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POULTRY NOTES

BOTH HATCHERIES IN OPERATION—OTHER NOTES THAT WILL HELP OUR POULTRY MEN SOLVE THEIR PROBLEMS

BY POLK T. BRAMBLE
(Proprietor Bramble Poultry Farm)

Both the Bramble Poultry Farm and the Truslow Poultry Farm are in operation, the later having been hatching for several months. Eggs are scarce locelly, and both hatcheries are compelled to get the largest part of their eggs from other sources, These hatcheries will be in operation until fall.

The poultry meeting and playlet, put on by the Purina Company, was a big success in every way. Much interest was manifested by local poultrymen. If they will apply the methods which are being put out by feed dealers and other successful poultrymen to their own flocks, they will be greatly benefited. There is a great future for the farmer-poultrymen, providing they will take advantage of their opportunity.

Pullets kept for laying purposes should all be laying early in December. Pullets hatched as late as May in the heavier breeds should be laying now, and Leghorns hatched even the last of May will generally be laying by the first ten days of December. This is, of course, presuming that they have been handled carefully during the growing period and have been developed properly.

If they seem to be underdeveloped and it looks as if it will be midwinter before they will round into laying form, the most economical plan would be to cull the flock severely and get the slow growers to market without delay. This is the last cull and all who are found likely to be non-producers should be weeded out at once. Such cull are likely to prove a source of loss in more directions than one. They are generally th birds in which epidemics get a start.

The pullets that are well developed and practically matured must now be given the best of care in order to bring on the eggs so much desired. It is always best to have pullets of the same ages in flocks by themselves. Where layers of different ages are kept together, the teudency is for the older fowls to dominate the situation and worry the younger pullets. Then birds of different ages require different handling somewhat.

If one is going after winter market eggs, a house should be provided with sufficient room so the pullets can be confined until the weather is settled in the spring. About three to four square feet of floor space per bird is required for best results. Then keep plenty of good litter on the floor to make them exercise for all the grain they eat. Fowls with this amount of floor space and plenty of clean litter on the floor confined all the time will lay more eggs than fowls kept under any other plan, fed the same rations. If this is doubted, one can divide the flock, keeping one one way and one the other way.

A few years ago a party in Minnesota sued his neighbor for allowing his chickens to run at large and scratch up his garden. The man who owned the chickens won, because the judge ruled it was up to the man who owned the garden to protect it by having a fence around it. That is a pretty broad view, but it shows that the chickens have some rights.

It is almost dangerous to assert that any hatchery is the "largest in the world," because hatchery capacities are increasing by leaps and bounds, and what is true one day be wrong the next.

We believe, however, at the present time the Must Hatch Incubator Company of Petaluma, California, is the largest. It has a capacity of 1,800,000 eggs in one setting. Its total estimated output for 1927 is eight million chicks. The owner of the hatchery, Mr. Leo A. Burke, has a fortune of half a million dollars invested in this hatchery. Certainly that is concerte evidence of an infinite faith in the industry; faith in organization; faith in the product; and, of equal significance, faith and confidence in the thousands of men and women who are otherwise connected with various branches ol the poultiy industry.

The fowl that is seriously malformed in its frame structure is of little use either in the show pen or that occupied by meat or egg-producing stock. Such a fowl will be eyed with suspicion by the knowing poultryman who is out to buy stock, and whose aim is ever in the direction of stamina in his home flocks. Various are the sources of bone defectiveness in domesticated fowls, the chief sources being faulty incubation of the eggs from which such fowls resulted, accidents met with during the rearing season, an unbalanced dietry, the too early use of perches, and hereditary predisposition. Chicks that leave the shell in a deformed condition are either humanely killed off on sight or "give up the ghost" at an early age, so that they may be dispensed with in this article, as may also the chicks or older birds whose deformities result from accidents, the latter being so rare as to be almost unworthy of consideration.

An effective means of fostering the production of more and better quality poultry on farms has been followed by the bankers of a number of counties for several years. The banker agrees to promote a certain breed and variety of poultry in his community and buys a large number of hatching eggs of that breed, offering to give one or two settings to any farmer on condition that he will return in the fall two pullets for each setting taken. The farmer makes no investment beyond his time and the feed necessary for rearing the chicks.

In the fall the pullets are brought to the county seat and sold at auction. The bankers receive the income from the sale, realizing in some cases more than six per cent. on their investment. Their purpose, however is not to make money, but to promote community breeding. As a result of this work eighty per cent. of the poultry in some counties is of one breed and variety. Such centering of effort on one breed not only stimulates interest in standard bred poultry, but also provides an excellent foundation for organized marketing.

It would be a mistake to believe that any method you may employ with poultry needs to have public approval to be satisfactory. Successful achievement of any object is often attained by going absolutely counter to public sentiment. In this pragmatic age we approve as "worth while" any device, machine, or method which "works." To make any method work with poultry there is needed the human element which is back of the purpose. But purpose is the main thing, in the long run, with poultry. The man who wishes numbers may get numbers and accomplish his ends. The man who wishes fine birds, measured by the standard of perfection may get the thing he wants by a dozen different means, and altogether apart from "what people think." But that is not the point of this article.

The independence of the individual is a part of American freedom and yet a person is curbed on every side in his freedom of speech, personal habits, pursuit of pleasure, in fact his every investment of time, labor and means by the rules and regulations laid down by custom, experience and common laws—civic social, moral, and spiritual. You can't over-reach in your personal desire without being made mindful of certain violation of a natural order of events. It is this of which I would speak as it applies to the breeding of poultry.

Generation after generation, if not century after century, of painstaking poultry breeding have given us the different breeds of poultry. The different breeds satisfy a wide variety of tastes. The poultry breeds present many different types, sizes colors and combinations of color. There are the slow moving and the sprightly kinds of poultry. There are the small and the large. Surely many different kinds of people, as well as many varieties of taste, have contributed to the present day breeds of poultry. We have to accept them as they are, as it would take years to develop another breed, should we wish something different from what can be found among the present-day varieties. Too, we are forced to use the same means of reproduction. These have to do with arbitrary laws of nature. We have the same colors or combinations to work with, the same physical means to maintain bodily type and carriage. The ruinous, disqualifying results which come unaccounted for have also to be eliminated if we are to keep the breeds pure and up to their perfection already attained. The purity of the breds depends on the exactness with which we follow the already settled methods of breeding.

CHURCH NOTES

Salem M. E. Church, Fairlee

S. L. Hanby, pastor. Sunday School at 10 a. m., Walter Barnes, Supt.; preaching at 11 a. m., by the pastor; Epworth League at 7.30, topic, "Can Your Town Be A Bethlehem," followed by evangelistic services.

Union M. E. Church, Worton

Sunday School at 2 p. m., B. F. Rash, Supt; preaching by the pastor at 3 p. m.

The By-Kota Club will meet Monday evening, December 19, at the home of Mrs. George Baldwin to be entertained by Mrs. Baldwin and Mrs. Payne. At this meeting Rev. Long and our little boy, Chester Bunter, will be present. Every one is urged to be present and bring a little gift for Chester as we are going to give him a Xmas shower.

Christ M. P. Church, Chestertown

N. O. Gibson, minister. Sunday, December 18. Men's Bible Class at 10 a. m., Dr. E. L. Fox, of Washington College will address the class. Divine worship and sermon 11 a. m.; Sunday School at 2.30 p. m.; Christian Endeavor at 6.45 p. m.; gospel song service and sermon at 7.30 p. m. Wednesday Prayer and Bible study at 7.30 p. m., Friday Junior and Intermediate C. E. at 6.30 p. m. Teacher Training Class at 7.30 p. m. Welcome.

Chestertown M. E. Church

The best Teacher Training School that has ever been held here closed last Tuesday evening with the Administration of the Sacrament of the Lords Supper. The defects in the Altar rail of the auditorium have been remedied this week. Everything is now in readiness for all the Xmas Exercises.

The program for tomorrow will be a Xmas preparatory program. 10.00 a. m., Sunday School session when the Xmas treat and exercises will be announced. 11 a. m., sermon topic will be "Winning the World to Christ." 7 p. m., Epworth League in charge of Mrs. Walter Bramble, topic, "Making Chestertown a Bethlehem." 7.30 "The Business of Life" will be the theme of the pastors sermon.

St. James and Lynch M. P. Churches

L. Colvin Randall, Minister. You are cordially invited to the services of these two churches this coming Sabbath. As usual a welcome will be extended such as will make you wish to come again. This condition holds good in each of the following services,

St. James. Sunday Sabbath School at 10.00 a. m., George A. Carroll, Supt., Stanley Sutton, Ass't. Hour of Worship and Sermon, at 11.00 a. m. Christian Endeavor at 7.00 p. m., led by Franklin Moffett, and Theodore Ford. Wednesday-Prayer Service at 7.00 p. m. Choir Rehearsal at 8.00 p. m.

Lynch. Sunday Sabbath School at 2.00 p. m., Mrs. Kate Collins, Supt. Hour of Worship and Sermon at 3.00 p. m. Christian Endeavor at 7.30 p. m.

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Stewart-Warner Radio Wins Two Grand Prizes in Italian Contests

In Italy, land of Marconi, inventor of radio's predecessor, the wireless telegraph, an American built receiver, has twice carried off the honors in competition with every leading European and American brand. The Grand Prize at both the Gonzaga and Padova Fairs was awarded to a well-known radio, built in the United States, in a contest judged on the basis of performance and beauty.

An indication of the extreme values in radio, available to American buyers, is the fact that this receiver, manufactured by the Stewart-Warner Speedometer Corporation, of Chicago, sells in the United States for a nominal price, while many of the competitive European makes entered in the contests sell for extremely high prices.

Unquestionably the American radio fan is fortunate. In America, the land of free speech and free radio programs, a tax on radio sets is unknown. But in many countries across the Atlantic, radio listeners must pay an annual fee to their governments for the support of broadcasting.

In addition, the United States has not only outdistanced European nations with an overwhelming number of excellent broadcasting stations—but in the production of finer receiving equipment, selling at prices that, to our Continental cousins, would seem ridiculously low.

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