

OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

MAKING POULTRY PROFITABLE

Plan your flock, don't just happen to have it. Decide whether you want to specialize on egg production, on breeding, on producing hatching eggs or on developing exhibition and breeding stock. About 98 per cent of the farm poultry income is derived from the sale of market eggs and market poultry. The general farmer sells little breeding stock or few hatching eggs. Provide a decent poultry house and keep it clean. No hen can give returns if kept in a poorly constructed, filthy hen house. Plan the yards, head off disease by good sanitation. Get rid of lice and mites. They cut the profit and proclaim your carelessness. Cut labor and feed wastes. Have right equipment and plan the work. Have mice- and rat proof storage bins and non-waste feed hoppers. Cull! Cull! Cull! Get rid of the old roosters, weed out the boarder hens, sell or can the cockerels. You can't afford to waste food room and expensive feed on slackers. Grow pullets for your winter layers. Hatch or buy chicks early; don't stunt them in growing. Cull out all weak, slow growers. Fifty per cent of baby chicks die. Breed only from the best. We can't afford to winter low production stock. If you buy baby chicks or mature breeding stock investigate the breeding back of them. Feed for egg production. A hen is just a factory. We can't expect eggs unless we feed all the materials it takes to make eggs. Keep feed costs down. Use reliable brands of commercial poultry feeds. Market only good eggs. Clean and fresh. When competition is keen, the market is sometimes flooded with poor quality eggs, but there never yet has been an overproduction of quality products. The growing tendency to market on a graded basis makes harder sledding for the producer of poor products. Find the best market. Learn how to produce quality products. Then go after the price to which your product entitles you. Study your job. Read poultry articles in farm papers, subscribe to a good poultry journal. Get poultry bulletins from your state college. Visit poultry keepers who are successful with their flocks. Study your hens. They'll give you a lot of information.

THE OLD TIME APPLES

"Why is it that we can not get the old varieties from the nurseries today that we used to have when I was a boy? When I remember the old varieties we had in the old home orchard, such as the old Rustycoat or Russet, the Dominie and the Bellflower, it makes my mouth water, and when I try to get them from the nursery, they tell me they don't grow them. The varieties we have today certainly are not as good as those of my boyhood days." Somewhat in these words, many people in the last 10 years have expressed their ideas of fruit varieties. But are they entirely correct? Is not a great deal of this kind of thinking due to the fact that our first impressions and tastes are the most lasting? As boys, even the old Ben Davis was an apple of the highest quality, especially if procured on the sly from a neighbor's orchard. Any apple, no matter what its quality, was relished when we were boys and all tasted equally good. With the passing of the years, bringing as they do, many changes and a more selective judgment in the matter of our choice of fruit varieties, we find that many of the fruits we eat do not taste to us now as they might if we were boys again. So that, even though the variety we eat today may be far superior in quality to those we ate as a boy, we unconsciously think that the old sorts were by far the best. Of course, many of the varieties that are now little grown were of high quality. Yet they have passed out, due to some fault in the fruit or tree. It is only in the older orchards that we find such varieties of apples as the Bellflower, Dominie, Pennock and many others too numerous to mention. Very few of these are grown by the present day nurseryman. Fruit varieties are continually changing and there is a steady but slow improvement in all the qualities that go to make up a good fruit variety.

USE COLONY HOUSES

The successful pursuit of poultry husbandry is to a marked degree dependent on our ability to maintain a flock in such a manner that certain types of diseases are not readily contracted by the birds and that their spread be effectively prevented. When flocks are small and widely apart protection against disease is not an urgent factor, but with the increase in poultry population the time sooner or later arrives when serious attention must be given to this detail of management. Disease problems to a large extent come about as a corollary to increases in the number of animals maintained on a given area and that mass diseases unless restrained by artificial means constitute one of nature's means to make overpopulation impossible. The maintenance of large flocks thus in fundamentally a deviation of the scheme of nature which cannot be persisted in for a great length of time unless methods be designed and followed which tend to remove the disease hazard peculiar to a dense population.

CARE OF EWES

The ewe flock should be well cared for, especially the last two or three weeks before lambing. However, if a ewe has been starved before that time she is not likely to bring forth a strong, vigorous lamb even if good feed is provided shortly before lambing. It is not necessary to feed a lot of grain to a breeding ewe, but it is a very good plan to feed about a half a pound a day for a month or so before lambing. The man who has good alfalfa or clover hay has a valuable asset as compared with him who depends entirely upon timothy hay, sudan grass or other similar carbohydrate roughages. It is not necessary, however, that all the roughage be alfalfa or clover. When one of these two legumes is available half of the

SOMETHING ABOUT DUCKS

For early hatching five ducks will be mated to one drake. After April 1st, six or eight ducks to one drake will not be too many. Duck eggs require 28 days to hatch, except the Muscovy breed, which requires 33 to 35 days. In handling ducks pick them up by their necks rather than the legs. Their legs are easily broken. Ducks lay early in the morning and should be kept in the house until they do—or till about 9:30 o'clock. If let out before laying, they often drop their eggs in ponds or streams. Pekin and Runner ducks rarely set. Breeding ducks must be well fed. Besides whole grain, they should have a wet mash of wheat

roughage may consist of the more carbonaceous roughages, such as corn fodder or even timothy. This sort of liberal feeding should be continued until the lambs are 10 days to two weeks old, when the amount of grain should be increased so as to enable the ewe to give a good flow of milk. No animal is ever more cheaply fed than through its dam. The better the start a lamb, a pig or calf gets during its early growth, the more rapid will be its gains after weaning, so keep the ewe well fed. If she is on grass, grain will not be needed but while on dry feed a pound to one and a half pounds of grain a day when suckling her lamb will give splendid returns. As soon as the lambs are able to nibble at grain and hay, provide a creep for them where they can eat undisturbed by the ewes. This is very important from the standpoint of economical returns. A lamb that is kept gaining from birth until ready for the market will produce its gains at a lower cost than if it is allowed to fatten away its time on part of a ration.

THE RING WORM PEST

Ringworm in cattle is caused by a tiny vegetable parasite which lives in the skin at the base of the hairs. The hairs become stiff and brittle and break off as the animal rubs to allay the itching incident to the working of the parasites in the skin. Little patches of bare skin where the hair has fallen out with the bare spot surrounded perhaps with some short stubby hair are the most common symptoms of the start of the ring worm. These bare spots occur mostly about the head and neck and are especially severe in young cattle. Once ringworm gets a start on an animal it spreads rapidly and is easily contracted by other animals in the herd. Since the parasite has the power of living off the body for some time, halters, stanchions and rubbing posts are common means of spreading it. Any plan of control to be successful must include scraping and scalding of stanchions and walls or the use of strong antiseptic whitewash or spray, and the soaking of halters, brushes and blankets in similar preparations or in scalding water. Treatment recommended by a leading agricultural college consists in the use of an ointment containing 10 parts of lard to one part of sulphur. This is rubbed vigorously over the bare spots of the skin daily for a few days, taking care to apply the treatment to an area of skin considerably larger than the bare spot. Clipping the hair for some distance around the bare spot to permit more direct and better application of the treatment is advisable, particularly if the hair is heavy and long.

THE MILK HOUSE

Every farmer who milks cows should have a milk house. This is putting it pretty strong, but it is true. Our forefathers considered the milk house a necessary equipment on the farm, and many of them took better care of their dairy products than we do today. When all milk was creamed by the gravity process, which in plain words means setting in pans, crocks or cans, the best results were obtained by cold spring water. And so our forefathers took great pains to bring the spring water into the dairy house. Not many of us have the opportunity of locating our farms where there is a spring, but nearly all farms, certainly farms where cows are kept, have access to cold well water; and with gasoline pump or windmill, a liberal supply can always be obtained. After the house has been equipped with running water—and I certainly would put that first—the livestock can be taken care of; and the water which goes to the livestock should first be piped into the milk house where a cooling tank of some sort should be equipped so that the first chill of the water will refrigerate the milk and cream. Well or spring water in states north of the Mason-Dixon line varies from 55 degrees Fahrenheit, which is about as cold as the average domestic refrigerator. By utilizing the cold water as it comes from the ground, we have the cheapest and about the best kind of refrigeration, and certainly at the lowest cost. The cooling of cream immediately after separation is essential to making the highest quality of butter, and every cream producer is interested in quality. A liberal supply of water is essential not only for the dairy but for the dairy cow as well, for 87 per cent of normal milk is water. The dairy house should be large enough to accommodate all operations of the dairy. A place for the cream separator and milk utensils, and a small gas or oil stove to heat water for washing are important parts of the dairy equipment. With a few essential accommodations, not only can a much better product be turned out, but the work can be done in less time and with more pleasure. Cow keepers who expect to produce and market sweet cream or milk that will keep sweet for a day or two, and such an equipment is absolutely necessary. Sweet cream is now bringing a premium of from 5 to 10 cents per pound butterfat in most sections. With 10 cents, it would make 40 cents on 100 pounds of milk, and this in a short time would pay for the finest kind of milk house and equipment.

KEEPING FARM RECORDS

Last year one western farm agent had 63 farmers in his county who completed farm records. When these individual records were gone over it was found that the net income of the five most profitable farmers averaged \$2,941 for the year. The average net income of the five least profitable farmers was only \$157. The five farms with high net income had a greater percentage of the farm in legume crops such as alfalfa and sweet clover. The yields of corn were higher and there was a higher percentage of the farm sales from livestock sources.

SANITATION PROFITABLE

Hens that are healthy, robust, strong, free from parasites and disease are better layers, better breeders and are worth more on the market than those that are neglected and compelled to get along as best they can. Maintaining sanitary conditions may mean work, but it is neither difficult nor as trying as fighting disease and it is infinitely more profitable.

For Italian Post



Albert Ottinger, above, former attorney-general of New York state, is being prominently mentioned as the successor to Henry P. Fletcher as the U. S. ambassador to Italy. (International Newsreel)

New Cadet Leader



Lieutenant Colonel R. C. Richardson, Jr., above, succeeds Lieutenant Colonel C. B. Hodges as commandant of cadets at West Point since Hodges has been appointed military aide to President Hoover. (International Newsreel)

Will Name Cruiser

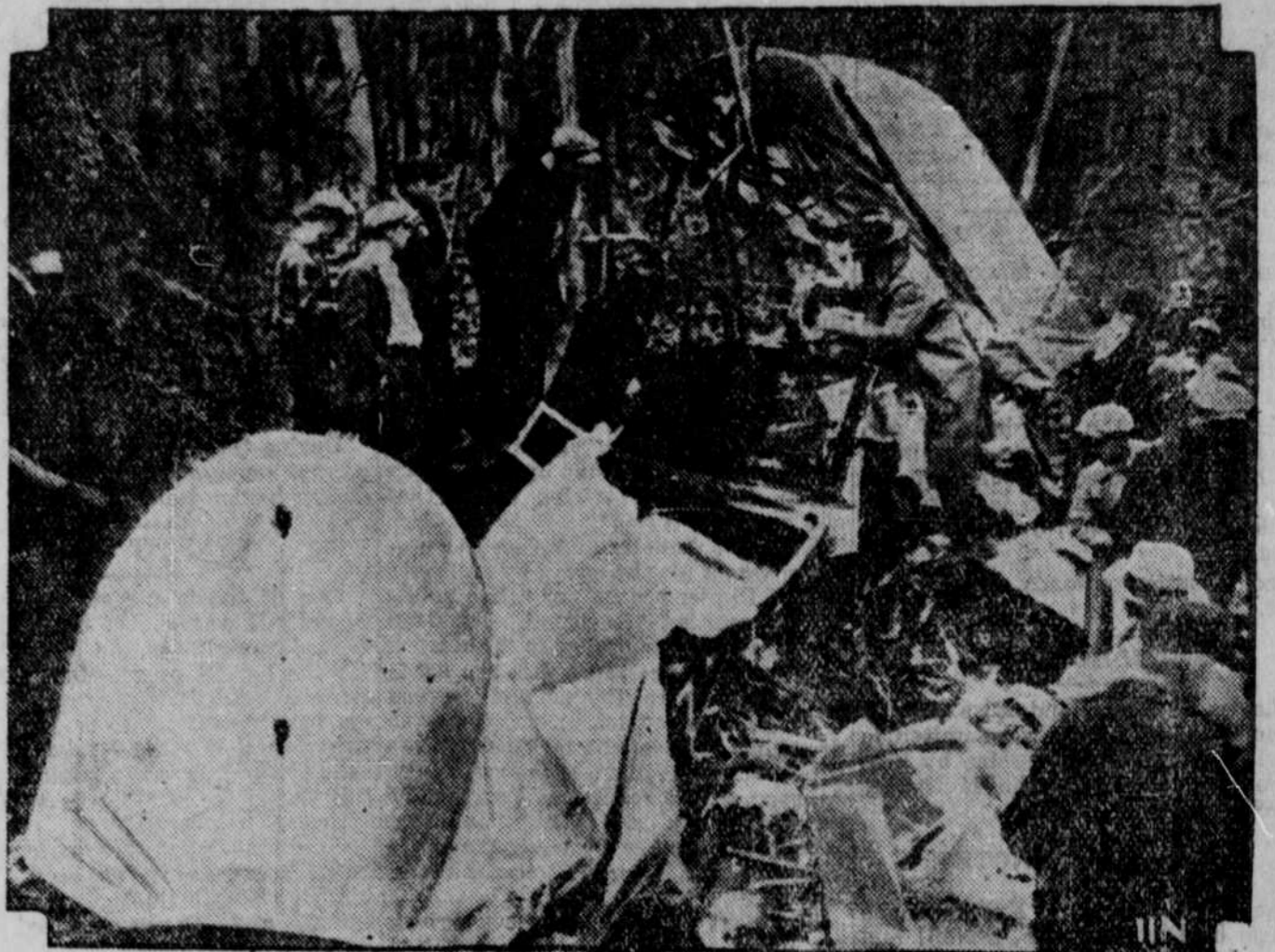


Mrs. Josephine L. Seligman, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William H. Knowles, of Pensacola, Fla., will christen the new U. S. cruiser Pensacola at the Brooklyn Navy Yard in New York soon. (International Newsreel)

Great Arch Planned In Australian Bridge

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA—(AP)—The difficult task of building an arch nearly one third of a mile long, without any ground support between its bases, is under way here on the new bridge across Sydney harbor. The arch is 1,650 feet long. It rises above a deep-water ocean shipping lane into the harbor. The two ends of the arch now are creeping out over the water toward each other. They are held in position by a tangle of cables which keep their unsupported ends pointed slightly upward and rigid, much on the same principle as a gun barrel is held rigid against a rifleman's shoulder when he is about to shoot.

Seeking Thrill, Found Death in Crash



Four men, one an established pilot and others youths seeking new thrills in flight, were killed when Ryan monoplane piloted by John Campion, aircraft company official, came out of dense fog near Mt. Gretna, Pa., to crack up in woods. Picture shows wreck of plane from which mangled bodies of four men were extricated after crash-up.

Jealous, Chloroforms Sleeping Mate



According to the Hartford, Conn., police they have the confession of Mrs. Harry E. Adams, right, that she administered chloroform to her husband, left, meteorologist at Hartford, Conn., while he slept, in order to keep him from affairs with other women. It was the old story of New England heritage demanding fidelity in her husband which caused her act. Little Anda Adams, inset, is the innocent victim of the wife's jealous act. (International Newsreel)

Fear Child Kidnapped



Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Bozman of Baltimore fear that their boy, Stanley, Jr., above, aged 8, has been stolen and slain. Stanley has been missing for several days and no trace of the little fellow can be found. (International Newsreel)

Never Wore Skirts



Chewing on a nice big stogie, Jacqueline Moret is on her way to the hoosegow at Canon City, Colo., from Casper, Wyoming, where she had been serving a term for a holdup job. According to her own statement, she has never in her life worn skirts. (International Newsreel)

Pleads Quick Death



Mrs. William Cardow, bride of six months, of Waterbury, Conn., raves with the pain from the ravages of radium poisoning which she is presumed to have contracted four years ago painting radium dials on clocks. (International Newsreel)

Her Will Contested



Lelia Whitehead, Texas beauty, left one third of her fortune, estimated at \$250,000, to James T. Collins of Forest Hills, L. I., but reports from Texas reveal that there will be a stiff contest before any bequests are allowed to be paid. (International Newsreel)