OF INTEREST TO FARMERS

FACTORS AFFECTING EGGS

A successful poultry raiser has been able to reach some very definite conclusions on the matter of egg size and how it is determined after working with a large number of hens over a period of years. One conclusion is that the average size of the eggs laid by an individual hen is a fixed, definite, and persistent characteristic. Practically, of course, this means that selection for egg size should be based on the average weight of the eggs laid by a hen, rather than on the fact that she may eventually get to the point where she lays large eggs after producing a good many small ones. It was also found that a ration consisting entirely of whole grains during the winter months had the effect of reducing the egg weight by about 12 per cent. Liberal mash feeding helps to maintain egg size. The greater the productive capacity of the hen, the smaller was the average decrease in the weight of eggs laid on successive days. Good hens tend to maintain a constant egg weight. Low producers, as well as high layers, showed a small decrease in the weight of eggs laid on successive days during the season of maximum production than at other seasons of the year. When we consider the further fact, established by several investigators, that egg size is definitely inherited it is apparent that it will pay the careful poultryman to give some thought to egg size along with many other factors when selecting breeding stock.

HENS NEED MINERALS.

That lime in some form is quite necessary in the ration of hens that are laying heavily is a wellknown fact, and it is common practice to supply crushed oyster shell in hoppers so that the hens can eat as much as they like at any time. When oyster shells are not available, or when they are higher in price than some of the other calcium carrying materials, the question of what to substitute becomes important. Tests were carried on at an experiment station in which several different carriers of calcium were supplied to hens receiving a ration of wheat, corn and skimmilk. The materials used in the different trials were calcium carbonate, calcium sulfate, tricalcium phosphate, calcium lactate and calcium chloride. The results showed that calcium carbonate was superior to the other compounds when measured by the number of eggs laid, the average weight of the egg content, the average weight of the shell, and the thriftiness of the birds. Oyster shells consist almost entirely of calcium carbonate, and the same is true of many kinds of limestone. Those limestones which carry more than traces of magnesium are not well suited to use in poultry rations. Since the feeding of oyster shell is not a daily chore, and may easily be overlooked unless one has some rule to follow, it is an excellent plan to have a definite time each week for cleaning and refilling the shell hoppers. Many poultrymen sprinkle a small amount of the crushed shell on top of the dry mash at intervals in order to make certain that plenty is available to the hens.

THE "IDEAL" FARM HOUSE.

Finding the "ideal" man is easy compared to finding the "ideal" house in which to live after the wedding, in the opinion of one western architect, who specializes in the designing of rural homes. At least this is true in the case of farm houses, he said. He learned what a hard job it is by serving on the jury of a national contest to select the best from 4,600 farm house plans. There are so many good farm houses and features in farm houses which are desirable that it is difficult to select a single house or plan which is "ideal," he said. "There are as least six C's to which the house must conform before it can even approach the ideal. These are comfort, convenience, completeness, coziness, communication and cost. To these must be added a seventh point—appearance. Comfort is that physical feeling of ease or relaxation to which both man and beast naturally turn. Comfort should appear everywhere—in the kitchen as well as in the bedrooms and living room, on the stairs and in the basement or dormitory. Convenience is so well-known that it needs no discussion. Completeness means having all things necessary to comfort, health and convenience. Communication between parts was not needed in the one-room cabin. It is never necessary from room to room or floor to floor. The best is most direct and without encroaching upon the passage between other parts. Coziness is the placing of an object where it appears to fit or belong. The farm house should belong on its site, nestle into the lawns and shrubbery and blend with the skies. Cost is the agonizing part of the farm house. It should be kept reasonably within the means but not skimped to reduce the efficiency and ruin the health of its occupants. Appearance, which overlaps coziness, can not be over-emphasized. It is the exterior expression of charm and character which every home should have."

WASHING MILKING MACHINE

Many milking machines have been discarded because the dairyman could not produce milk with as low bacterial count as he did by hand milking. There is no need, however, of discarding a milking machine on this account, for high grade and even certified milk can be produced with a milking machine. The following method is reported as having been in use in one dairy for several years where Grade A milk is produced regularly: (1) Immediately after milking, while the machine is still attached to the vacuum, rinse the teat cups and the milk hose by drawing through each unit at least two gallons of water, lukewarm or cold. It is important to do this immediately after milking, so that no milk will dry on the machine parts. (2) Prepare at least one gallon of washing powder solution, hot if possible, using two heaping tablespoonfuls of powder to a gallon. Draw this solution through each unit. (3) Brush out the tubes and especially the teat cups, and wash the outside of these parts. (4) Then place them in some disinfecting solution until the next milking. Be sure that no air bubbles are caught in the rubber tubes, and see that all parts are completely submerged. (5) Once a week take the machine apart and scrub every part inside and outside. After assembling, put in the disinfectant solution. (6) Flush out the air line occasionally, using a hot solution of washing powder and disinfectant. In case some milk is drawn into the air line during milking, wash it out immediately after milking.

A BIT OF "WISDOM."

I used to raise cheap ducks and geese, and other tinhorn fowls: I was a stranger then to peace, I filled the nights with howls. For when I took my birds to town, to sell them or to trade, the customers would beat me down, a scurvy price they paid. They said, "Your ganders and your drakes no epicure would please: They surely died of stomach aches, or of some fell disease." So I bewailed the poor man's lot, and wept from day to day; misfortune peppers him with shot, wherever he may stray. "There's something wrong," I used to yell, three times and sometimes twice, "when one who has a goose to sell can't get a decent price. I hoped that congress would relieve the woes of poultrymen, but all its promises deceive, we're stung, and stung again. The industry is bound to go to smash and break in bits, unless our statesmen learn to throw some sane and helpful fits." But Farmer Brown, who lives next door came up one day and said: "You would not have much cause to roar if you would use your head. You raise scrub fowls when you could raise the fine ones just as well; the purebred, gilt-edged gander pays, the cheap one will not sell. It costs no more to rear good ducks than rearing punk ones costs; the good ones bring you many bucks, the others are but frosts." I listened to his pregnant words which sounded good to me, and I closed out the tinhorn birds which had no pedigree. And now I'm selling blue-blood stock at prices fiercely high, and people chase me 'round the block in eagerness to buy.

JEWELRY FROM SKIM MILK.

The cow as a producer of jewelry is playing an entirely new role for the members of the bovine world At a recent dinner given in New York, a manufacturer of plastic casein exhibited some of the hundreds of beautiful and useful articles made from the protein of milk Strands of jade green beads, bracelets, decorative buckles and buttons are the most popular forms of jewelry made from casein — the substance better known in the form of cottage cheese. Jewelry is but one of the kinds of articles manufactured from this milk by-product. Knife and fork handles, hard, smooth and cream-colored, resembling old ivory trace their history back to milk Green lampshades, rivaling jade in color, texture and translucence are made from casein. Other casein novelties are amber-colored fountain pens and pencils, combs, shoe horns, toys, paper knives, umbrella tips, ornamental door knobs and electric buttons. Casein also is used as the base of letter in electric signs. The casein for all these articles is made from the skimmilk after the cream has been taken out for butter, ice cream, and table use. Plastic casein is made from sweet skimmilk which is available in creameries that make sweet cream butter. It is precipitated with rennet. This type of casein makes the fountain pens and costume jewelry. The casein from sour milk is used in glue and paper manufacture.

FIBER IN POULTRY RATIONS.

Not all of the materials used in poultry rations can properly be called feeds for the reason that some do not furnish any nutrients which the chicken can use. At the same time they may be quite necessary to successful results. One important part of the ration that falls in this class is the crude fiber. It has been suggested that if it were possible to feed fowls a ration that was wholly digestible, and therefore entirely lacking in crude fiber, they would very probably die of acute constipation. On the other hand, too much crude fiber in a ration is practically certain to prevent profitable egg production. Although hens can digest very little of the crude fiber that they consume, a certain amount seems to be necessary in order to dilute and open up the ration in the digestive tract and so promote more effective action by the digestive juices. The optimum percentage of crude fiber in rations for laying hens has not been accurately determined, but there is some evidence to indicate that 3½ per cent of the entire ration is about the right amount. Furthermore, where hens are given a free choice of feeds on the cafeteria plan they make up their own rations so that about 3½ per cent of crude fiber is consumed.

UNDERFEEDING KILLS PROFIT

Underfeeding, or feeding of an incomplete ration, keeps down or wipes out profits in many a dairy herd. One farmer goes so far as to say that dairy-cows now are better bred than fed; that starved purebreds are no better than starved scrubs. There is still room for improvement along both lines. The point is, every dairy-cow should be fed a complete ration, and as much of it as she will turn into profit. It is the wrong way to feed as little as the cow will get along on and still show a profit or just break even. Cow-testing records prove that liberal feeding is not an expense, but an investment.

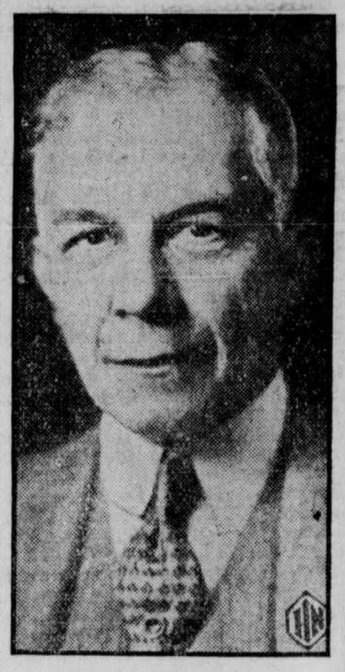
COD LIVER OIL FOR PULLETS.

My pullets of the heavy breeds a year ago, were pure bred, but late hatched, the last ones hatching off the last of May, says an enthusiastic "farmeress" who believes in getting there first. I did not hope for winter eggs, but was anxious that they develop well before our cold winter weather set in, so all along I fed cod liver oil, three times a week. Now I feed cod liver oil from a bottle, and along with their regular mash and minerals, those pullets grew and matured and were laying at 6 months. They not only began early but laid all winter and right through the spring with never a setback to speak of. I have rushed them off for years in February and March, in order to get winter eggs from the grandmothers and great grandmothers of these very pullets, and barely did get them laying by 7 and 8 months, so I am certain that those heavy doses of pure rich cod liver oil all through the summer and fall were responsible for my winter eggs this time. The birds seemed to mature faster and better than any pullets I ever owned, developing a full red comb, warm and vibrant, and a decided singing as early as the Leghorns I once raised.

Daughter of the "400" Wins Right to Pistol

Mrs. Muriel Vanderbilt Church, descendant of one of America's most aristocratic lines, has just been granted permission to carry a pistol. It was explained that Mrs. Church often returns to her home in Middletown late at night. The permission was granted by Police Chief Alboro of Middletown, December 23d, according to the chief's monthly report to the town council.
(International Newsreel)

Link Standard Oil Head To Wine Smuggling



Herbert L. Pratt, chairman of the board of the Standard Oil Company of New York, has been charged with receiving $25,000 worth of champagne smuggled into the United States, as a shipment of "flower pots" from France, at his estate at Glen Cove, L. I.
(International Newsreel)

De Rivera Quits for Semi-Free Rule

Premier Primo de Rivera announced that the King of Spain has approved his plan for abandonment of the dictatorship and establishment of a so-called semi-normal Government in Spain.
(International Newsreel)

De Rivera Out—New Premier Named

General Primo de Rivera, Premier and dictator of Spain since 1923, has resigned with his entire cabinet, with which he is shown. The report indicates that the recent canvass made by de Rivera among principal army leaders throughout Spain as to whether he should remain in office had resulted in an unfavorable verdict. With the General are shown Mr. Yanguas Messia, secretary of state, and the Duke of Tetuan, secretary of war.
(International Newsreel)

A Religion for the Scientific

In the quiet Quaker town of Swarthmore, Pa., a spirited movement to modernize religious teachings has had its beginning. This movement, undertaken with regard for present-day thought and present-day science, has attained important proportions. It is led by Dr. Jesse H. Holmes (left), for thirty years a professor of philosophy at Swarthmore College, and Dean Roscoe Pound, of the Harvard Law School (right).
(International Newsreel)

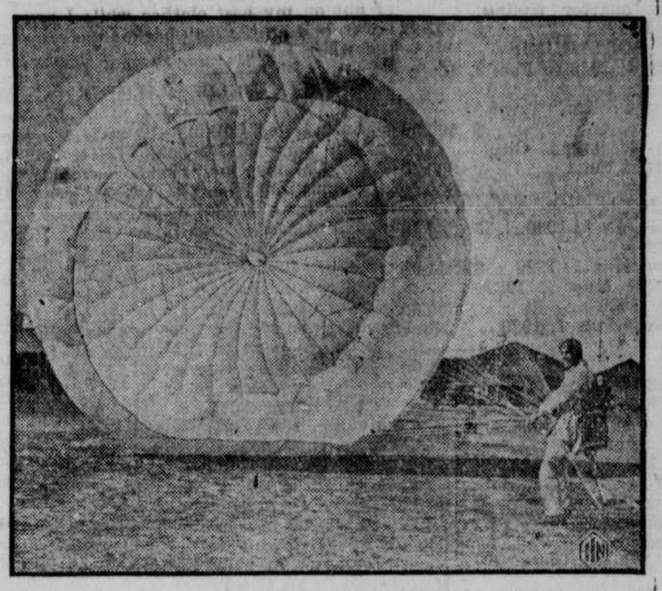
British Minister's Daughter in Talkies

This latest recruit to the British talkies is Miss Kathleen Greenwood, 24-year-old daughter of the British Minister of Health, Arthur Greenwood. She has already done beginner's duty as one of the mob in a two-language feature, and is now ready to tackle the part of a peasant in a new sound and color picture dealing with the Charge of the Light Brigade.
(International Newsreel)

Former Capital Cop Called in Boston Probe

Robert J. Allen, former Washington, D. C., policeman, who testified before a Boston grand jury as to his Hub "vice investigations" allegedly for Walter W. Liggett, author of "Bawdy Boston." A general probe of the situation is being made. Liggett himself appeared before the grand jury for questioning.
(International Newsreel)

Testing 'Chute Before Six-Mile Jump



William T. Dodson, a civilian, former chief of the parachute section of the Pacific Battle Fleet, testing his specially made chute before his contemplated jump of six miles in an effort to better the 26,640 foot record established by Capt. A. W. Stevens of the United States Army in 1921. The parachute is of the Lobe type and is expected to withstand not only Dodson's weight but the weight of his oxygen equipment.
(International Newsreel)

Doctor of Philosophy, But Too Young to Vote

Elizabeth Pomerene is not yet 21 years old, but she holds the high degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Biochemistry from Western Reserve University, Cleveland, O. Elizabeth is believed to be the youngest girl ever to be awarded this scholarship distinction. She is a niece of former United States Senator Atlee Pomerene.
(International Newsreel)

Scientific Flying Earns Mackay Trophy

Captain Albert W. Stevens with the electrically heated aviation suit he wore during the altitude flights in which he gathered much scientific and photographic data. These flights were considered the most meritorious of the last year by the Board of Air Corps officers, and consequently Captain Stevens has been recommended to the War Department for the Mackay trophy award for 1929.
(International Newsreel)

Found the Remains of Eielson Airplane

Pilot Joe Crosson, clad in the Arctic clothing he used when he and Harold Gillam, flying high above the bleak and desolate coast of Siberia, spied the wreckage of the plane of Lieut. Carl Ben Eielson and his mechanic, Earl Borland. The wreckage was said to be ninety miles from the spot where the ship was frozen in at North Cape.
(International Newsreel)