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POULTRY NOTES

ITEMS THAT WILL INTEREST OUR READERS FROM A GREAT MANY SOURCES

Did you eat three eggs last week? If you didn't, you failed to eat your fair share. If you ate more, then you consumed more than your fair share. Every man, woman and child, according to present consumption statistics, is entitled to five eggs a week. Assuming that two of these are used for baking purposes, only three remain to be eaten separately. If everyone ate a fair share there wouldn't be enough eggs to go around. Some of us would have to do without them, if everybody ate but two eggs a week. It is surprising that eggs are not used to play a larger part in the human diet. Consider their nutritive value and the variety of appetizing ways in which they may be prepared. Like meat, they are high in protein and like milk they contain most of the essentials for growth and repair of body tissues.

They are frequently prescribed for children because of the vitamin content which they contain. Egg yolks are so valuable as a source of iron that they are often included in diets for that special reason.

The law of supply and demand is the greatest factor in the price of any commodity, and table poultry and eggs are no exception to this rule. The problem of feeding a market just what it demands is the only safe way of preventing a break in prices to a point where the product would sell for less than the cost of production, the principle on which cooperative marketing is based. To regulate the price to a point of fair profit the poultryman has done much by the use of artifical light to shift production, especially in pullets, from spring to late fall and early winter.

Among the popular Mediterranean races of poultry the Minorca is one of the greatest breeds domesticated by man. To fanciers, its great size and majestic appearance appeals most strongly; to utility poultry keepers, its superior laying properties are in valuable practical qualities. In other words, the Minorca is a standardbred fowl in which exhibition and utility qualities are combined in a rare degree. Of Spanish origin, the breed takes its name from the Island of Minorca off the coast of Spain. But, the ancient and honorable Spanish Minorca is not the same bird that has created such a stir in the English and American poultry world of the present time. The "fine Italian hand" of the English and Scottish fanciers took hold of the Minorca many years ago, and from a comparatively small fowl developed it into the large and handsome feathered creatiorn of to-day the Modern Single Comb Black Minorca.

The five inherited characteristics affecting the annual egg record are: sexual maturity, intensity, winter pause, broodiness and persistency.

The very highest producing hen will begin to lay at an early age, will lay around 25 eggs per month, will have no cessation of production or pause during the winter season, will be non-broody, and will be a persistent layer in the fall at the end of her pullet year. Very few birds carry all these desirable characteristics and for this reason the number of 300 egg hens is very limited. A study of any high-producing flock will reveal the that the breeder has successfully combined some of these desirable traits and the whole problem of breeding for increased egg yield resolves itself into the combining of these five traits in a pure or true breeding form.

Increasing cost of feed, labor, buildings, and equipment, together with growing competition from the West make efficient egg production of more vital concern poultrymen each year. Heavy egg production is so inseparably linked with efficient and economical production as to concern every breeder. Under our conditions the ordinary hen does not fill the bill. Only birds bred to lay and fed to lay can meet the requirement. Such surroundings have created a large group of pedigree breeders where production standards are of the highest order and where those characteristics which give the bird the ability for heavy laying are definitely sought for in the breeding flock.

A man must sell his business to himself first. This is a mighty familiar saying among selling men. The fellow who isn't sure that he has about the very best stuff in the world to sell better get another job, or else pep himself up on his own job. He can do this latter thing if he goes at it rightly. Every one of the numerous popular breeds of fowls bred here in America has a fortune in it of goodly proportions for the man who knows how to get it out. Look at the men who have made more than good money year after year for a quarter of a century with Leghorns, or Wyandottes, or Plymouth Rocks, or Rhode Island Reds, or with any one of the great breeds that are now so numerously advertised in this and other papers. You, too, can do it, if you go at it and keep at it in right form.

—Mrs. Mary C. Cain, Church Hill was hostess Saturday afternoon for the Old Kent Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution.

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Many Pangs That Pass for Pheuma-....tism Are Really Due to Weak .... Kidneys

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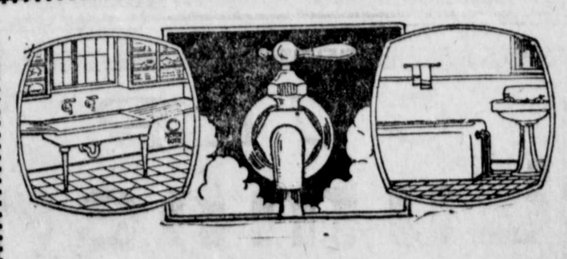
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