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Bring us your eggs and chickens.

T. H. M. BRAMBLE
FAIRLEE

POULTRY NOTES

TEMS THAT WILL HELP OUR POULTRYMEN WITH THE CARE AND UPKEEP OF THEIR FLOCKS

BY POLK T. BRAMBLE
(Proprietor Bramble Poultry Farm)

Our poultrymen should not be lax in their work with their poultry at this time. Give the growing pullets all the feed they will consume, and you will have eggs earlier, because the pullets will put on flesh quicker and will be laying long before they would otherwise do. It never pays to give insufficient food. Then give your growing stock, and hens, plenty of feed also, because they will come through the molt in better condition.

The Truslow Poultry Farm has quite a number of orders for fall chicks, which they are filling in good fashion. The fall chick business is becoming more and more successful.

Kent people are realzing, more and more, the well-known fact that there is money in poultry, in this section, where markets are close. During a recent trip to southern states we noted the great dearth of poultry of all kinds. This is due chiefly to the fact that the markets are far removed, and the people have not yet become educated to the fact that, even in out-of-the-way places, poultry can be raised with profit and shipped into the far-away markets.

Uncle Sam has recently been considering making payment for day-old chicks shipped by mail that die in transit and in looking for information on which rates for such insurance might be based sent questionnaires to 3,822 persons known to be engaged in running incubators commercially. Replies were received from 1,085, but 41 of them did not give any information. There were only 874 actual shippers who answered the question, many hatcheries doing only a local business and making no shipments.

The replies, however, gave information that will be a surprise to many who do not know the extent of the day-old chick business. The number of shipments made from January 1 to June 30, the usual season for such shipments, totaled 412,679. As the average shipment contained 235 future broilers or layers the total number of chicks shipped by mail was 97,137,378, of which 83,643,733 were shipped by ordinary mail, 2,189,513 went by insured mail and 11,304,132 carried C. O. D. tags.

These same incubators during the same time sent 58,915 shipments of day-old chicks by express, making a total of 24,411,198, an average of 415 chicks to the shipment. It will be noted that one-fourth as many chicks were sent by express as were mailed, which shows that the parcel post does not in all cases meet the competition of the express company.

Most of the shippers said that if the government adopted a system by which shippers will be reimbursed for chickens that die in transit they would increase their mail shipments materially, though 133 said the change would make no difference in their system of shipment.

Then the naive gentleman who prepared the questionaire asked this pertinent question:

If the post office department were to pay indemnity on account of the death of day-old chicks would you be as particular to see that the day-old chicks mailed by you were as healthy and likely to withstand transportation to the extent that you do now when the department does not pay indemnity on account of the death of day-old chicks?

In reply to this query, 775 said "Yes" and 99 honest ones replied "No." When asked if they would be willing to be reimbursed on the basis of the actual cost of the chicks which would mean a loss of the possible profits, 645 shippers answered in the affirmative and 229 said they would want full payment.

Apparently the questionaire did not cover the question of the number of day-old chicks that die in shipment. It would seem that this information would be necessary before rates for insurance could be established, but either the post office folks care nothing about it or they did not make the information public.

Colonial Beauty Lasting

Why is the simple Colonial style of the early American period one of inimitable dignity and loveliness?

Why does the old German castle, the French chalet, the Italian villa or the quaint English cottage charm us, even though built a century or more ago?

Their builders did not set out to duplicate foreign individualities. A French baron did not want an English cottage; neither did a German count want a Spanish bungalow. And just so did the American colonists want architectural expressions of their own—those expressions which have since been rendered traditional and perpetuated as classic.—Keith's Magazine.

Still Time to Learn

Every man should ask himself occasionally, "How long has it been since I learned a new thing?"—American Magazine.

In an Efficiency Age

A future national problem is less to give us a chance to work happily than to play happily.—American Magazine.

Crab Apples and Potato Bugs

By EDGAR T. MONFORT

(Copyright.)

THE yearnings always grew worse in spring. The sight of young green leaves on a tree brought a lump in her throat for it reminded her of other trees—a yard full of them and back of the yard an apple orchard that looked so daintily festive at this season. She knew, too, that there would be serenely clucking hens followed by fluffy chicks running through the young weeds in the apple orchard. And in the gray, old weather-beaten barn, back in a corner of the hayloft, a softly purring mother cat with two or three kittens sprawling and tumbling over her.

With a gesture of impatience Maryann Nelson dabbed at the stinging tears that would come into her eyes and spill down her cheeks. As she looked up from her typewriter and out the window across a sooty roof she saw the topmost tip of an elm tree in all the lacy daintiness of its early spring frock. The branches swayed gently to the rhythm of a breeze she could not feel and the pastel green of the leaves seemed to defy the dirt and dust of the big city.

It had been five years since Maryann had seen spring in the country and the worst was, she reflected bitterly, she had not appreciated its beauty before moving to town. Already bored with life, as soon as she had finished high school she had persuaded her parents to let her take a business course and get a position. She was not needed on the farm and there was nothing there that she liked to do at the time.

"When a girl's got her head and heart set on doing something she doesn't get any satisfaction out of life till she's tried it," Mr. Nelson had said wisely enough.

So they let her go without protest or ill feeling and she, determined to conquer the world, had set out in high spirits. Up to that time homesickness was to her merely a word to be found in the dictionary under H, but she soon developed an intimacy with it and its heart-breaking symptoms that put a shadow in the deep blue eyes and made her wish that cities had never been.

Her parents wrote regularly, letters full of happenings on the farm, always with a postscript of apology: "I know this won't interest you, but there isn't much else to write about." And she, to whom every detail was a bitter-sweet stab, would sigh as she read the letters, "It takes contrast to make one appreciate things," she mused, "but so often you can't go back."

"Can you tell we where I can find the A. F. Jones account? It isn't in the file where it belongs."

Maryann was brought out of her reverie by the sound of Bill Scott's voice and a quick flush overspread her face as she dropped her head to hide the tear that she knew was still leafing guilily on her cheek—one round, telltale drop of woe.

"Maryann, you've been crying," he accused in a voice resonant with sympathy. "What's the matter?"

But Maryann shook her head and tried to swallow the lump that was rising in her throat again. How could she tell him why she had been weeping when he did not even know that she had ever lived in the country? Somehow, she had always felt ashamed of it—and hated herself for being ashamed. But there was something so distinctly urban about this well-built, well-dressed coworker of hers; the very way he held his cigarette, the way he walked—everything he did reeked of the city.

"Let's go somewhere tonight," he begged. "I got a letter this morning that has upset me and yet I believe it'll be the best in the end. I want to talk it over with you. I need your help and advice."

Maryann was so weary that evening that she had planned not to primp for Bill, but habit is a strong thing and she found herself getting ready with the same happy anticipation she had always experienced. She enjoyed looking her prettiest for Bill.

"It's just this way," he told her, dropping down on the divan beside her. "I got a letter from mother this morning and she says dad's not very well and she feels I ought to come home. It was hard as the dickens at first, but I've faced the thing out and it doesn't seem to me that I'll ever make a success as a business man. Six years ago I started in as a bookkeeper and—I'm still a bookkeeper. And here, I've got nearly two hundred pounds of brawn and muscle and I use these fingers on my right hand. That's all it takes to be a bookkeeper. No, I see it now. I was never intended for a business man. I'm going out to the farm, Maryann. Dad bought a place three years ago when the doctors ordered him to the country. And the only regret I have—is you. I'd—hoped some day. Oh, well, you know—but you'd never be happy in the country."

It was then that Maryann did a surprising thing. Quite boldly and ecstatically she flung her arms around his neck and crept up close to the two hundred pounds of brawn and muscle.

"Just leave me behind if you dare!" she whispered. "I bet you don't know a crab apple from a potato bug, but I can show you a thing or two."

Didn't Finish

The old wise man who wrote: "Know thyself," should have added: "And know others as you know thyself."—E. W. Howe's Monthly.

Earth's Big Bulge

As the earth's crust is by no means rigid it rises and falls under the gravitational attraction of the moon and sun in a manner similar to that of the ocean's tide. Various difficulties have so far prevented exact measurements.

The pressure exerted on spots of the earth's crust by the rising tide of the ocean is another thing that makes it heave and fall. Atlantic tides have caused an observed earth bulge eight hundred miles away, and it is thought probable that this influence girdles the world.

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