen.—Mrs. I. L. Millikin.

This is my first season with incubators and brooders, but I am going to use the incubator mostly hereafter. The trouble with me comes from the brooders, as it does to many other of my acquaintances. I think they crowd them, and then about half of the brooders ought to be put into kindling wood. Give me 220 eggs, fresh and nearly of size as possible, and I can hatch as many as you can with hens and not near the trouble. The incubator won't fly off the nest or stay off too long, and it don't get lousy or get the chickens lousy either, as hens that I buy do. I put some chickens that I hatched into the brooders, and some under my Cochins that were broody, and watched to see how they would come out. There was not enough difference to see it up to the time the chicks were weaned by the hens.—S. P. D.

Every season. Prefer artificial methods.—William A. Penfield.

Yes. Largest per cent. raised every time by the brooder.—A. DeR. Meares.

Yes. Artificial for hatching, and natural for brooding. Because they grow better and stronger, and have more exercise and less leg weakness and bowel trouble.—J. W. McCarty.

* * *

No. 10.

Are you troubled with rats, cats, skunks, weasles, minks, hawks or crows? What do you consider, from experience, to be the best methods of preventing their visits, or getting rid of them if they do come?

No visits yet in 1900.—J. W. Strowbridge.

Rats. Use Rough on Rats. No more trouble. Also cats. Warn their owner and then use shot gun.—J. W. McCarty.

Only rats and pigeons. Rough on Rats for the former, and air-gun for the latter.—A. DeR. Meares.

Yes; cats. Hold up with traps; blow up with shot gun.—Wm. A. Penfield. Troubled with hawks and crows. Have found shot gun most effective prevention.—M. A. Summers.

A Star rat trap will catch all the rats on the place, and they are cheap, too. I have a visitation of rats every Fall, But get rid of them and don't see one around the place for a year. A box made of slats, and considerably larger than the boys use, will catch cats that are too sly to be shot, and they don't make any noise about it either.—S. P. D.

Cover chicken runs with wire netting to keep safely from hawks.—Mrs. I. L. Millikin.

No rats. Skunks, foxes, and coons are more plentiful than chipmonks.

Have house closed at night, and yard, sides and top, covered with netting that no animal can get in.—R. M. Shurtliff.

No. Sometimes as soon as I see signs of rats I put down plaster of Paris and meal, and have water handy (also lime and meal, with water).—Matt. G. Robson.

Yes; rats. I have never got rid of them.—W. W. Osgood.

No rats. Board floors to every thing with chance for cat to operate. No weasles nor minks, and skunk proof. For cats, a box trap baited with catnip tied in cheese cloth, fastened to the spindle. Have a hole in the side of the trap, big enough for the cat to get her head out. If it is the wrong cat let her out. If the head is attached to the one you are after, drown her and don't say anything about it. Hang a dead crow on a tall pole or tree; the others will keep away. For hawks a good shot gun. A shot gun is an indispensable poultry appliance here.—Chas. A. French.

Hawks are troublesome; skunks a little. To prevent loss by hawks, after they start to take chicks, shut the chicks up in large yards and string cotton twine over the top, about six inches apart, looping it at the ends as you go back and forth. Keep the chicks shut in about two weeks, then let them run again. In the meantime the hawk has got to going elsewhere for his dinner. If he gets to coming again, confine the chicks once more. This is the only sure way we know. Trap or shoot the skunks.—J. W. Bromley & Son.

Weasle—dead-fall. Rats—steel trap or poison. Own cat—drown him. Strange cat—hang up a fish head in a corner, two feet from ground, and set stout steel trap below.—B. A. R. Stocker.

I keep four cats and one dog. They do the work for me for their board. From experience, I find this method the best.—J. A. Ainge.

For hawks or crows, hang up some red pieces of cloth in the form of a flag, where your children mostly gather.—Wm. G. Good.

Cats trouble me. I keep my chicks in wire-covered runs until they are too large for cats to catch. After they are well feathered I let them run at large. It is more work, but the results pay for extra labor.—Irving C. Hutchins.

* * *

Quite a number of replies to the above queries, and all to Nos. 11 and 12, have been crowded out for want of room in this issue. They will be found in our next. New questions will be found in our editorial department.—EDITOR.

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EDITORIAL.

Fall Trade. Now is the time to think of the Fall trade. It is a fact that of all years, none require so much hustling as does Presidential year. For some unaccountable reason, money is not so freely spent when the country is agitating the question "Who will be President?" Still, we believe that much of this stagnation is due to a sluggishness in the channels of trade. That is, business men realizing that there is a tendency to stagnation, do not advertise as freely as at other times. We firmly believe that if they kept up their part there would be sufficient response to make the results more interesting.

But, notwithstanding this dullness, there is no reason why the poultry business should suffer. Poultry means food, and any article of food should hold its own through thick and thin. It is also a noted fact that when other businesses are dull, the poultry industry flourishes.

So let us all combine to make this a profitable Fall trade. Plant your advertisements in A FEW HENS, and we will stir up the readers. Nothing pleases A FEW HENS so much as to have its advertisers fully rewarded for their investment, and our readers in return are given great bargains.

So now is the time to think of the Fall trade, and make out your contracts. Be with us. Verily, the road to Prosperity is through the channel opened up by A FEW HENS.

Compliments. Frederick Hoerle, Torrington, Conn.: "I look forward for each copy of your valuable paper, and only wish it came oftener."

L. W. Knapp, North Madison, Ohio: "We like A FEW HENS better than any poultry paper we have ever taken."

Al. A. Teggart, Haddenville, Pa.: "I believe when a person does something good, they deserve credit for it, and this is why I say that I think A FEW HENS is so good that it could hardly be better. It is small in size but a great instructor. Some papers are skim milk, others new milk, but I consider A FEW HENS *Jersey Cream*."

G. B. Douglas, Trenton, N. Y.: "I find very many excellent ideas given in your valuable paper, and consider it of

great value to any one considering the following of the poultry business."

S. York, Batavia, N. Y.: "I take A FEW HENS, and think it a good practical poultry paper, and will continue to take it."

Geo. H. Raymond, Westbrook, Me.: "Am a subscriber to your paper and like it very much. It contains much good advice, many valuable suggestions, and lots of good, sound common sense."

J. C. Cloud, Lansdowne, Pa.: "I want to compliment you on the last issue of A FEW HENS, as I consider it the best poultry paper I ever saw."

Jas. S. Nicholson, Strathroy, Canada: "I am greatly pleased with your paper, and each month get some pointers."

J. W. McCarty, Windsor, Vt.: "Your idea of Symposium in your little but best poultry paper, is just what I have been waiting for some one to do."

A. DeR. Meares, Maryland Poultry Farm, Hyattsville, Md.: "Your paper is already devoured, though I have not had it 24 hours. I read almost immediately when it comes. Every poultryman should take it—those who know everything about poultry, and those who do not. I would suggest that you change the name to 'Multum in parvo.'"

William A. Penfield, Waterville, N. Y.: "Being a reader of A FEW HENS, and feeling interested in your column 'Brevity Symposium,' I take the liberty to accept your invitation to contribute my experience of 9 years as a breeder of Leghorns for utility and Standard qualifications. My specialty is eggs for hatching and weaned chickens to ship when 4 to 6 weeks of age. I am alive to the advantages derived by pedigree and line breeding, as accomplished by the trap nest. I should be pleased to tell A FEW HENS' readers something of my experience at some future time, should you so desire" (A FEW HENS' readers would indeed be glad to have the experience.—EDITOR).

M. A. Summers, Lewisburg, Ky.: "In regard to the Symposium department, allow me to say that I for one think it a good addition to the paper. I never was much for complimenting men, papers, etc., but must say that A FEW HENS is an up-to-date, first-class poultry paper, second to none, and quite doubtful if any other equals it."

R. M. Shurtliff, Keene Valley, N. Y.: "Your Brevity Symposium is attractive."

Robt. Atkins, New York City: "Your Symposium idea is a splendid one. A great deal of good must result from such an interchange of experiences."

Herbert Fisher, Greenwich, N. Y.: "I am glad to see the Symposium in your paper, and in order that it may be a success and continue, I will do my part to help it along."

W. H. Card, Bristol, Conn.: "I have a place of 7 acres, conducted on Boyer's plan, and has been for 2 1-2 years. I keep a double entry book account of the whole business. I have now about 100 hens, and 500 chicks from 1 to 4 pounds each. Excuse the flattery, but your methods pay. Last year 161 hens brought in a net profit of \$204.00. I have room for 600 hens, Am making haste slowly."

Emory E. Banks, Crittenden, N. Y.: "I am glad you started the Symposium department again in A FEW HENS."

Symposium Questions. If any of our readers have any questions to suggest for the Symposium department, we shall be glad to have them. The results from our first call have been so gratifying that we feel encouraged enough to say that this will be a permanent feature in A FEW HENS, unless our readers back out and refuse to respond.

We have just received a letter from Parkman, Ohio, with no name signed to it (evidently forgotten), asking several questions found below. We hope that our readers will at once send us their experience on those matters:

No. 13. What have you found to be the best remedy for bowel trouble in young brooder chicks?

No. 14. In your experience what have you found to be a good gape remedy?

No. 15. What has been your most successful treatment of scaly leg in fowls?

No. 16. What has been your experience in Summer and Fall hatched chicks?

No. 17. How do you break up your broody hens?

No. 18. What are your drawbacks in raising chicks, and how do you meet them?

Trap Nests. The trap nest has come to stay. While it is to be admitted that it causes considerable attention, yet the method is the only one enabling us to place the poultry business upon a firm foundation. Heretofore there has been too much guess work. We thought we knew which were our best layers, but we did not. A personal experience the past year has convinced us that we have been in the dark too long. Last year we picked out a pen of White Wyandottes that we thought were our best layers. We were mistaken. They did only fair work. On the other hand a pen that we thought ordinary, are our best. There was no way of finding this out except by means of these traps.

As our readers know, we are testing our hens with several traps, and at the end of the year will know just which hens are worth keeping the second year, and which should be turned into the roaster market. We shall not hold over a single hen that has not at least given us 100 eggs in her first year. It is our intention next year to breed from both pullets and hens (about half of each). The pullets will be from our choice layers this year—that is, from those hens which gave us the best laying during Winter and early Spring. The hens which have the highest records at the end of the year will also be kept.

Last year we could not give satisfactory records, as we had to experiment with too many makes of nests, losing the records of quite a number of hens. This year we have been more able to test our stock, but it will take another year until we have the trap nest pedigree down to what we shall consider "conclusive evidence."

Speaking of trap nests, reminds us that we have just received two improved Ideal nests from F. O. Wellcome, Yarmouth, Me. The Ideal was in the contest last year, but did not win the championship for several reasons, which we then stated, prominent among which was the manner in which the nest was operated, and the way the hens had to enter. We stated our reasons, and Mr. Wellcome, unlike several others who contested, did not rave and tear because we spoke the plain truth, but forthwith set about to make the improvements suggested, and now he has a trap that in many ways we like better than any we have seen since we started our tests.

In his letter to us he says. "These boxes are especially designed to meet your requirements as given in A FEW HENS last September. I trust that they will please you. I advertise in August number of A FEW HENS."

They do please us, and we shall give them a good trial. We have had one of the original Ideal traps in operation right along, and have never known it to miss once. The new nests work on the same principal, only they can be set from the front, the hen enters the nest from the front, and she can be taken off the nest by opening a front door. We certainly can commend the improved Ideal.

Help Wanted. We are constantly in receipt of letters from parties who either desire situations, or

who wish to serve an apprenticeship, or who desire help, on a poultry farm. We have answered a number of these through the paper, and they destroyed the letters. The result was that we have been asked for the addresses of these parties, and, of course, could not supply them, as the letters were destroyed. As A FEW HENS desires to help all its readers in any way in its power, we have concluded to publish these wants free of charge.

Our plan is as follows:

Write us, for instance, that you would like a situation on a poultry farm to learn the business; you would be willing to work for your board. We would then insert a notice like this:

"John Jones, a young man, desires to learn the poultry business, and would be willing to give his time, labor and attention for free instruction and board. Address, (then give your full address)."

Any farm then willing to accept that offer could communicate direct. The same plan could be used for those desiring help. We are willing to donate the space free of charge to help our readers, and hope that much good will result from the scheme. But under no consideration will the editor be a party to the engagements made, nor can he, for want of time, agree to forward letters, or do any writing for either party.

We believe that such an arrangement will do a great deal of good, and that in that way A FEW HENS can substantially serve its readers.

Preserving Eggs. Our readers are, or should be, well aware of the fact that A FEW HENS is opposed to preserving, pickling, or storing eggs in Summer to sell in

Winter and Spring as fresh. It is not only an unwise but an unjust proceeding. No honest man would for a moment think of storing away a lot of cheap eggs to be rushed on the market six months, more or less, as fresh. Yet it is surprising, in the face of what we have so repeatedly written, that we are constantly receiving letters asking for this very information. Here is a letter just received from a reader residing in Batavia, N. Y.:

"I see by the June number you are opposed to pickling eggs. In what way would you advise me to keep my eggs for the Fall or Winter trade. I have about 100 hens, and if I can keep my eggs properly can make quite a lot extra from them. I have the cock birds separate from the hens. In the meantime I am putting them in bran. We have no cold storage in the town."

As we have time and again said, the art of preserving these eggs constitutes no crime, but the deception practiced in their sale is what we are opposed to. We wish to emphatically state, that we will not by any means encourage the pickling, preserving or storing eggs, will not publish recipes nor give the information by mail. The truth is we do not know of any reliable information regarding pickling or preserving eggs. Pure food laws can furnish us no encouragement in the matter, so that we may know if such or such a plan is safe and reliable. Let your eggs be above suspicion.

Silver Wyandottes. Wm. H. Welsh, Wayne, Pa., is a prominent hardware merchant.

Both he and his business partner, Geo. R. Park, are poultry cranks. Mr. Park carries on the work on a more extensive scale than does Mr. Welsh, but Mr. Welsh is probably the oldest at the business. On January, 1st, 1900, Mr. Welsh had 1 cock, 3 cockerels and 30 pullets, of the Silver Wyandotte breed, and as we knew that he personally fed and cared for those fowls with a view of seeing how profitable they could be made, we wrote for statement. He replied by forwarding the following:

Jan. 1, 1900. Stock consists of 1 cock, 3 cockerels and 30 pullets.
Laid during month, 451 or 37 1-2 doz.
eggs, at 30c.....\$11.27
Sold 2 cockerels..... 3.08
Cost of feed for month.....\$14.35
Profit..... 2.72
Profit..... \$11.63

February. 30 pullets, 1 cock, 1 cockerel.
Laid during month, 507 or 42 1-4 doz.
eggs, at 27c.....\$11.41
Cost of feed for month..... 2.72
Profit..... \$8.69

March. 30 pullets, 1 cock, 1 cockerel.
Laid during month, 384 or 32 doz.
eggs, at 20c.....\$6.40
Sold 8 hens and 1 cock.....\$7.50
1 hen for table..... 1.08 \$8.58
Cost of feed for month.....\$14.98
Profit..... 1.75
Profit..... \$13.23

During the month of March 10 hens were set, and 25 chicks were hatched.

April. 21 hens, 1 cock (7 hens hatched, the young given to four. 38 chicks hatched during the month).
Laid during month, 171 or 14 1-4 doz.
eggs, at 18c.....\$2.57
Hen for table..... 1.08 \$3.65
Cost of feed for month..... 2.35
Profit..... \$1.30

Hen died during month,

May. 19 hens, 1 cock (6 hens sitting; 4 with young; 24 chicks hatched during the month).
Laid during month, 192 or 16 doz.
eggs, at 18c.....\$2.88
Hen for table..... .99 \$3.87
Cost of feed for month..... 2.85
Profit..... \$1.02

June. 18 hens, 1 cock, 74 chicks (out of 87 hatched).
Laid during month, 264 or 22 doz.
eggs, at 19c.....\$4.18
Four hens sold..... 2.50
Eight broilers, 16 lbs., at 35 to 40c..... 5.80
Cost of feed for month..... 3.25
Profit..... \$9.23

July. 14 hens, 1 cock; 66 young.
Laid during month, 207 or 18 doz.
eggs, at 20c.....\$3.60
Seven broilers, 10 1-2 lbs., at 32 1-2c. 2.50
Cost of feed for month..... 3.50
Profit..... \$4.95

This is a showing of a clear profit of a fraction over \$1.66 per hen, for the first seven months of this year. As there are a number of young yet to be disposed of, it looks very much as if Mr. Welsh's flock was going to net him from \$2.50 to \$3 per head.

This is about the first report we have received of Silver Wyandottes, and we are glad to be able to give such a good account. The Silver Wyandottes, with a single exception, are at least equal to the White variety, if not a shade better. That exception is in the presence of more or less dark pin feathers, which does not make such a clean carcass

Light Brahmas exclusively. Year-old hens and chickens for sale. James W. Mozley, Dracut, Mass.

BOYER likes White Ply. Rocks. I sell good ones. H. D. Hopkins, Montpelier, Vt.

A PATENT RIGHT on a Trap Attachment for Hens' Nests. Instantly applied to any nest box. Will sell cheap. JOHN J. WALSH, Manassas, Va.

R. C. BROWN LEGHORN COCKERELS in October. Bred from prolific Winter layers, not fancy. \$1.00 and \$2.00 each. WILLIAM D. SMITH, Box 353, South Oil City, Pa.

WORKING poultryman wanted to manage our duck and poultry plant for half profits. Ample buildings, land and equipment. (Now running). Ambler Bros., 14 Academy St., Poughkeepsie, N. Y.

TWO NEW CYPHERS INCUBATORS used but a short time this season (360 eggs) cheap. Also six Brooders. C. L. GIBSON, 159 West Lorain Street, Oberlin, Ohio.

WANTED. Position on poultry farm by a single man. Three years' experience. First-class reference. Address, AUGUST LARSON, care A. J. Hallock, Atlantic Farm, Speonk, L. I., N. Y.

COCKERELS. March and April hatched White Wyandotte and B. P. Rock, from hardy, heavy laying stock. \$1.50 and \$2.50 each. J. T. Jackson, Wyanorea Farm, Metuchen, N. J.

FOR SALE. (Knapp strain) White Leghorn hens to make room for young stock. Utility fowls. Trap nests used. Young stock in Sept. Thos. Hartley, Castile, N. Y.

Wanted to Buy

A poultry farm, or land nicely located for same. Must be near City and near Trolley line. Five or ten acres will do. Address C. W. FRANKLIN, Norwich, N. Y.

PULLETS and COCKERELS From about 1 1/2 to 2 pounds each—Thoroughbred White Wyandottes. One dollar each. Parents are superior quality, a number scoring 90 to 93 1-2. To quick buyers a chance to secure really excellent stock for little money. H. B. HALE, Trenton Junct., N. J.

Utility White Wyandottes.

A FEW CHOICE BREEDING COCKERELS FOR SALE.

ROBERT ATKINS,
PLANT 26 West 15th Street,
Esopus-on Hudson, New York City.
Member National White Wyandotte Club.

when dressed, as would be advisable. It is a question if the White variety can show as good a general average of eggs as can the Silvers, and the carcass of the bird presents a much neater looking appearance, save the pin feathers.

As stated before, we are going to make an effort to try them alongside our other breeds. If we are able to get our buildings up in time, and can secure the Silver Wyandottes, we will match a pen of them against an equal number of White Wyandottes, White Plymouth Rocks, Barred Plymouth Rocks, Light Brahmas, Rhode Island Reds and White Wonders. The latter breed has, or is about being donated to the contest by two prominent poultrymen, of which we expect to have something to say next month. We want a fair contest, regardless of personal preferences.

Barred The King Philip Poultry Rocks. Farm, Warren, R. I., F. T. Estes, proprietor, sends us some excellent records. In his letter he says:

"We have been very much interested in A FEW HENS, and particularly in the work of the trap nests, as shown by the monthly records published therein.

"We also have been using trap nests since January 1st, 1900, and would like to submit the record of our Barred Plymouth Rocks, that being the only breed we keep. We can make comparisons only between one year olds and two year olds, of which we have 48 one year old, and 28 two year olds, at this date.

"We have used your outline of report, because it is familiar to you as well as to us. We enclose a summary for June and July.

"Your paper has been of great help to us as the work is along the same line, and you have our full sympathy and interest in the perfecting of your purpose."

The highest record obtained up to August 1 was 124 eggs.

During the month of June there were 76 layers, a loss of three layers during the month.

The following table represents the number of layers of each, age and average, and average number of eggs per head:

One year olds, 49 head, 631 eggs; average 12.88
Two year olds, 27 head, 327 eggs; average 12.11

There were 17 odd eggs laid during the month, making a total of 975 eggs for the month, an average of 32.5 eggs per day, or an average of .43 eggs per hen per day.

The highest number of eggs we gathered in one day during the month of June was 48, and the lowest number was 17.

The highest individual egg record during the month belongs to No. 162, she having laid 26 eggs. Each of 22 hens laid 15 eggs or over during the month.

Of 33 hens shut up broody during June, the average time they were confined was 6 days, and the average time from stopping to laying again was 15 days.

During the month of July there were 73 layers; a loss of 3 layers during the month.

Sharpless Cream Separators—Profitable Dairying.

The following table represents

One year olds, 46 head, 631 eggs; average 13.72
Two year olds, 27 head, 312 eggs; average 11.56

There were 27 odd eggs laid during the month, making a total of 970 eggs for the month, an average of 31.3 eggs per day, or an average of .43 eggs per hen per day.

The highest number of eggs gathered in one day during the month of July was 39, and the lowest was 23.

The highest individual egg record during the month belongs to No. 157, she having laid 26 eggs. Each of 23 hens laid 15 eggs or over during the month.

We note in the above report that in June, 17 odd eggs were laid, and 27 in July. By odd eggs is meant eggs laid outside of the nest. This is very much like A FEW HENS' experience.

To Our Exchanges. We wish to call the attention of editors and publishers of poultry journals, to the fact that unless they forward their publications to the address of the editor—Hammonton, N. J.—there is no guarantee that we will get them. To go to the Boston office the papers are apt to become mixed with other mail. Please see that the address on your books is made "A FEW HENS, Hammonton, N. J." instead of Boston, Mass.

The same advice applies to advertisers forwarding circulars, books or catalogues for review notices, and to the general reader who wishes to communicate with the editor.

Wise Mr. Felch. When Mr. I. K. Felch, Grand Old Man in poultry culture, gives an article to the fraternity, there is always a host of information and good sense in it. He wrote just as well 20 years ago. Here are a few extracts from an article written in 1877—and they would do credit to Mr. Felch today.

"Farmers, this poultry keeping has more than a money value for you. Interest your boys in it, for thereby they learn many of the principles that underlie the successful breeding of stock—

fitting them, when older, the better to manage cattle and horses. The rapid production of chickens enables them to try as many experiments, in a few years, as would take a lifetime with stock. In the breeding of fowls, they learn that like produces like more surely, and only, as a rule, where the stock is bred in line, and that to produce chickens uniform in type and color, they must have, in both sire and dam, a preponderance of the blood of the desired type; they must mate kindred blood judiciously, avoiding too close relationship—for by mating fowls of one blood for three generations we produce sterility in the egg. They learn that prepotency of sire is more marked in the mating of kindred blood, and in the offspring of dams of weak constitution, and when appearing in the coupling of radically different blood, that it is an exception and not the rule. They learn that the blood most difficult to subjugate, in the end has more lasting quality, and does the flock the most good as a new infusion of blood; these interests, once awakened, cannot slumber; the boys become thoughtful, and, as years increase, you find in them a help not found in your hireling."

We venture to say that such training would keep more boys on the farm, and would soon teach them independence. Farmers' sons rush to the crowded cities, only to later on regret that they left the farm. They grew tired of the farm for the reason that there was a continual drudgery without any item of interest. They want something they can call their own, and in the crowded cities they believe they can be satisfied. If fathers would give their sons substantial encouragement like starting them in the business of raising poultry and eggs, we believe they would do double duty.

Boys, keep out of the cities. The boy born and raised in the country becomes an easy victim in the city. It is a bad life to lead. Better a pair of overalls, a colored shirt and a straw hat, than all the fopishness of creased pants, cutaway coats, and derby hats. Better in old clothes and honest and healthy, than in the Cod-fish aristocratic outfit and a thief, braggard and sickly being.

HATCHING IN 10 DAYS!

That is what my Rose Comb Brown Leghorns are bred for. Cockerels \$2.00 and \$3.00 each.
C. H. CLARK, Box 1, Cobalt, Conn.

GINSENG We are Headquarters for Seed & Plants.
Valuable book about it, telling how to grow thousands of dollars worth, what used for and who is growing it. Sent for 10c
AMERICAN GINSENG GARDENS, ROSE HILL, New York.

WHITE Wyandotte Cockerels

March and April hatched. Grown on grass range. Bred from extra Winter laying stock. \$2.00 each until October 15th. Circular free.
Lyons Hill Poultry Farm, Athol Centre, Mass.

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Leg Weakness

permanently cured in young and old fowls with **BANNER LEG WEAKNESS PILLS**. Never known to fail. 25 cents per bottle postpaid. Our 125-page illustrated Poultry Supply Catalogue free. Send for one.
Excelsior Wire & Poultry Supply Co., 26 and 28 Vesey St., New York City.
When writing kindly mention A Few Hens.

POULTRY PAPER, illust'd, 20 pages, 25 cents per year. 4 months' trial 10 cents. Sample free. 64-page practical poultry book free to yearly subscribers. Book alone 10 cents. Catalogue of poultry books free. Poultry Advocate, Syracuse, N. Y.

\$12 PEN OF KNAPP BROS. S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS.
Five hens and young cock, purchased direct in Spring; splendid breeders. Have 300 fine youngsters from this mating; need room. Your chance to get foundation stock of No. 1 Leghorns, cheap. \$12.00 for the pen if taken immediately. Also fine White Wyandotte cock (Mack strain), Woodstock Vt. Score 92 by Pierce, Cincinnati show. \$4, with card.
B. L. SCHMIED, Box 20, Groesbeck, Ohio.

Diseases—Remedy and Prevention.

Comfortable Houses, Pure Food, Fresh Water and Good Care, are Preventatives of Disease—“A Stitch in Time Saves Nine” is an Old Maxim that Fits the Poultry World as Much as Anything Else.

Lice are forerunners of disease.

Disinfectants kill disease germs.

You cannot have the quarters too clean. Breed only from the hardiest of the flock. The successful poulterer has hardy stock.

A fowl cannot be healthy and lousy at the same time.

The broody hen is in a feverish condition—treat her humanely.

Cleanliness and pure water are important items in preventing sickness.

Lice and indigestion, as a combination, have destroyed more fowls than roup. Keep a box of commercial grit within reach of the hens, even if they have free range.

Broodiness is a condition bordering on sickness. Deprived of proper care disease quickly follows.

Sheridan's Condition Powder daily in mash will hasten molting, and keep the fowl in good condition.

A writer in the *Country Gentleman* says cholera can easily be cured by feeding sorgham seed while the hen will eat. No matter how sure you are that there are no lice on the premises, keep on using preventatives, as the enemy may be hiding.

When the hen shows a pale head and is sluggish, indigestion is at fault. Unless too far gone, a change to a grass run will be beneficial.

A little carbolic acid added to a pail of whitewash will not only add to the beauty of the interior, but as a disease germ slayer has no superior.

The molting hen is not necessarily a sick hen, but it is in that condition that neglect will so weaken it that disease will find an open door.

The *American Agriculturist* says pulse root, cut into small pieces and used in the drinking water is effective in prevention and cure of bowel diseases of poultry.

It is a mistake to discard a breed on the supposition that it is not a hardy one. Hardiness can be instilled in any breed by pure food, proper attention, and systematic matings.

A correspondent in *Indiana Farmer* says he was very successful last year in treating gapes in chickens with common coal oil, using a teaspoonful to a quart of soft food.

A cholera cure widely used in the West, says *Farm and Home*, consists of 2 ounces red pepper, 2 ounces powdered asafoetida, 4 ounces carbonate of iron, 1 ounce powdered rhubarb, 6 ounces Spanish brown, 2 ounces sulphur. The mixture is made into pellets with flour and water and given three times a day. The mixed powder is added to the soft food as a preventative, giving a tablespoonful twice a week to every two dozen fowls.

The following valuable hint is taken from the *Ohio Farmer*: “One lady in a neighboring country raised chickens by the thousands every year. She

was asked how she kept her chickens free from mites. This was her method: She kept her perches wound with old rags, and every few days saturated them with kerosene and water. Mites never trouble her chickens, nor did any of the poultry diseases that follow in the wake of these pests. She did nothing else to keep the flocks free from them.”

Poultry at the U. S. Stations.

Experiments in Fattening Chickens for Market, and Notes on Egg Records of the Breeding Pens for 1899.

Bulletin No. 64, of the Maine (Orono) Agricultural Station, contains an account of experiments in fattening chickens for market, and the egg record of the breeding pens for 1899. This study was undertaken to compare the rapidity of growth of chickens confined in small coops vs. chickens kept in sheds and small yards. Ten coops, each with a floor space 16 x 23 inches, were constructed of laths with close end partitions of boards. The floors were of laths placed three-fourths of an inch apart, and one inch from the walls, so that they might be kept clean by the moving about of the birds. The coops were made two together without cutting the laths. The laths ran lengthwise of the coops on bottom, top and back, but on the front they were placed upright, and two inches apart so that the chickens could feed

through between them readily. V-shaped troughs with 3-inch sides were placed in front of and about 2 inches above the level of the floors of the coops.

The chickens used in the test were raised under similar conditions and from the same hatch. They were 130 days old at the commencement of the test and all were pure blooded Barred Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes and Light Brahmas.

Four chickens were placed in each coop and fed on thick raw porridge, made by mixing meal with cold skimmed milk, making it thick enough so it would drop and not run from the end of a wooden spoon.

The meal mixture employed was made up by mixing 100 pounds cornmeal, 80 pounds wheat middlings, 50 pounds fine ground oats, and 40 pounds of fine animal meal. They were fed all of the porridge they could eat, twice each day. The troughs were removed and cleaned in half an hour after the commencement of each meal. They were constantly supplied with water. Feeding was commenced August 24th, and continued until September 28th—35 days.

They consumed 477 pounds of meal and 84 gallons of skimmed milk. The 40 chickens weighed at the commencement of the test 147.9 pounds, and at its close 237.1 pounds, and had gained 89.2 pounds, an average of 2.23 pounds per chicken live weight. The quantity of the dry meal required to produce a pound of gain was 5.94 pounds.

**THE STAR INCUBATOR**

hatches every hatchable egg, and chicks are as strong as if hatched by a hen. Positive directions for ventilation. No moisture required. Catalogue free.

STAR INCUBATOR CO., 22 Church Street, Bound Brook, N. J.
NEW YORK OFFICE, 68 MURRAY ST.

TEETH for Hens

Best Grit in market doth not go to dust; it's all Grit. Every surface cuts and grinds to the end and never wears round.

CIRCULAR FREE. LIBERAL DISCOUNT TO THE TRADE.

KEYSTONE GRANITE GRIT WORKS, Perkiomenville, Pa., U. S. A.

Keystone Granite Grit:

2000 pounds, 20 bags, \$6.00
1000 pounds, 10 bags, 3.25
500 pounds, 5 bags, 1.75
100 pounds, trial sample, 25c.

Keystone Granite Dust, \$4 per ton.

FOUR Poultry Papers
For \$1.25.

Your Own Choice of TWO of Them.

FARM-POULTRY, semi-monthly,	-	-	-	Price, \$1.00
A FEW HENS, monthly,	-	-	-	Price, .25

YOUR CHOICE OF ANY OTHER TWO 50 Ct. POULTRY PAPERS IN THE U. S., \$1.00.

All sent to one address, one year, for the small sum of \$1.25, cash in advance, which is the price of *Farm-Poultry* and *A Few Hens* alone.

YOU SAVE \$1.00 COLD CASH.

Send all orders to us, with cash, stamps or money orders. Do not send checks unless you add 10 cts. for exchange. No changes allowed after order is entered. Postage added in town where paper published.

FARM-POULTRY PUB. CO., 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass.

On the day that the feeding of the cooped birds was commenced, 20 of their mates were put in a house 9 x 11 feet in size, with an attached yard 20 feet square. The yard was entirely bare of anything that could serve as green food.

They were fed, during the 35 days, on the same grain mixture with milk, as those confined in the small coops. The 20 birds weighed at the commencement of the test 66.6 pounds, and at the close 116.0 pounds, making a gain of 49.4 pounds; an average of 2.47 pounds to each. The quantity of the dry meal required to produce a pound of gain was 5.52 pounds. In these tests greater total and individual gains and cheaper flesh productions were secured from the birds with partial liberty than from those in close confinement. The labor was less in caring for the yarded birds. The cooped birds were very quiet and did not appear to suffer from confinement.

When dressed, all of the carcasses in both lots were even, well-formed and handsome. The results indicate that there is no advantage in close confinement, but that rather greater gains and cheaper production result from partial liberty.

A table that follows shows the greatest dressed weight to belong to the Plymouth Rocks. One lot of 4 weighed 19.8 pounds; another lot 19.7; another 19.5; 4 Bralimas, 19.0 pounds. White Wyandottes gave the poorest showing 16.8 pounds.

If these birds had been dressed without fattening at the commencement of the feeding test, and had shrunk the same per cent. that they did when slaughtered, they would have yielded 165.5 pounds of dressed meat worth 13 cents per pound, \$21.51. At the close of the test they dressed 272.7 pounds, and were sold at 15 cents per pound net, yielding \$40.90. This shows that their value was increased by fattening \$19.39. The increase was probably more than this amount, as it was found in other tests that the percentage of shrinkage in dressing lean chickens was greater than in fat ones. Thirteen cents was as much as the unfatted birds would have sold for—slowly—while the fattened ones sold quickly in the same market at 15 cents per pound. They were very much improved in quality by fattening. The flesh was white and soft and when roasted the thighs were soft, juicy and free from strings.

The amount of the dry food used was 750 pounds and cost \$7.91. The skimmed milk was 140 gallons, worth \$2.80, making the total food used worth \$10.71, which amount taken from the increased value of the chicken leaves a balance of \$8.68 gain on the 60 birds; an average increase of a little more than 14 cents on each one above the cost of food used.

To study the effect of green food in fattening chickens, the following trial was made with 24 pure-blooded Plymouth Rock chickens that were 140 days old at the commencement of the test. They were confined in the aforesaid small coops, four in each coop, and all fed for four weeks on the

mixed meal and milk porridge twice each day.

The birds in coops 1 and 2 received no green food. Those in coops 3, 4, 5 and 6 received no green food during the first and second weeks, but during the third and fourth weeks they were given all the finely chopped green rape they would eat once a day. They did not consume as much of the rape per day as they had previously while living in the large yards, where they ate it voraciously. The quantity of porridge eaten by them was not noticeably greater or less when the rape was supplied. The gains made while the birds were supplied with green food were hardly as great as while confined to the porridge alone, but the difference was not very great.

The tables show that those receiving no green food was nearly a pound heavier than those supplied with the rape.

* * *

In tests on breeding for egg production, Prof. G. M. Gowell reports: Of the 260 hens put into the test 5 died during the year, and 19 were stolen. Of the 236 remaining, 39 each laid 160 or more eggs and 35 laid less than 100 each. 24 of the 126 Plymouth Rocks laid 160 or more eggs each, and 22 laid less than 100 each. 9 of the 56 Wyandottes each laid more than 160 and 7 laid less than 100 each. 6 of the 54 Light Brahmas each laid more than 160 eggs and 6 laid less than 100 each. All birds were put into the test Novem-

Why Feed Bone?

Green cut bone doubles number of eggs laid, keeps hens laying, matures chicks rapidly, makes the flock hardier, fatter, glossier and worth more as broilers; increases fertility, saves one-fourth cost of feed, increases winter profits. These are facts proved a thousand times. The best poultry investment is a



STEARNS BONE CUTTER

(formerly Webster & Hannum).

It is the only cutter that prepares bone so fine as not to be positively dangerous to chicks—is the only absolutely self-feeding and self-regulating, non-clogging cutter.

FREE A scientific and practical book on poultry feeding and our catalogue.
E.C. STEARNS & CO., Box 6 Syracuse, N. Y.

100 White WYANDOTTE HENS

for sale at \$1.00 each. Have got to be sold to make room for young stock. They are large size and great layers. Write at once.
STEVENS & CO., Wilson, N. Y.

THE IDEAL TRAP NEST

has practical features found in no other nest. Literature free.
F. O. WELLCOME, Yarmouth, Me.

Lenola Poultry Yards. Barred Ply. Rocks, Pekin Ducks.

Bred on practical lines from pedigree layers. Bred and selected for practical purposes, from strong, vigorous stock. This season's breeding stock for sale now. April-hatched Cockerels and Pullets for sale in the Fall. Satisfaction guaranteed.
WM. WATMORE, Post Office, Moorestown, N. J.

ber 1st, at which time some of the earliest ones had been laying for about two weeks. The year commenced November 1st for all birds that laid during that month. Some of the later hatched ones did not commence to lay until January and February, and they were given a full year after they commenced.

Many of the lightest layers gave evidence of much vitality and in many cases there were no marked indications in form or type by which it was accountable for the small amount of work performed by them. Nos. 234, 70 and 236 yielded respectively 36, 37 and 38 eggs in the year. They were of the egg type, and gave no evidence of weakness or masculinity.

Nos. 101, 286, 36, 47 and 14, with their yields of 204, 206, 201, 200 and 208 eggs during the year, were typical birds with every indication of capacity, but

Ninety-six eggs hatched out of a possible hundred, is the unrivalled record of the Prairie State Incubator. More scientifically constructed, more nearly automatic in its operation than any other incubator. The

Prairie State INCUBATOR

practically runs itself. Full descriptions and pictures in catalog; biggest book on incubators ever given away—50 colored plates—free.
PRAIRIE STATE INCUBATOR COMPANY, Homer City, Pa.

WHITE Wyandottes ONLY.

ENTIRE time given to breeding for eggs and meat. Large, vigorous February and March cockerels, from unrelated matings, above standard weight.

We Have Some Beauties at \$2 and \$3. Yearling Parents of above, \$2.

We will try to please.
HOMESTEAD POULTRY FARM, Hopkinton, Mass.

RABBITS

The only low-cost book on the Rabbit ever published to our knowledge, is "The Rabbit: How to Select, Breed and Manage the Rabbit and Belgian Hare, for Pleasure or Profit," by W. N. Richardson, a man of long experience with Rabbits. Third edition now ready, nicely illustrated, enlarged and much improved with breeders' directory. Price 25 cts. or with AMERICAN POULTRY ADVOCATE one year 40 cts.
CLARENCE C. DUPUY, Publisher, Syracuse, N. Y.

All for One Dollar!

Profitable Poultry Farming, retail,	- - 25 Cents.
A Living From Poultry,	" - 25 "
Broilers for Profit,	" - 50 "
Farm-Poultry Doctor,	" - 50 "
A Few Hens, monthly, one year,	- - 25 "
Total,	\$1.75.

By ordering at once will send the above collection for \$1.00. Address,

MICHAEL K. BOYER,

Box A, HAMMONTON, (Atlantic Co.,) New Jersey.

"Best Liver Pill Made." Parsons' Pills

Positively cure biliousness and sick headache, liver and bowel complaints. They expel all impurities from the blood. Delicate women find relief from using them. Price 25 cts.; five \$1.00. Pamphlet free.
I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston

they were equaled in appearance, in the minds of good judges, by other birds that yielded a much less number of eggs.

The size and uniformity of the eggs yielded are of a good deal of importance. It was very noticeable in these investigations that the eggs from hens that laid the greatest numbers averaged smaller in size than those from hens that did not produce so many. That this is not always the case is shown by the eggs from Nos. 101 and 286 which were of good size and dark brown, while those from No. 36 were small and lacking in color.

No. 14 is a good, large, strong White Wyandotte and because of the quantity and quality of her productions she is a phenomenal bird. When she went into the test November 1st, 1898, she had been laying for over two weeks. At the end of the year she had 208 good brown eggs to her credit, and she still kept on, laying 18 eggs in November, 22 in December, 21 in January, 18 in February, 15 in March, and 18 in April, giving her 112 in the first six months of her second year, and 320 in 18 months.

When the eggs from the hens that had been laying long and freely were placed in incubation, many of them were found low in fertility, or entirely sterile, notwithstanding the hens had mated freely with vigorous cockerels. The percentage of infertility was much greater than in eggs from hens that had been laying moderately. The question arises whether a large percentage of the chickens raised each year are not the produce of the tardy and moderate layers that are comparatively fresh, rather than of the more valuable and persistent layers that have been hard at work all Winter? If this is so, breeding from eggs as they are ordinarily collected, without a knowledge of the hens that produce them, can but tend to furnish a large proportion of chickens from the poorest hens in the flocks. The cockerels as well as the pullets raised in this way furnish the breeding stock for the next year, and in this manner the reproduction of the poorer rather than the better birds is fostered.

Pointers on Food and Feeding.

A Well-Fed Fowl is not One that is Over-Fed, but Rather One that is Regularly Supplied With the Proper Material for Making Either Eggs or Fat, as Needed—Not Only Must the Proper Material be Given, but it Must be Given at the Right Time and in the Right Quantity.

Keep the mice out of the feed room.
Keep the meat scraps in a cool place.
Fowls are omnivorous in their habits.
White middlings are better than brown.
White oats are to be preferred to black.
Good eggs can be made only from pure food.
Cracked corn is not so fattening as when whole.
bran is a good laxative food for young chicks

Always take coarse bran in preference to fine.

The laying hen is not so apt to become overfat.

Feed not later than an hour before roosting time.

Hulled oats are better than oats with hulls on.

The good appetite of today may be poor tomorrow.

Fowls love roots, if cut up to a convenient size.

During the Summer we feed but two meals a day.

Automatic feeders and grain scatterers are a mistake.

Appetites in fowls vary, same as in the human family.

White corn is not so fattening as the yellow variety.

During hot weather, we mix our mashes with cold water.

The fowls soon quickly know the appointed hour of feeding.

During Summer green clover is better than cut clover hay.

The food of the fowl should be vegetable, mineral and animal.

Grass and other greens are best fed cut up and mixed with the mash.

Fresh, clean water is more important than anything in the bill of fare.

Contract now for turnips, potatoes, beets and cabbage for this Winter's food.

Crush up the egg shells received from the kitchen, and mix with the mash.

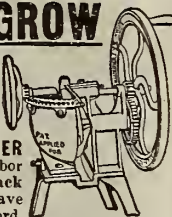
MAKES CHICKS GROW

Nothing will produce such rapid growth in chicks as cut green bone. There is only one machine which you can afford to use to cut it, and that is the

HUMPHREY & VEGETABLE CUTTER

Guaranteed to cut more bone with less labor than any other cutter made. Your money back if it doesn't do it. Send for circulars and have your name entered for free book and egg record.

HUMPHREY & SONS, Box 23, JOLIET, ILL.



MUST SELL to make room. Five good breeding hens and cock, Buff Wyandottes, \$7.00. Twelve hens and cock, Silver Wyandottes, \$14.00. MAPLE SHADE POULTRY FARM, Stanfordsville, N. Y.

WANTED.

To rent a poultry farm with accommodations for 300 hens. Will purchase at the end of a year if satisfactory.

I. L. CASE, Tekonsha, Michigan.

EXCHANGE. 220-egg Cyphers Incubator, ditto indoor brooder, Adam Green Bone Cutter, Gent's Bicycle (never used except cutter) for new double-runner 2-seated sleigh, new work harness, or anything can use. No live stock. F. S. Tenney, Peterboro, N. H.

A Few Hints.

Are you ready to take advantage of low prices? For the present I will offer **Crushed Oyster Shells, Orr's Clear Grit and Meat and Bone Meal** at a greatly reduced price. These goods are A No. 1. Send for price, stating how much you want. I breed **White Wyandottes, White Indian Games, and Light Brahma Bantams.**

THE ELLIOT FARM,

D. LINCOLN ORR, Box 9, Orr's Mills, N. Y.

"D"

Poultry Foods

Crushed Oyster Shells, Crushed Flint, Calcite, Ground Brick, Ground Beef Scraps, Meat Meal, Granulated Bone, Bone Meal,
Send for samples and price-list
American Poultry Food Co.,
Box 948, York, Pa.

MY BROWN LEGHORNS

are great layers. Cockerels and pullets for sale after September 15. Breeding stock now at a bargain. Eggs in season. LEE SHORTT, Lower Cabot, Vt.

Economy in feeding is measured by what you are feeding for the object in hand.

The mash affords you a chance to give a variety, which the whole grain diet does not.

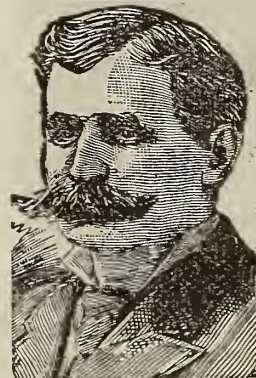
Kaffir corn is an excellent grain for poultry, and should be more extensively fed.

A feast today and a famine tomorrow, will hurt the fowls quicker than anything we know of.

A hen is not a grazing animal, and to feed her exclusively on a grass run is poor management.

If any mash is left over, after giving the fowls all they need, do not save it, as it sours very quickly.

We believe it is a mistake to feed so much whole grain. Summer and Winter we feed mash once a day.



Why try to stick things with something that doesn't stick? Buy **MAJOR'S CEMENT**; you know it sticks. Nothing breaks away from it. Stick to **MAJOR'S CEMENT**. Buy once, you will buy forever. There is nothing as good; don't believe the substituter.

MAJOR'S RUBBER and MAJOR'S LEATHER.
Two separate cements—the best. Insist on having them.
ESTABLISHED 1876.
15 and 25 cents per bottle at all druggists.
MAJOR CEMENT CO., NEW YORK CITY.

A NEW BOOK ON BELGIAN HARES

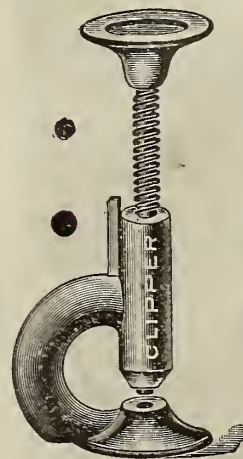
Belgian Hare Breeding.

This is a new treatise on the subject of breeding, care and general management of the Belgian Hare, including chapters on the construction of houses and hutches, diseases, marketing, judging by Standard requirements, etc. It is for the beginner and gives details that he must be familiar with to be successful. Price 25 Cents.

The FANCIERS' REVIEW has an up-to-date, original Belgian Hare Department. Subscription price 50 cts. a year, including the book FREE.

THE FANCIERS' REVIEW,
BOX 3, CHATHAM, N. Y.

Poultry Marker.



With the Marker here illustrated, any form of mark may be adopted by punching the web between the toes. A complete record of chicks from different parties and strains can thus be kept, as well as to know your birds wherever they may be. It may save you money and a valuable bird. It costs, postpaid,

25 cts.

Send all orders to us.
FIVE MARKERS
SENT FOR \$1.00.

I. S. Johnson & Co., Boston, Mass.

According to the Maine Experiment Station, green food is not strictly necessary when fattening fowls.

A hen that cannot pay for her own feed and leave her keeper a profit had better be turned into a market fowl.

Where fowls do not have a chance to secure bugs and worms, they must have a meat ration in some form.

During Summer we rather prefer to feed the mash at night, as it is not so heating to the fowls as the whole grain.

No matter what hours you adopt for feeding, if you feed regularly at that time, the food will go to good account. Add a little of Sheridan's Condition Powder daily to the mash while the hens are molting. It is the very best tonic.

If you are feeding green cut bone during hot weather, see that the meat on the bone is in a fit condition when you get it.

Self-feeding grit boxes keep the grit and oyster shell clean. They are sold by nearly all of the poultry supply houses.

Feed the vegetables raw. Half the turnips, beets and big potatoes, and cut up the smaller ones. They can then be fed in a trough.

Don't stint the amount of feed during molting. The fowls are under a severe strain in growing feathers, and need the food to supply the strength.

See that all the fowls get an equal share of food. Bully hens often drive away the timid, and the result is the bullies get too much while the timid are only half fed.

After through feeding the soft food, either turn over the trough or hang it on the side of the wall of the house, so that it may remain clean for the next meal.

Fowls in overheated runs and houses quickly lose their appetite. See that your run is well shaded, and that your house is thoroughly ventilated during the heated term.

Never hang up large pieces of meat in the hen house for the fowls to help themselves. Meat spoils very quickly in hot weather, and spoiled food is unfit for any stock.

We take the solid kitchen refuse and place it in our Mann bone cutter. We cut it up to a convenient size and mix with the mash. We include parings of all kinds, cabbage hearts, etc.

More expense is sometimes incurred in raising poultry than is necessary, and there is an enormous waste of food without any advantage being secured, simply because there is little judgment used in management, says *American Stock-Keeper*. Writers are prone to ridicule those farmers who give no care to their poultry, and who provide neither shelter nor food, but the class that goes to the other extreme, and so feed and pamper their fowls that they render them unprofitable, is much larger.

FOR RENT. Small poultry plant in Hammonton, N. J., 1-2 mile from station. New poultry houses, capacity 200 hens, 400 chicks. Modern 7-room dwelling. C. K. Nelson

FOR SALE. In Cornwall N. Y., a five acre poultry farm. Good 7-room dwelling, barn & poultry houses. Healthful location. Particulars. A. W. Brewster, Hammonton, N. J.

Notes in Passing.

News in the Market Poultry World—Hints that May be of Value—Paragraphs from Our Exchanges.

From thirteen eggs from a chicken man,
We hatched twelve chickens fine;
Three of them drowned in the water pan,
And then we had but nine.

Nine little chicks had too much food;
Without exercise chickens can't thrive;
Four of the weakest died from the brood,
Then we had but five.

Our neighbor's cat had an appetite,
From rise to set of sun;
Four more chicks went out of sight,
And then we had but one.

This one little chick grew firm and strong,
Sole owner of a handsome coop!
But a light-fingered gentleman (?) passed along
And now that one's in the soup.

—Poultry Success.

Let your aims be high.
Get ready for the Fall trade.
Plan ahead, be up to the times.
Actions speak louder than words.
Drones are an eye sore and expense.
Business hens are neither excitable nor lazy.
Begin thinking of your supply for the holidays.
Prof. Samuel Cushman says the Rhode Island Reds have been bred for 20 or 30 years.

TURKEYS

easily raised with the aid of our **BANNER TURKEY PILLS**. The only successful **LIFE SAVER** for young Poults. 25 and 50c. per box postpaid. Our 125-page illustrated Poultry Supply Catalogue free. Send for one. **Excelsior Wire & Poultry Supply Co.**, 26 and 28 Vesey St., New York City. When writing kindly mention *A Few Hens*.

My BUFF Orpingtons

Are egg machines. Eggs from record breakers \$2 per 15. CHAS. H. CANNEY, Dover, N. H.

WE SELL

Fertile eggs from hardy, prolific Wh. Wyandottes and S. C. W. Leghorns that have been bred and selected for practical purposes, keeping close to Standard as practicable, at \$1 per 15. Low express rates. Prompt shipment. Satisfaction guaranteed. **Middlesex Poultry Farm, Box 7, Plainsboro, N. J.**

1880 UTILITY 1900.

BARRED PLYMOUTH ROCKS and WHITE WYANDOTTES.

Won at Vermont big show, January, 1900:
1st and 3d cockerel; 1st, 2d and 3d pullet; 2d and 3d hen; 1st and 2d big brown eggs; 1st on dressed chickens; 1st and 3d breeding pen; 5 special best P. Rocks.

EGGS AND STOCK FOR SALE.

Hillside Farm, W. D. Foster, Prop., Woodstock, Vt.

THE POULTRY ARCHITECT. This book illustrates 117 designs for poultry houses, coops, roosts. Price 25 cents. **EGG RECORD** and Poultry Account Book. Most simple and practical. Price 25 cents. **H. A. KUHN, Box 400 H, Atlanta, Ga.**

WYCHILD'S WYANDOTTES

WHITES AND SILVERS EXCLUSIVELY.

EGGS for hatching from strong, farm raised stock. Send stamp for circular. **Wm. H. Child, Hatboro, Pa.**

Become thoroughly acquainted with the breed you have, and give it every chance to do its best.

In one of the runs on **A FEW HENS'** Experimental Farm, an ox-heart cherry tree is flourishing finely, and annually yielding a lot of fruit.

The plum crop on **A FEW HENS'** Experimental Farm has been an unusually large one. No Wonder, the trees are planted right in the poultry runs.

Of all the cruel methods of breaking up broody hens, the following, from *American Agriculturist*, takes the lead: "My wife places a small coil of barbed wire in the nest. That settles it for that time."

A writer in an Eastern paper estimates that there were 500,000,000 fowls in the United States last year, and that the number of eggs produced was about 17,400,000,000. The value of these fowls and of their product is set down at \$420,000,000.

No better place can be found for a plum orchard than in the poultry quarters, and no better place can be found for poultry than in the plum orchard, says Wisconsin *Farmer*. Each seems to be bettered by the presence of the other. There is a sort of a mutual aid each obtains from the presence of the other. The hens enjoy the shade and picking up such insects as are injurious to plums. They are always on the alert for something of this kind. The fertility of a poultry yard seems to be an advantage to the trees.

In shape, the Rhode Island Red is not so long-legged and angular as the Plymouth Rock, or so round bodied,

HARWOOD'S Buff Wyan., Blue Wyan., Blue Andal. **DR. HARWOOD, Chas. Falls, N. Y.**

White Wyandottes. Eggs \$1 per 15. Thorough bred birds that keep the egg basket full all winter. **E. K. BLAKE, Nicholville, N. Y.**

Crystal Spring Stock Farm, Burlington, Mass. Breeders of prize-winning R. I. Reds and Belgian Hares. **E. W. Collins, M'gr. Mem. R. I. Red Club.**

VALUABLE

BOOKS

For Poultry Raisers, In Combination with SUBSCRIPTIONS.

We will send any **ONE** of the following 50c. books:

American Fancier's Poultry Book.
Farm-Poultry Doctor (Sanborn)
Pocket Money in Poultry (Norys).
Broilers for Profit (Boyer).
The Diseases of Poultry (Salmon)
Money in Squabs (Long).

With a year's Subscription to

FARM-POULTRY, semi-mo., \$1.00
THE FEATHER, monthly, .50
A FEW HENS, monthly, .25

ALL FOUR FOR

Total with Book, \$2.25 **\$1.35**

EACH additional Book of above list, 25 cents more.

Send all orders and money to

I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

chunky, or, apparently, so short bodied as the Wyandotte. Does not stand so high on its legs as the Wyandotte, and is longer in body and a pound less in weight (yet very wide, deep and plump). It stands more like an American Dominique, or Dorking. Shanks appear to join the body, and thighs appear to be very short, says Prof. Cushman.

"We have in mind a man who is trying to grow plums without any poultry, and insects of all kinds are leading him a weary life, says Wisconsin Farmer. The insects increase annually, and he is just now arranging to put in some poultry for the express purpose of getting rid of some of the many insect pests with which his trees are annually infested. He will find them a great help in more ways than one, for the eggs laid by the hens may be as helpful to the family as the fruit would be and he will have the pleasure of seeing the blossoms turn to fruit." According to the American Agriculturist, during September, October and November of last year, from 8,000 to 10,000 live geese were shipped to a large poultry establishment in Eastern Massachusetts to be fattened for market. Some of these geese are fattened in Canada and shipped to the United States as dressed poultry. One firm in Quebec sometimes has on hand as many as 11,300 live geese and 5,000

ducks, feeding them 125 bushels of grain per day. A poultry fattening firm had on hand at one time 25,000 geese and 15,000 ducks.

Barred Rocks bred for beauty, size, early laying. Stock for sale. Mrs. Tilla Leach, Cheneyville, Ills.

EGGS. White and Barred Rock, S. C. W. Leghorn, \$1.50 per 15. W. C. B. Polish \$2.50 per 15. E. Marquand, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

Begin Now to keep an egg record and account of your fowls. We furnish the most simple, practical and easily kept book for the purpose, at 25 cts., postpaid. **H. A. KUHN, Box 400 H, Atlanta, Ga.**

PURE BRED Silver Wyandottes. Eggs 5c. each. Try them. D. R. HERSHEY, Comus, Md.

Incubator Eggs \$3 per 100, from large, vigorous White Wyandottes. Eggs from fancy matings \$1 per 13. W. G. HALE, Nortonhill, N. Y.

195 EGG STRAIN S. C. White Leghorns exclusively. Eggs guaranteed 75 per cent. fertile. \$1 per 13; \$3 per 50; \$5 per 100. W. H. WARREN, Ransomville, N. Y.

WHITE P. ROCKS. Bred for size, shape, shade, silver. Winners at Philadelphia, '99, and Wilkes-Barre, '99. Eggs \$2.00 per 15; \$3.00 per 30. W. A. WAGNER, Luzerne, Pa.

BUFF PLYMOUTH ROCKS, Buff Pekin Bantams, Buff Leghorns, Barred Plymouth Rocks, White and Silver Laced Wyandottes and Pekin Ducks. Eggs \$1.00 per 13. **HERBERT McCOY, 1119 Elm Street, Peekskill, N. Y.**

EGGS. BARRED P. ROCKS, WH. WYANDOTTES. \$1.50 per 13. Vigorous stock, bred for winter layers. Yearling hens for sale after May 10th. L. G. HAWKS, Fishkill Landing, N. Y.

GOLDEN BUFF LEGHORNS. Eggs \$1.00 per 15. Most complete catalogue ever issued for stamp. **GEO. H. WOLF, Westminster, Md.**

Our Market Report.

An Accurate Account of the Highest, Lowest and Average Prices for the Best Market Stock, Paid During the Month of July—Goods Not up to the Standard Received Proportionately Less.

NEW YORK.

	Highest	Lowest	Av.,
Fresh eggs.....	20	16	18
Broilers, dressed....	25	18	21 1-2
Fowls, dressed.....	11	9	10
Ducks, dressed.....	12	10 1-2	11 1-4
Turkey hens, dressed	9	8	8 1-2
Turkey toms, dressed	7	7	7
Old Roosters, dressed.....	5 1-2	5	5 1-4
Geese, dressed.....	20	14	17
Fowls, live.....	10 1-2	9	9 3-4
Chickens, live.....	18	15	11 1-2
Roosters, live.....	7	5 1-2	6 1-4
Turkeys, live.....	8	7	7 1-2
Ducks, live, pair.....	.60	.60	.60
Geese, live, pair.....	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00

PHILADELPHIA.

	Highest	Lowest	Av.,
Fresh Eggs.....	14	13	13 1-2
Hens, live.....	10 1-2	12 1-2	11 1-2
Hens, dressed.....	11 1-2	9 1-2	10 1-2
Old Roosters, live.....	7	9	8
Old Roosters, dressed.....	7	6	7 1-2
Spring Chickens, live.....	20	15	17 1-2

BOSTON.

	Highest	Lowest	Av.,
Eggs, nearby and Cape ...	21	18	19 1-2
Chickens, dressed.....	25	16	20 1-2
Fowls, dressed.....	12	12	12
Fowls, live.....	10 1-2	9	9 3-4
Roosters, live.....	6	5 1-2	5 3-4
Roosters, dressed.....	7	5 1-2	6 1-2
Ducks, dressed.....	14	10	12
Geese, dressed.....	10	10	10
Turkey hens.....	9	9	9
Turkey toms.....	8	8	8
Broilers.....	20	14	17
Spring Chickens, live.....	16	11	13 1-2

CHICAGO.

	Highest	Lowest	Av.,
Eggs, fresh.....	12 1-2	11 1-2	12
Chickens, hens, scalded....	9	8	8 1-2
Chickens, hens, alive.....	8 1-2	8 1-2	8 1-2
Spring Chickens, live.....	15	14	14 1-2
Roosters, live.....	5	5	5
Ducks, live, old.....	8	7 1-2	7 3-4
Ducks, Spring, dressed....	14	10	12
Geese, live, per dozen.....	\$6.00	\$6.00	\$6.00
Turkey hens, dressed.....	8	6	7
Turkey hens, live.....	7	6	6 1-2
Turkey gobblers, dressed..	8	6	7
Turkey gobblers, live.....	7	6	6 1-2

POULTRY SUPPLIES.
We are Wholesale Jobbers of a most complete line.
JOHNSON & STOKES, Philadelphia, Pa.

Practical stock that won 63 premiums on 54 entries last season, including winners at Boston. B. and W. Rocks, W. Wyans., S. C. B. and W. Legs., R. I. Reds, Bl. Javas. Eggs. Cir. G. A. Chapin. Hampden, Mass.

Twenty EGGS FOR \$1.00.
Thoroughbred Light Brahmas. Pine Rock Poultry Ranch, Clinton Hollow, N. Y. N. A. TAYLOR, Prop.

THIS PAPER will cost you only Twenty-five Cents for TWELVE MONTHS. Can you afford to do without it? We accept postage stamps in payment for it. Order at once, so as to get every issue.

FOR MOLTING
HENS USE SHERIDAN'S CONDITION POWDER



If your hens are shedding their feathers and not laying, they are out of condition. The best poultry authorities say, "when hens are in condition they will lay perfect eggs and plenty of them." Then help them over molting time or your egg profit will be lost.

Sheridan's Condition Powder will help the molting hens. The process of molting is a very exhausting one. The growing of new feathers requires all the nitrogen and phosphates in the food, so that there is an extra demand upon the strength. The elements needed by poultry at molting, in addition to good food, are contained in SHERIDAN'S CONDITION POWDER to a high degree. Thousands of poultrymen have proven it to be worth its weight in gold for molting hens. It keeps them in health, helps form the new plumage, and gets them in condition to lay when prices are high. Hens rarely lay when they are molting.

JOHN R. JONES, of Suffield, Conn., says:—"I find Sheridan's Condition Powder fed once daily in the food, very valuable for molting hens. It assists in growing new feathers, makes the combs bright red, and gives a rich, natural gloss to the plumage. Have used it for years."

When your hens show signs of molting, feed them once daily, in a hot bran mash, SHERIDAN'S POWDER. It will help your hens to get their new coat quickly and will bring young pullets to early laying. Do this and you will have as others do who have tried the plan, an abundance of eggs to sell in the fall and winter months when eggs sell from 25 to 45 cents per dozen.

C. A. GRAVES, of West Whately, Mass., says:—"Sheridan's Condition Powder, is in my opinion the best egg producer ever discovered. I have fed it for three years and shall continue its use for growing stock, as it helps to develop and hasten the maturity of pullets."

J. W. HEGE, of Williamson, Pa., says:—"I received \$5.00 worth of Sheridan's Powder of you. Began to feed the Powder at once. Our eggs increased three times the amount in a month's feeding. I can say if the farmer will begin to feed Sheridan's Condition Powder early in the fall, his hens will be ready to lay daily when eggs commence to rise."

Sold by Druggists, Grocers and Feed Dealers, or sent by mail. Large cans most economical to buy, IF YOU CAN'T GET IT NEAR HOME, SEND TO US. ASK FIRST. We send one pack, 25 cts; five, \$1.00. A two-pound can, \$1.20; Six, \$5.00. Express paid. Sample copy "best Poultry paper" sent free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., 22 Custom House St., Boston, Mass.

Questions Briefly Answered.

Condensed Replies to the Many Inquiries Received at This Office.

EGGS.

Mrs. I. L. M.: See editorial in May issue regarding sex of eggs.

BROILERS AND ROASTERS.

J. N. F.: The book "Broilers for Profit" (which we supply at 50 cents per copy) gives plain directions on dressing for market.

FOOD AND FEEDING.

C. F. P.: Chicks should not be fed oats with hulls on. Hulled oats can generally be secured from grain dealers.

BREEDS.

D. W.: The Light Brahma is an English breed; cannot say if Dark Brahma blood is in it or not. Dark feathered specimens appear in the Light variety when there is too much color in the breeding stock.

R. C. E.: Either Wyandottes or Plymouth Rocks would be desirable general purpose fowls for you.

A. P.: Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds are apt to throw single combs, feathers on legs, and all shades of plumage. The same trouble will be found (excepting color) with Wyandottes.

DISEASES.

G. M.: Chicks a week old caught in a rain storm quickly succumb to the exposure to a rain storm. The antics described are caused by weakness.

J. N. F.: Feather lice will generally cause the feathers to fall off the head and neck of fowls, and so will scurvy. Rub a little sweet oil or vaseline on the bare spot, and around the edge of the feathers remaining on the neck. The fits you refer to is vertigo, caused by blood rushing to the head, generally due to inbreeding. Place the head of the fowl under a stream of cold water, and keep in a somewhat dark coop for a few days; feed soft, nourishing food.

G. B. D.: We believe your hen died from a liver disease. The great thirst was no doubt due to a feverish condition.

A. F. T.: The paleness of face and comb is no doubt due to some liver trouble. Give a Parsons' Purgative Pill, add a little charcoal daily to their soft food, and supply fresh grass or greens. No doubt you are not feeding enough whole grain like wheat.

E. A. J.: The red mites (louse family) can be gotten out of your brooder by painting the floors with Lee's Lice Killer. Do not allow any chicks in brooder while using this preparation.

MISCELLANEOUS.

C. F. P.: Evans Root Cutters for poultry use, cost \$5. The idea of burning sulphur in the hen house is that the fumes may penetrate in the cracks and crevices to kill the lice and disease germs.

R. C. E.: Send 5 cents to *Farm-Poultry*, 22 Custom House Street, Boston, Mass., for copy of paper describing scratching shed houses.

H. A. B.: We start our young chickens in wire covered runs, and in that way our cats and kittens become accustomed to the chicks. After the chicks are about quarter grown we let them out of these runs, and the cats pay no attention to them.

G. B. D.: To avoid dampness in house, the floor should be a foot higher of earth than the level of the outside lay of land. Then grade up to the outside walls so as to turn off the water. For a warm Winter house it is best to have right partitions between each pen.

UTILITY, vigor and beauty combined. Absolutely perfect Pure White and Blue Barred Plymouth Rocks. Farm raised stock from the most noted breeders. Prolific layers of large brown eggs. \$1 per 13; \$5 per 100. SUNNYHILL POULTRY FARM, A. H. BARTLETT, Prop., Box 216, Cochituate, Mass.

INCUBATOR EGGS
from pure bred White Wyandottes. \$3.00 per 100.
SILAS DEAN, Oak Hill, N. Y.

SUCCESS OR FAILURE

Depends on beginning right. The Poultry Architect with its 110 illustrated designs, and valuable information on building, will help you to begin right. It will be sent you postpaid for 25 cents.

H. A. KUHNS, Box 400 H, Atlanta, Ga.

Sunny Side Poultry Yards

Will sell eggs from heavy laying White Wyandottes for \$1.50 per setting. Ten chicks guaranteed.
C. R. CLAUSON, Middletown, N. Y.

What a DOLLAR will Do.

Box Lambert's Death to Lice,
20 lbs. Oyster Shells, 1 Yearly Egg Record,
10 lbs. Rock Grit, 5 lbs. Granulated Bone,
10 lbs. Meat Meal, 64-page Poultry Book,
10 Climax Leg Bands, 5 lbs. Ground Brick,
Formula how to make Liquid Lice Paint,
Poultry Industry, the People's Poultry Paper,
Illustrated. 16 to 20 pages, monthly, one year. This collection worth \$2. Sent you by freight for only \$1. Money back if we don't please.
W. S. GALLATIN & SON, York, Pa.

Black Minorcas.

S. C. B. Minorcas exclusively. Bred for 11 yrs. from best native and imported strains. Trap nests used in all pens. Farm range. Last season's breeders for sale. 25 hens \$1.00 each; 25 at \$2.00; 25 at \$3.00. These hens have long backs and deep bodies. Pitt and Royal strains. No young stock before September.
MRS. GEO. E. MONROE, Box B, Dryden, N. Y.
Member Am. B. Minorca Club.

I. K. FELCH & SON,

Box K, Natick, Mass.

Light Brahmas, Plymouth Rocks,
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—BRED ON PRACTICAL LINES.—

Standard Points and Egg Records Combined.
Enclose stamps for 24 page catalogue.

If People only Knew

what strong, vigorous Cockerels and Pullets we have for sale and ready to enter the breeding pen, they surely would buy some. Considering the quality and vigor of the stock, we claim to have as good and cheap as any one. If you are interested in Turkeys, Ducks, Geese, Guinea or Chickens, send for my catalogue, it fully describes the 23 varieties I breed. It is now time to inquire about incubator eggs. We can furnish them by the 100 or 1000. Prices quoted on application.
D. A. MOUNT,
Pine Tree Farm, Jamesburg, N. J.

You Want Layers Bred for Utility.

Barred Plymouth Rocks and White Wyandottes, raised on farm range, strong and vigorous. Cockerels \$2, \$3 and \$4. Pullets \$2 and \$2.50. Address, CHAS. RUNYON, Lake Como, N. J.

People We Know.

Facts and News Gleaned Especially for A FEW HENS About People We Know.

Emory E. Banks, Crittenden, N. Y., is a well known breeder of utility Light Brahmas.

The *Fanciers' Review*, Chatham, N. Y., is a much improved paper since it has adopted the proper size.

The Keystone Granite Grit Works, Perkiomenville, Pa., are offering a superior grit at rock bottom prices.

Wm. A. Penfield, Waterville, N. Y., breeder of Single Comb White Leghorns, mates only his heaviest layers each year. He is making quite a specialty of shipping chicks a month old.

"Avenarius Carbolineum," claimed to be an efficient and radical remedy against all kinds of vermin in poultry houses, as well as a wood preserver, is manufactured and sold by the Carbolineum Wood-Preserving Co., 126 Reed St., Milwaukee, Wis.

The August number of *Poultry Monthly*, Albany, N. Y., is a "Woman's Special," edited by Mrs. Myra V. Norys. It is filled with valuable reading matter, biographies, etc., and reflects great credit upon the editress. "Mrs. Myra V. Norys" is a non-de-plume. For short, it means Mrs. F. H. Valentine, wife of the editor of the *Monthly*.

S. and R. C. White and S. C. Brown Leghorns, 75 cents to \$1.50 each. Good stock. Mr. and Mrs. S. RIDER, Maryland, N. Y.

LEE'S LICE KILLER.

WM. GOWDY, Agent, Hamonton, N. J.

WHITE WYANDOTTES

Standard bred Stock. Write for prices.

Cockerels and Pullets.

A. F. PUTNEY, So. Natick, Mass.

YOUNG COCKERELS

Barred P. Rock. Two for \$1.00. About 1 1-2 to 2 lbs. each. From laying strain. Pekin Ducks, 20 cts. to \$1.00 each, according to size. WOODWARD M. POFFENBERGER, Bakersville, Wash. Co., Md.

Buffinton's Rhode Island Reds

Won prizes at Philadelphia, Boston and New York. We have bred them eight years, and all the birds we have exhibited in that time was raised on our farm. If you want well bred R. I. Reds buy eggs from this stock.

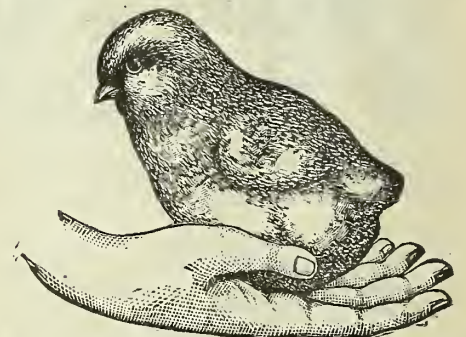
BUFFINTON'S BUFFS FOR 1900

ARE BETTER THAN EVER.

Prices of eggs: Rose, Single and Pea comb R. I. Reds, Buff and Pa. Wyandottes, Buff P. Rocks and Diamond Jubilee Jrington, \$2.00 for 13; \$5.00 for 40. Buff Cochin, Buff and White Leghorn, Barred P. Rocks and Light Brahma, \$1.25 for 13; \$3.00 for 40. Send for circular.

ROWLAND G. BUFFINTON,
Box 677, Fall River, Mass.

KEEP YOUR



CHICKENS

Strong and healthy if you want the Pullets to lay when five months old. When hens lay eggs for hatching, mix in their food every other day,

Sheridan's Powder.

It strengthens the hens; you get more fertile eggs. Persons who succeed best with Poultry commence with little chicks; giving twice a week an even teaspoonful of Sheridan's Powder mixed with each quart of food, gradually increasing the dose. Sold by druggists, grocers, feed dealers or by mail. Single pack 25c. Large can \$1.20. Six \$5.00. Exp. paid. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.