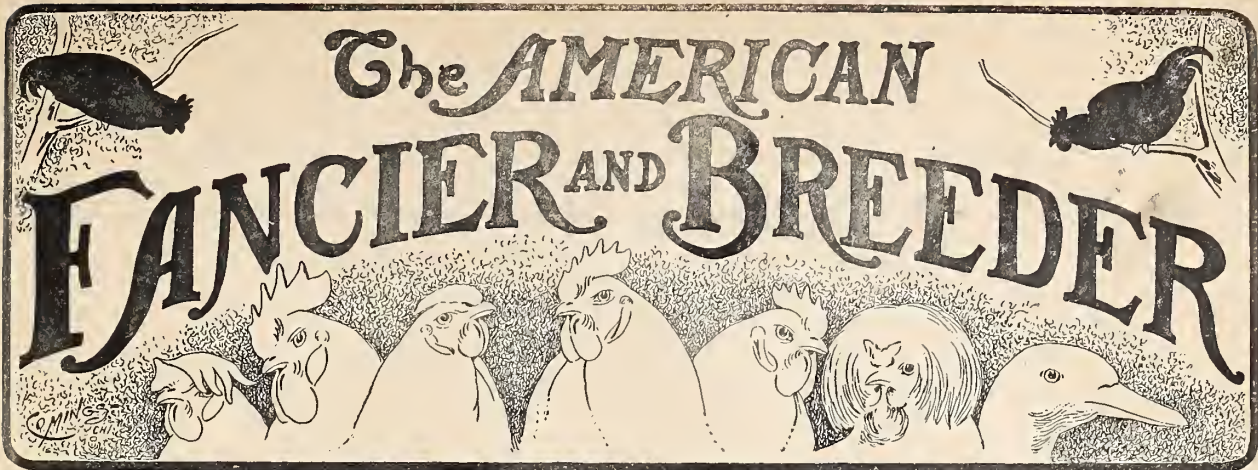


The AMERICAN FANCIER AND BREEDER



Vol. 21.

De Kalb, Illinois., May, 1904.

No. 5.



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The American FANCIER and BREEDER.

A MONTHLY MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO POULTRY CULTURE.

Vol. 21.

DEKALB, ILLINOIS, MAY, 1904.

No. 5.

Making A Start.

E. E. LAWRENCE, Spafford, N. Y.

This is the hardest for most people to accomplish in raising thorough-bred fowls.

They look at the first cost and hesitate, forgetting the added profit that are sure to come later; then put it off from fall until spring, and vice versa, frequently putting off sending their order altogether.

Some ask which is best, to buy fowls or eggs, in making a start with thoroughbred poultry?

This depends somewhat upon the season of the year you intend making the start.

If in the fall, we would advise buying fowls, but if toward spring I think eggs would be the most economical, for then most breeders have disposed of their surplus stock and would ask big prices to spare any more. But whichever you buy, I would advise starting at once with thoroughbred, as as soon as possible after making up your mind to do so.

Do not compromise the matter by getting some mongrels, if you are going into poultry. If you already have mongrels, dispose of them and invest the proceeds in pure stock.

I would advise keeping but one variety only. Few amateurs have the necessary facilities for keeping more than one breed.

There will be found plenty to learn, and enough difficulties to overcome, in gaining a knowledge of even one breed.

In making a start the beginner will find plenty of useful breeds to select from. He can satisfy his taste as to color and shape, making his choice according to the space he allots to the fowls and his object in keeping them.

Minorcas, Leghorns; etc., are great layers, but they require considerable space, and are not so easily confined as the Plymouth Rock or Wyandottes.

Then, as some of the fowls have to be marketed each season to make room for younger stock, the heavier breeds have quite an advantage.

Hints to Those Not Familiar with Poultry.

During the months of March, April, and May are hatched the prize winners of next fall and winter shows, and so much depends upon the proper handling of eggs and setting hens during the period of incubation, and the care of young chicks during the first three or four months of their existence, that the novice in poultry breeding is at a disadvantage in comparison with old and experienced breeders, who know just how to care

for eggs and chicks during this period. To begin with, if you are about engage in breeding poultry for profit, you should consult not only your own fancy for some particular breed or breeds, but you must use good judgment in selecting breeds for which there is popular demand. A certain breed of fowls may be very beautiful to look upon and may possess many good qualities, but if the public don't want to buy them, it is a waste of time and money to breed such a variety. Thus hundreds have made pecuniary failure of poultry breeding simply because they did not breed the varieties for which there was a popular demand.

After having decided which variety or varieties to breed the beginner should exercise good judgement in purchasing his breeding stock. It should be borne in mind, that as no purchaser desires to buy poor birds, it is absolutely necessary that good specimens be produced, and that in order to produce good chicks of any breed the present stock must be of superior quality. A breeder has a lot of poor specimens of a popular breed for sale, is just as badly off as the breeder that is breeding a variety that is unpopular both having what no one wishes so purchase.

If you contemplate buying breeding birds, pay a good price and get good birds. If you are buying eggs don't let price influence you, but buy from breeders that you have a good reason to believe will give you eggs that will produce what you want.

In preparing nests for setting hens, be sure to place them in some quiet place where the light is not strong. A box about fifteen inches square and about eight inches deep makes a good nest box place about four inches damp earth, which shape nicely, so that the eggs will incline to roll toward the center. Over this earth place soft hay to the depth of half an inch, and after this is done sprinkle the nest with crushed tobacco leaves or some insect powder. Now place your hen on the nest during the evening and let her set a day or two on one or more nest eggs, and as soon as she settles down to business remove the nest eggs for hatching.

Do not give young chicks anything to eat the first day. On the second day give them the yolk of a hard boiled egg crumbled fine with an equal quantity of bread crumbs. Give this food at intervals of two or three hours during the following four or five days and then mix in a little cracked wheat or oatmeal.

Incubators and brooders are indispensable nowadays in the handling of poultry, by

these means fanciers are enabled to get earliest and best chicks for the early shows thus getting a strong beginning, full development means a prize winner, and the incubator sets when the first eggs begin to roll in, long before brooding hens can be secured, consequently the owner thereof is the man that gets the record, and the record makes the business for him. Do not forget this. A large number of the very best machines on the market are found advertised in this issue. Send for their catalogues at an early date and study their machines.

The true fancier never leaves a stone unturned to improve his flock. Now that you are mating your yards for breeding do you not know that a female or two from the right breeder will furnish a cross for your breeding males another year. Now is the time to secure such birds. A good male bird perhaps is needed. Do not neglect to get this bird at once, and above all things do not use an inferior, small specimen just because you have one. Get a breeder of merit and add fifty per cent or more to your flock in quality, instead of diminishing its worth with inferior breeding birds.

Drowned Chickens.

Nothing is more annoying than to have chicks get drowned in the drinking water that has been set for the big chicken to drink. If you use water vessels that the chicks can happen to get into, float a board in the vessel and the danger will be obviated. It sometimes happens that chicks get drowned from rain when to all intents purposes they will be "stone dead." Wrap them in flannel and put them in the oven and many times will come to life. In fact, I have heard experiences told of how chicks that were drowned and been thrown over in the alley had been brought to life simply by the warmth of the sunshine. Individually, I have watched them stretch themselves out and begin to pant and breathe, and I have saved many a one that way, but sometimes I get in too big a hurry and I give them a little drop of whisky and then that settles them every time, for it gets into their windpipe and they are not strong enough for the effort of throwing it out, and presto they quiver and die, and then I always say to myself: "Mrs. M., you have killed another chick." People sometimes say that chicks that have been once chilled never amount to anything, but if they have been drowned surely they have been "chilled," and yet they live and thrive.

Preserving Eggs.

While there is no process that will keep eggs for considerable time as good as when fresh, yet they can be kept so as to be marketable. Some people make money by buying eggs when they are cheap, keep them till Christmas or New Year, when they can at least double their money, if not treble it.

The cold storage method is the one most largely practiced, but this requires certain facilities out of the reach of the ordinary farmer. Besides it has its limitations, and when eggs are to be held for a considerable period the evaporation of the contents is so great that the old methods of preservation are considered both safer and better. Whatever the process employed, success can only be attained by observing the following rules. Only strictly fresh eggs can be preserved. Nothing can save a bad egg from getting worse, the longer it is kept. They should be taken before the very hot weather arrives and should be handled and selected with the utmost care. Eggs should not be allowed to remain in the nest too long or incubation will commence before they are packed away. In packing, the eggs should not touch one another, as one bad egg in contact with another will soon spoil the whole lot. The eggs of hens that have been separated from the roosters will keep much longer than those which have been fertilized. The eggs should be stored in a place where the temperature is even. A cellar is a good place, not too damp. The more even the temperature the better the eggs will keep. Unfertilized fresh eggs, put in cool, dark place and turned half over every day should keep four or five weeks in good condition without further preparation.

One method of preserving eggs is to dip them in a strong solution of lime and water so that the whole surface of the shell is coated. After they have dried they should be put where they can be turned readily. Another way is to pack the eggs in salt and place them in boxes or barrels. The eggs should be placed on end and so packed that they do not touch each other. Finely sifted coal ashes may be used instead of salt. Some people preserve eggs by greasing them all over with a mixture of twenty grains Salicylic acid in one gill of cottonseed oil and turning them every day. All these methods, with numerous others, are successfully used by many persons, but the safest process, and that most generally recommended by egg dealers, is the liming. To preserve eggs by this method require one bushel of pure stone lime and two quarts of clean salt to sixty gallons of water. The stronger the lime water, free from sediment, the better it is. Slake the lime with a portion of the water, then add the balance of the water and salt. Stir well three or four times at intervals, and then let it stand until well settled and cold. Either dip or draw off the clear pickle into the barrel in which it is intended to preserve the eggs. When

the barrel is filled to a depth of fifteen or eighteen inches, put in eggs about one foot deep, spread over them some pickle that is a little milky in appearance, made so by stirring up some of the very light lime particles that settle last, and continue doing this as each foot of eggs is added. When the eggs are within four inches of the top of the barrel, cover them with cloth and spread on two or three inches of lime that settles in making the pickle. It is of the greatest importance that the pickle be kept continually up over the lime. When the time comes to market the eggs they must be taken out of the pickle, cleaned, dried and packed.

Another method that has been tried and given better results than most anything else is a solution of what is generally known as water glass. Eggs preserved by this process have been kept for over a year and found to be almost as good as fresh eggs.—Thos. Owen, in *Kansas Farmer*.

Cracked corn should be in small quantities and kept in a very dry place. It is a great absorber of moisture and it soon becomes foul if left standing too long. One cannot be too careful in selecting the food for pigeons, and very often the slightest mistake may cause a heap of trouble. Corn having a mouldy smell should never be fed to pigeons or poultry. Some squab raisers are afraid to feed corn at all and especially cracked. They tell me it has a tendency to produce canker. I find this only a mere idea, for in most cases of this disease, the weather is the cause first, later on contagion. Corn can influence it to a certain extent, especially if too much be fed. This would naturally produce a very heated condition, and then if suddenly, or a severe cold snap the throat being tender canker is the result. However every pigeon man has idea and theory as to the cause of the birds illness. Some say it's the corn other the buckwheat, other again that some one has poisoned them, etc., but if the whole matter is looked into by one of experience, the cause can generally be found in some neglect. Some diseases are unaccounted for but these are few.

It Requires Work.

Considerable number of people are looking for something "easy." Some take up poultry for this reason. Poultry raising is of course, not the hardest kind of work, but we certainly should not encourage the man who has an unconquerable dislike to labor to go into the poultry raising as a serious business.

The man or woman who doesn't like work and who doesn't like to stay at home—the best place on earth to stay—had better let poultry alone.

This is suggested by an item that appeared in *The Farmer* of St. Paul recently. A farmer wrote a letter to this paper stating of the advantages of selling the live stock on the farm and taking up something like

fruit raising, that is less confining.

The editor of *The Farmer*, Prof. Shaw is, of course, not opposed to fruit raising, but apparently he has little sympathy with the attitude described above for he comments on it as follows: "What on earth do the farmers want to dispose of their stock for? If all go into fruit raising what will be done with the fruit? Why should stock keeping be looked on as confining? Why should a man engage in tilling the soil desire anything else than work that will confine him somewhat closely to business and keep him pretty near home most of the time, where he ought to be?"

All of which applies to poultry keeping as well as to stock raising.

The world somehow doesn't seem to have very much use for a man who is looking for a snap.

The people who succeed, the men and women who achieve happiness, are the men who are striving to find how much they can do rather than how little.

It will be remembered that in one of the parables in the good book the man who had done his work faithfully and well was rewarded. How? By being given an easy place. Hardly. He was rewarded by being given more work to do. He had ruled one city well. He was made ruler over ten cities.

When the people of this country think well enough of a man to make him President of the United States, they put him in a position about as laborious as any man ever had.

The man who succeeds, the only kind of man who deserves success, the man who wants to do things. Work is play for such a man. His power to do work increases and so does his love for it.

Poultry raising is intended for those who love work and home and beauty and nature. The man or woman who does not love these would better let poultry severely alone.

If poultry keeping is a drudgery, you would better not get very deep into it, for it will not be likely to be profitable to you. It was intimated above that work to some is play. It was a wise man who said that we never do our best work until work comes to be play for us.

And this is just the spirit of your successful poultryman. He really loves his fowls, and the work of caring for them, and to such a man poultry is a source of profit.

Chick feed that gives best results is the kind that is not to be mixed up with water, but that which is to be fed dry and for which the chicks must scratch. There are lots of prepared foods advertised that are good, and fine corn-chop sifted so that only the pin-head particles remain, is good feed, especially if it be mixed or alternated with pin-head wheat and oats. Rolled oats, chopped up with raw onion and egg, makes a fine feed. As the twig is bent the tree will grow, so teach your chicks to eat a variety.

Why Hens Do Not Lay.

We have been engaged in the poultry business for thirty years and we have not always been able to figure out why hens do not lay. We can't even figure out why they should lay at all. There is something about hens that baffles the skill of the best poultry student in the world. They take fits of laying when they want to, stop when they please, sit when they feel like it and refuse to perform this act whenever they desire. They will molt at a time when we think they should be engaged in better business and when we would have them molt they refuse to do so.

A great many people want to know why their hens do not lay. Sometimes it can be ascertained at short range and occasionally an editor of some poultry paper, who is willing to "hit it every time." We have a letter from a lady reader living at Cromwell, Iowa who writes;

"I have noticed in your paper that the Barred Plymouth Rock chicken are highly recommended for farmers and now I would like to ask what is the matter with my hens. I have nothing but pure bred Plymouth Rock hens. I have 175 and they have not laid ten dozen eggs in the past eight months. During the months of October and November I never obtained an egg. I have very nice looking hens, with red combs and lustrous plumage. I have fed mash in the morning made from bran, oilmeal and—'s poul ry food, and sometimes I have fed a little corn and oats. I have them divided into two lots and they have good houses. I feed oyster shell grit and give them good water to drink. I killed two, one of which was very fat. The embryo eggs were further matured in the old hen than in the pullet, although the pullet was not so fat, but either of them was fat enough to make a good roast. Will you be kind enough to explain why they do not lay?"

Now, we are up against a real proposition and at long range it may not be possible for us to come very close to the reason. We can at least give a few reasons why hens do not lay and each poultryman can judge from what is here written as to which condition represents his flock.

When hens lay very heavy and for a long time during the spring and early part of the summer they will not lay so well when winter comes. Some hens will not lay well any season. It may be in the breed and it may be in the care.

It also occurs that very often just when hens are about to begin laying again in the fall of the year they molt and stay in molt so long that cold weather has set in and then they refuse to lay until some time in February when they are liable to lay out a clutch and become broody. Occasionally a prolific hen will lay through molting which is unnatural and very uncommon.

Sometimes pullets are hatched so late that they do not begin laying in the autumn,

in which case there will be but few eggs in the winter. When pullets molt early, or do not molt at all, and begin laying in October they usually keep it up all winter under proper care.

Hens that are permitted to become too fat will not lay. Hens afflicted with roup or roup tendencies will not lay. Any hen that is out of condition will not lay.

The conditions favorable to egg production are: Good stock, comfortable quarters, proper food, sufficient exercise, reasonable cleanliness and favorable weather.

Our correspondent's hens may have been molting during the months of October and November when no eggs were obtained in which case there naturally would be none. After molting they were fed well and probably given little exercise and they laid on fat instead of producing eggs. This indicates a poor egg-producing strain. Any egg food that puts debilitated hens in condition is all right.—Wisconsin Farmer.

Hens in Plum Orchard

It is often a success and a failure join hands and are close neighbors, but such a case with us one instance last season, says a well known fruit grower. We are engaged in small fruit growing to a limited extent; among other fruits we have a plum orchard of about 125 trees perhaps more, including the Abundance or Sweet Boston variety. Being aware of the fact that hens are great scavengers we concluded to utilize a portion of the plum orchard as a run for one of our flock of hens. We built a poultry house in one corner of the plum orchard and fenced off a yard which took in a block of the Abundance trees, but not the entire block of that variety. Ordinarily these trees are profuse bearers, as all who have ever grown them can testify. All of the trees bloomed heavily and set plenty of plums and we thought while working the orchard that we were going to have a fine crop of fruit from those trees, but just here success and failure joined hands and the trees that were enclosed

in the hen yard gave us a fine crop of fruit probably as fine as any we ever raised while the trees outside of the yard did not average two quarts to the tree, yet they were in equally good ground and as well if not better cultivated than those in the yard. This year we are arranging to take another block of the plum orchard and increase the number of hens in the orchard, which has proved one of the best paying investments we have had the past winter, not only the hens we have had in the orchard, but the different flocks that our women folks have had outside of the plum orchard. The women of our farm have demonstrated that they can make money growing (?) eggs for market.—Maine Farmer.

Food Elements.

Foods that contain albumen, such as oats wheat and lean meat scraps, are required for the production of the white of the egg.

Lime in some form must be given to insure proper shell formation and a sufficient amount of carbonaceous food, such as corn, fat meat etc. to sustain the vigor of the fowl and add elements necessary to the formation of the yolk of the egg. Alfalfa which is rich in egg producing food, may be advantageously fed by chopping it fine, scalding and mixing it with bran. Some green vegetable food is good essential, hence the advantage of plenty of cabbage, turnips and potatoes. Breeds inclined to fatten readily ought to be fed sparingly of carbonaceous food, therefore caution is repeatedly given against an excess of corn. Best results are gained from oats when ground. Wheat is one of the very best grain for laying hens.

Anything in which water can be kept clean will answer as a drinking vessel. An earthen dish is easier cleansed. It is necessary to attend to it regularly. It is impossible to keep water clean from one day to another. The drinking vessel should be washed out thoroughly each morning, and refilled with clean, fresh water.

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St. Louis, March 28, 1904.

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at the head of the procession in poultry foods.

We beg to advise you that a number of birds will be installed in the Model Farm at the World's Fair Grounds by April 10th, and we request that deliver the first shipment of assorted foods before that date.

Wishing you a most prosperous season, we remain,

Yours very truly,
MODEL POULTRY FARM CO.,
By R. M. Curtis, Sec'y.

HEBRON ILL. May 21.

EDITOR CHICAGO DAIRY PRODUCE:

The attention of the creamerymen and buttermakers of Illinois is called to the fact that the time is near at hand for the opening of the great educational contest and exhibit of butter and cheese to be installed in the agricultural building of the world's fair at St. Louis.

The display of butter and cheese will be exhibited in glass refrigerated cases. Bust statues of Grant and Lincoln will be special features of the Illinois exhibit. The dairy committee desire the hearty co-operative and assistance of every creamery man in order that Illinois may make the showing possible, and Illinois butter-makers are called upon to use their best knowledge and skill in preparing butter for the contest.

The exhibit of butter will be assembled in Chicago and will be shipped from that point to St. Louis in a special refrigerated car.

The rules of entry require that exhibits the creamery class shall consist of not less than thirty pounds. These exhibits should reach Chicago June 2, and we request that they be enclosed in a sixty pound tube or wrapped in paper covered with burlap. Entries must be made at least five prior to shipment.

It is desired that the commercial side of the industry also be represented and manufactured and dealers who desire to furnish packages of special brands of butter prints, condensed or bottled milk, evaporated milk or cream, milk sugar, caseine or other milk products are requested to correspond with the superintendent of the Illinois dairy exhibits who will, if sufficient space is available, call upon you for the quantity of product desired.

Address all communication to Geo. A. Hunt, superintendent Illinois dairy exhibits Hebron, Ill. until May 28. After that date to Geo. A. Hunt, Superintendent Illinois Dairy Exhibits, World's Fair, St. Louis.

Geo. A. Hunt.

POULTRY AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

The committee of the American Poultry Association appointed to look after the receiving, cooping, feed, exhibition and return of the ten-thousand birds expected at the Universal Exposition at St. Louis next fall report a satisfactory progress. The gentlemen composing the Committee are noted for their patriotic devotion to the best interests of the poultry industry and can be

depended upon to wisely and economically discharge the duties assigned them by the American Poultry Association.

The following copy of a recent letter sent by the Committee to the Secretary of the Live Stock Department of the the Universal Exposition will be read with interest by prospective exhibitors of poultry at the World's Fair.

ST. LOUIS, MO., May 15, 1904.

Col. Charles F. Mills,
Secretary Live Stock Dept.

St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Sir:

I have the honor to report that the Committee appointed by the American Poultry Association to assist the Universal Exposition of 1904 in receiving, cooping, exhibiting and returning the Poultry, Pigeons and Pet Stock have been actively at work perfecting arrangements for the duties assigned them and can report very satisfactory progress.

The prospects are encouraging for the early completion of very advantageous arrangements with Spratt's Patent of New York for the cooping of the World's Fair exhibits of Poultry, Pigeons and Pet Stock. The Committee have received such unanimous assurance of hearty and cordial support from prospective exhibitors as to leave no room for doubt as to the great extent and high character of the Show of Poultry, Pigeons and Pet Stock that may be expected at the World's Fair.

If every cage and coop contracted for is taken up by exhibitors it is likely that when all expenses are paid and a reasonable allowance made to the Committee for their services a surplus will remain, and this Committee hereby recommend that such surplus be distributed pro rata as additional premium money for Poultry, Pigeons and Pet Stock.

Our committee further suggest that this announcement be published in the final Prize List of the Live Stock Department.

Very respectfully,

HENRY STEINMESCH, Chairman.

T. F. MCGREW.

U. R. FISHEL.

Cedar boughs are said to be good things in a poultry house, and fine twigs of cedar mixed with material of which the setting nests are made, it is claimed, are very useful in keeping the nests free from mites and lice.

Don't neglect the dust bath even in the spring time. In the summer time when everything is dry the fowls will find a dust bath for themselves, but in spring time when showers are frequent, dust out doors may be scarce. Have some corner in the hen house where dust may always be found, and see to it that it is frequently renewed. If a little lime (not too much) or ashes, wood or coal, be added to the dust bath, it will be all the better.

Sending Poultry to Market.

Those who have market poultry to sell and who must depend upon shipping to market, should always be careful in the selection of the commission merchant or buyer to whom they ship. They should be equally careful in packing for shipment. When sending live poultry to market, have your coops as clean and presentable as possible. It is very easy to remove all the accumulation of dirt and scatter some dry sand or earth all over the bottom of the coops. In packing your poultry, try and have all of one size or kind in a coop. In other words, sort your poultry for shipment to market as you would your eggs. The shipping of live poultry is not so general as in former years, there being at the present time in almost every locality those who purchase and kill for market.

But in shipping dressed poultry the most care and attention should be paid. Whether packed in boxes or barrels, always have a nice, clean, fresh-looking package. If paper is used in the packing, use nice, clean, fresh paper and pack the poultry in an attractive, presentable manner. In this way the package goes into market in a clean, attractive way and when opened the contents are pleasing, and these conditions add considerably to the selling price.

Much too often have we seen an old, soiled, dirty barrel come into the commission house, and when opened, find therein poultry of sizes, kinds and quality, at times old brown paper being used, even the printed that has come from the grocery or dry goods stores being made use of to pack up, and in addition to this the heads, legs and bodies wedged and pushed into every kind of shape and form, no regularity or care being used in packing. No purchaser would be pleased to have the dirty package come into his place. No one would select poultry packed in this way if they pay a fair price for same. The commission merchant is compelled to repack the whole thing, at a considerable cost to himself, or to sell the consignment for what he can get for it, which is usually done, and, when the return comes to the shipper, disappointment and anger are usually the result.

The commission merchant makes the largest profit from the best quality the best packed shipments. Many shippers have such a reputation that their private mark on the outside of the package is all that is necessary for the buyer to see, while others have a reputation so far from this that even the commission man himself will not risk his own reputation, but will unpack the entire box and go through it before he will recommend the goods to a customer.

Unfortunately, this is true in the shipping not only of poultry but eggs as well. No shipper of poultry or eggs should ever think for a moment that he can pack poor quality and send all to market and obtain the best market prices. None are so shrewd and careful as are the retail men and poultry

dealers of the city market. They are always ready and willing to pay the best prices for the very best qualities, and they are equally as ready and willing to run down and abuse poor quality that is poor quality that is poorly packed and sent to market.

To the shipping of all kinds of products to the commission merchant too much care cannot be given. The value of a case of eggs may go down three or four cents per dozen simply from the presence of one bad egg upon the top row. If the box of poultry is opened by mistake at the under side and some inferior or poor quality stock found there, the poor quality settles the price for the whole package. It would be very easy, indeed for those who ship to market to have every thing nice and in the very best condition if they only would. But, unfortunately for the shipper, carelessness and bad judgement often deprives them of much of the profit that they might have if they would simply be very careful in doing their work, both in selection and preparing for shipment.

Clover Hay For Hens.

Few poultry raisers realize to what extent fowls are herbivorous. When fed strongly on a grain ration they they will often leave their morning allowance and go to fields, where they may be seen busily pulling grass. A wheat or grass field which adjoins the farm buildings is apt to be eaten bare where chickens run. This is bad for the grain, but excellent for the the poultry, and suggests an idea to the farmer who is after winter eggs. This is to plant a piece of rye near the henhouse, and early enough so that it gets a good top before cold weather. During the late fall and on pleasant days in winter the hens can run on it and be wonderfully benefited in health and in egg production.

Every farmer should save some of his clover for the poultry. It may be cut fine and mixed with the feed, boiling water being added in mixing. It gives bulk and is a valuable source of proteine. To the peck of dry clover add with one quart of the following: Cornmeal, five quarts of wheat bran, five quarts; animal meal, one quart. This may be fed every other day as much as they will eat up clean. An excellent way to prepare the clover is to run it through the thrashing machine, which makes the leaves and blossoms fine and reject the coarser stems. One hundred grains of lime are required in forming the egg shell, etc., and as 1,000 pounds of wheat or corn contain less than one pound of lime, the hen is starving for lime. Clover contains twenty times as much lime as grains; hence its usefulness in an egg ration. Its great advantage lies in the fact that the lime it contains has all been prepared for assimilation through its combination with the vegetable acids. One hundred pounds of clover digested produces three pounds of soluble lime

prepared by nature for immediate use.

Of the phosphates, clover contains seven times as much as corn; of sulphur, ten times as much. As a source of proteine, clover is the cheapest for the farmer. If he goes to buy it in the shape of middlings or brewers' grains it takes a lot of cash, and the hens must have proteine from some source. As a rule, the farmer raises more corn than any other feed, but corn is too fattening to be used very largely in an egg ration. Clover balances it up, and at the same time makes a more healthy diet.

Nests should not be placed high. It should not be so high from the edge of the nest to the bottom that a hen must jump down onto eggs, since this would be productive of broken eggs.

We believe in pure bred poultry, first, last and all the time, but we also believe that a well cared for a flock of mongrels will do better than a neglected flock of the best breed on earth.

Keeping cocks with hens that are not used for breeding is a waste of feed, Infertile eggs keep longer than fertile ones, and hens lay better if there are no cocks running with them to worry them.

Sweet on Piles, 25 tablets, 25 cents. Sterling Medicine Co., Trenton, N. J.

NEW INVENTIONS.

Reported especially for this paper by H. B. Wilson & Co., Patent Attorneys, 8th and F Sts. N. W. Washington, D. C.

A Complete Copy of any of these patents will be forwarded to any person by Messrs. Wilson & Co., on receipt of ten cents. Persons ordering Copies must give number of patent.

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752765 Poultry House. Joseph J. Edgerton, Berwyn, Ill.

753228 Chicken Coop. Hall R. Bridges, Morgantown, N. C.

754330 Brooder. Martin A. Mills, Exira, Iowa.

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756907 Seeder for Poultry Yards, Wm. H. Strathman, Chicago, Ill.

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When we have placed with our customers the amount of treasury stock of any company necessary for its development, our labors and responsibilities have but just begun. We must stay with the property and our customers' financial interests therein; must see that it is intelligently, economically and honestly operated; and, having a conditional interest in the profits of the property, secondary to the interests of our customers, if we followed any other policy than that of keeping strict supervision of its management, even although it might take a much longer time than was anticipated to demonstrate the actual value of the property and place it upon an independent dividend-earning basis, we would most assuredly be negligent not only of our customers' interest, but of our own as well.

The following remark recently made regarding our firm by one of the well-known financiers of New York was both flattering and appreciated, for it expressed what we are striving for:

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Reducing the Size Combs.

The value which is given to combs in scoring fowls by the standard gives a special importance to this section ought to receive more attention than it does from the average breeder.

The importance of good comb from a fancy point of view is apparent when one reflects that this appendage gives a bird a good or ill appearance. The tendency in this country at the present time in the case of almost all breeds, is toward smaller combs, whether they be single, pea, or the rose variety. The appendages in the Leghorn breed have been materially decreased in size, but they can stand still farther deminuation. The wretched combs of the Red Caps are also being reduced in size by American breeders, but there is, and will be for a long time a great chance for reform here.

The old beefy Hamburg comb has left an unfortunate tendency, as to size in the combs of the Wyandotte fowls, where a small neat comb bring agréat increase of attractiveness. A rose comb is of a nature to make large size especially unfortunate, since it greatly magnifies imperfection.

I have before referred to this matter. But it is of sufficient importance to emphasize by repetition, that breeders often fail to make progress in improving the combs of the chicks they raise, because they do not pay sufficient attention to the females. If the male has a good, article of this sort, so far good, but this will not guarantee good combs in the progress.

A Legorn male with a comb of five points

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EGGS FOR HATCHING FROM ALL kinds of poultry. Breeder of all kinds of pets, Garden and flower seeds for sale. Col. Joseph Leffel, Springfield, O. 2-4

Poultry Breeders send 50c for a 20-paged monthly devoted to poultry, etc. Sample 3 cents "Michigan Poultry Breeder," Battle Creek, Mich. Or send 55 cents and receive "Michigan Poultry Breeder," and THE AMERICAN FANCIER & BREEDER both 1 year.

mated to a female whose comb rolls perfectly yet has six or seven points, is a good mating that may throw male chicks with five point combs, but the chances are against it.

We need good combs in the females as well as in males, we need to keep these combs well reduced in size if we would secure the most attractive birds, for large combs are more subject to imperfections than those which have been reduced to their proper proportions and both injure the appearance of fowls and tend to decrease their practical worth.

Grass Runs For Small Chicks.

One of the dangers to small chicks is letting them run in the grass in the early morning when the dew is heavy. This danger is, of course, greater in the early spring than later when the weather gets warmer.

If the chicks are being raised on the colony plan so that a section of range is given to each colony, and this the best way to handle them, the grass should be cut several times during the month to keep it short enough so that the chicks may run in it without getting too damp. If a lawn mower is used the blades should be set high so that the blades of green will be at least an inch high, after the cutting is done.

This will give the chicks plenty of green food and enable them to get at the insects better and reduce the danger of catching roup, which would be the case if they ran in deep grass. This work is not a great deal of trouble to take when one realizes that it may mean the saving of a number of chicks.

Refuse Meat.

Meat will be found equal to any food for inducing hens to lay, but meat should not to excess. The refuse from factories known as chandlers' scraps, comes in pressed cakes. It is excellent when fed moderately—about a pound a day to twenty hens. If fed in larger amount, to the exclusion of other food it will cause the hens to become overfat, as it contains quite an amount of carbonaceous material that escapes the heavy pressure required to extract the grease. It should be used only as an assistant with the regular supply of grain.

Fresh Water for Pigeons.

It is necessary that the water be kept fresh and pure and the pan cleaned at least once a day. If you use a tub or pan about two feet in diameter, five inches deep, fill it every morning with fresh water before feeding. Then, when they have had their morning meal, they will at once take a drink. Later on when the sun gets higher every pigeon will have his bath, after which the water should be emptied and fresh put in.

By following his rule you will keep your birds in a clean, healthful condition and avoid much sickness in the loft, especially that dreaded disease cranker, which is

caused from impure water, more than anything else.

Give the setting hens an occasional dusting of insect powder. The setting hens will dust themselves almost every time they come off the nest if a good dusting place is handy. A little insect powder sprinkled in this dusting place is just about the proper thing. In the absence of these better arrangements, sprinkle insect powder in the setting nests.

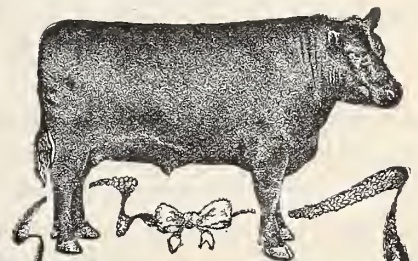
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The Chicago Security and Trust Co., guarantees the statements contained in the Company's Prospectus, and they advise the purchase of this stock as a safe investment.

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You can discover a mine for 1 cent by dropping me a postal asking for the company's Prospectus.

W. S. DORLAND, Investment Securities,
Stock Exchange Building. CHICAGO, ILL.

Making Chickens Pay.

So many things depend on the business that it is next to impossible to tell any person or number of persons how the poultry business can be made to pay. Two persons will start in the business on an equal footing with about the same conditions; one may pay and the other will fail. Both will work evenly well, but one will plan better than the other.

"Can I make the chicken business pay," writes a subscriber from Beloit, Kan. "a ten acre lot with a capital of \$500? What proportion would be best to invest in houses and and how many chickens should one start with? I can devote all my time to them."

All will depend on the individual, as we

have intimated. A great deal will depend on the environment, market advantages and the ability of the person to do advertising.

The poultry business can be said to have a number of sub-divisions: That of producing eggs, producing broilers, producing poultry for general market, capons for the market and breeders for the pure-bred trade.

The egg business may again be sub-divided into that of producing eggs for general trade, for special customers, for packing and hatching purposes.

Each of these branches of the trade will require special knowledge of the business.

It is hardly with our province to state who engage in a certain part of the business how much should be invested and to even

conjecture what the profits would be.

Were we to start in business, we would first note the market advantages and determine what part of the business we would undertake and then would engage in it lightly at first, letting the business grow with experience. Should losses come they will not be so crippling as when a great deal should be invested. Should success crown our efforts we would branch out in business as our experience and ability would dictate.

Some localities will admit of special egg customers. In other localities broilers are in demand. Roasters are always in demand in some markets. Breeding pure-bred fowls for that trade means a great many things, for there are so many different phrases of that business. The pure-bred trade is divided into classes, ordinary or utility breeders and fanciers. To cater to either or both will require advertizing.

Begin with a few fowls, comfortably located in houses that will be comfortable the whole year round. That means that they should be light, warm in winter and in cool summer. It means that they shall be kept clean and constructed so as to give comfort to the flock rather than the owner.

Would select the breed for what we wished to engage in and stuck to that breed.

Let no person get an idea that a fortune can be made easily and suddenly in the poultry business, for such is not the case. A person suited to the business can make a good thing out it.—Wisconsin Farmer.

CLEAN UP.

Keep the poultry house clean now; the entire season's success may depend upon it. Clean out the droppings, whitewash the walls and perches, and sprinkle lime over the floor. This should be done several times during the summer, and as the sultry nights come look well to the ventilation.

Some of my friends, successful poultry raisers, too, close the poultry house during the hot summer months, and make the fowls roost in the open. I do not think this a good plan, but it is better than to confine the fowls in a stuffy room alive with mites. Kill the mites, clean the house, give good ventilation, and permit the fowls to live at home in comfort and health, both winter and summer. This is the better plan.

Recipe For Whitewash

Considerable whit-washing is being done in and about the poultry houses at this season of the year. We herewith give a good recipe for whitewash that may be used outside or inside. It is made as follows:

Slake one bushel of good stone lime in boiling water, water keeping it covered while slaking; strain and add one half peck of salt dissolved in warm water, three pounds of ground rice boiled to a thin paste, one-half pound powdered Spanish whiting and one pound clear glue dissolved in warm water. Mix this thoroughly with the slaked lime and let stand several days. Apply as hot as possible with a clean brush.

G. S. BANTAMS.



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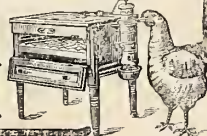
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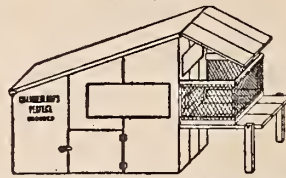
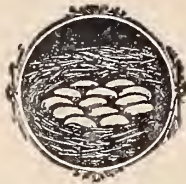
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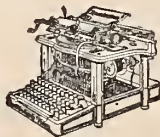
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