

## PRACTICAL UTILITY POULTRY NOTES

By A. D. BURHANS.

### Grading Up the Farm Flock.

The fact that the average flock of poultry on the farm lays about fifty eggs per year per hen goes to show that more attention should be paid to the grading up of the average flock of hens. Go to the market poultry buyer and he will tell you that the average farm flock of hens and chickens sent to market weigh from two to four pounds less than a good breed of general purpose fowl and you will see the advisability for breeding for size as well.

It has been demonstrated by farmers and utility poultry keepers, the whole country over that pure-bred fowls of a good grade will produce more pounds of meat and more eggs per hen than any flock of scrub chickens that you ever saw. One way of improving the laying qualities of the flock and also of increasing their average size is to grade up the flock annually by the use of a few pure-bred males of the breed which you think would suit your purposes best. If you are going in for eggs alone or have a tendency along that line it will be a good thing to stay close to the Leghorns or Minorcas. The Leghorn fowls can be had in a good many different varieties and colors, there being the buff, black, white and brown with both single and rose comb. If you want a heavier layer that will consume a little more feed than the Leghorns, but at the same time being a better table fowl, the Minorca, either of the white or black variety will be a good one to try. If you want laying qualities and table qualities as well select something in the Wyandotte or Plymouth Rock breeds. Neither the Wyandottes nor the Plymouth Rocks will lay as many eggs as the Leghorns or Minorcas but as a general purpose fowl they will excel them and in the total cash receipts the general purpose fowl will probably be much in the lead owing to their superiority as a market fowl.

Five cockerels would be enough to use in the average flock for the first year. If you care for a general purpose fowl we will imagine that you have secured five males of the White Wyandotte variety. These will cost you from \$1.50 to \$2 each, coming from good stock noted both for its heavy laying qualities, its vigor, its quick growth and general hardiness. The chicks from the first season's cross will average from one to two pounds more each and will gain this extra size on the same amount of feed that the average scrub chicken will consume. The pullets from this mating will lay twice as many eggs as the scrub pullets if only given the same amount of care. As a rule, where better poultry is being bred better care and housing conditions prevail and if this is so in your individual case the laying qualities of your flock of pullets during the first winter of your trial of grading up your birds will produce more eggs than we have intimated. Wyandottes weigh from about seven pounds for females to nine and a half to ten pounds for the males according to their age. They grow very quickly and are plumper and they take on fat more readily at any stage of growth than the Plymouth Rocks or any of the heavier breeds.

If you want fowls which are considerably heavier than the Plymouth Rocks or Wyandottes try Langshans or Cochins or probably the light Brahmas. Any of these breeds can be found in most any section of the country in the yards of some poultry breeder who is making a specialty of them and the males will be easily purchased. These three big varieties are known as the Asiatic breeds and they grow in size from eight pounds for females to twelve pounds for males.

### The Poultry and Fruit Combination

To the average utility poultry raiser very few instances of a combination of utility poultry growing and fruit growing combined have come under his notice. The writer has visited during the past fall and winter, a number of poultry farms where fruit and poultry were combined and the project made to pay remarkably well. One farm in northwestern Missouri of about sixty-five acres was devoted to good poultry keeping for eggs for market and some fowls were also sold as well. On this place the yards and houses were scattered among the fruit trees to good advantage and the chicks were raised on the colony system. The colony houses which were very cheap in construction, although they were made well, were scattered among the trees on the side of the hills where the land was well drained. The chicks did remarkably well the whole season through. Small brood coops where the hens set and hatched their broods were placed about the central part of the orchard near the residence and the chicks were kept in these from the time they were hatched until about three months old when they were removed to the colony. About six hundred head of chicks were

raised by "hen power" the past year and four or five hundred more were grown by the artificial method of incubation and brooding. During the winter about four hundred head of early hatched pullets were kept in the colony houses and fed for winter eggs. They were of well-bred stock and shelled out the eggs when they were high in price. The eggs were sold on the average market but because they were strictly fresh a premium of two or three cents per dozen was asked and easily received for each dozen sold. One hotel at St. Joseph, took all of the eggs that could be spared by the farm.

The fruit on this farm consisted of plums, pears, cherries, apples and peaches. Some strawberries were also grown. The fowls run among all of the fruit except the strawberries and these were so far away from the center of the farm that the chicks did not bother them. The soil which made up the majority of farm was of a light clay loam and none too well adapted to general farming, indeed it was too hilly and washed too much. A heavy cover crop was kept in the orchard the whole year round. This made excellent picking for the fowls in the way of green feed and they also secured a great many bugs and worms.

The fowls ranging in the orchard devour many insects that are injurious to the trees and the man who had charge of the fruit told the writer that the trees close to the center of the poultry houses and coops grew much better fruit, there being less blemishes than were on the fruit of the trees that were farther away, being located out of the general run of forage that the fowls made.

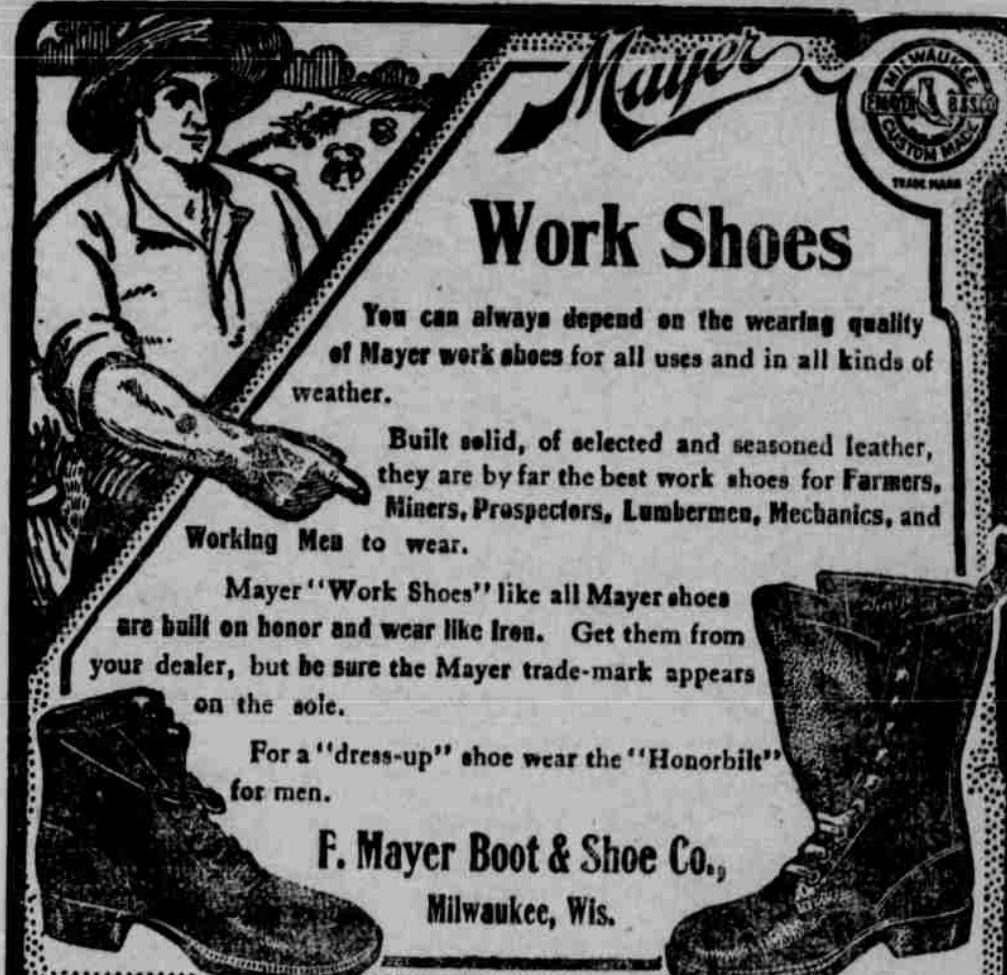
### "Good Luck" With Chickens.

Did you ever notice that the poultry grower who had "good luck" from one year's end to another in the growing of chickens, selling of eggs when they were high in price, and his general poultry work was more or less of a handy man in caring for the stock and performing the countless details that might make up a big success of the business? The element of luck that enters poultry growing is nothing more than constant attention to the small details. The little things go to make up the whole and very often if one of them is neglected it affects the whole season's work. For instance, if a poultry grower crowds his chicks too much or allows them to be jammed up in their coops for a couple of weeks or so he will have such a lot of trouble from sweating and considerable more in a short time from roup and colds that he will not give the chicks another chance to perform a like trick as long as he is raising poultry.

Not long ago a utility poultry grower who acquired more from winter eggs than from any other revenue from the flock, built a good poultry house in a dry location and put a good floor in it to keep his fowls up off the damp ground. He double walled the north side with plenty of windows to admit light and fresh air. When he carried in numerous basketsful of eggs from his two hundred head of pullets confined in this house, his neighbors, also keeping chickens called him lucky and said his luck was always good at raising and caring for chickens. The essential of the whole thing is that he understood what it took to make the necessary conditions under which the fowls will lay well all winter. In the first place his pullets were early hatched and of a good strain of laying stock. They were well cared for from the start. His brooders were not allowed to be overheated and were always kept clean. He fed his chicks heavily and liberally from the start and they grew like weeds. His neighbors who visited him said that he was lucky with chickens. He mixed a little "hen sense" along with his elbow grease and was a good chicken raiser. This was the size of it. Instead of giving his baby chicks sloppy messes of cornmeal and water he fed a good chick food for the first three or four weeks until they were past the danger line and were ready for cracked corn and wheat. You would find his brood coops clean and not too many chicks in each one if you looked into them every night.

His pullets began laying the latter part of October or the first part of November and he saw to it that they were provided with plenty of green cut bone, and when early spring came on and he wanted fertile eggs to set in his incubators he used plenty of green bone and green feeds as well. His yards were sown to alfalfa and dwarf Essex rape. Occasionally he had one of them plowed up and sown to rye in the fall. Plenty of green feed was always at hand at all times. These little things are the ones that composed the greater amount of luck that his neighbors credited him with.

All that Father saves on the parlor fuel bill in summer he is expected to invest in hammocks and lawn swings.



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### The Lonely Honeymoon.

You know dees Joe dat use' to go  
 For work weeth me, Signore?  
 He's marry yastaday, you know,  
 An' gon' for Baltimore,  
 An' so deegusta man like Joe  
 You nevva see bayfore!

Eh? No, da girl's all right, my friend;  
 Dat's mak' eet harder, too.  
 Ha! wait an' you weell ondrastand—  
 I tal eet all to you.

You see, dees Joe long time ago  
 Gat Rosa for hees mash,  
 An' evra seence he worka so  
 For mak' an' save da cash,  
 Baycause he want gat marry soon  
 An' mebbe takin' too,  
 Dees-w'at you calla—"honeymoon,"  
 Like 'Mericana do.

Wan day he tak' fi-dollar note  
 An' go to steamsheep store  
 An' buy two teeket for da boat  
 Dat sail for Baltimore.  
 An' den he tal me: "Shu' your mou'!"  
 An' justa looka wise.

Dees theeng ees no for talka 'bout;  
 Eet gona be su'prise.  
 So, wen dey marry yestaday  
 He smile so proud, Signore,  
 W'en he ees kees her cheek an' say:  
 "We sail for Baltimore!"

Ah! den, my frand, so sadda sight  
 You nevva see, O! my!  
 Poor Rosa she ees gat so white  
 An' ees baygeen to cry.

"Ees dees," she say, "a weddin' treep?  
 Such foolleehness you speak!  
 I no can stand eet een a sheep  
 Da sea ees mak me seeck."

Poor Joe, he swear an' den he keess,  
 An' coax an' beg her so,  
 For theenk of all dat she weell meess—  
 But no, she weell no go.

"O! Rosa mia!" Joe ees cry,  
 "Your heart eet ees a stone,  
 For dat you mak' me say 'good-bye'  
 An' tak da treep alone!"

O! lonely honeymoon, an' O!  
 So sadda man, Signore,  
 Dat gotta leave hees wife an' go  
 Alone for Baltimore!

So hearta-broka man like Joe  
 You nevva see bayfore.  
 —T. A. Daly—The Catholic Standard and Times.

The advantages which men have had over women in the ease with which they can dress, and the small expense upon which they can make a good appearance for a season, are very probably among the reasons why they are able to accomplish such real success, while women at best seem only to fritter with business and with the professions. Take the item of a hat alone. A man usually decides upon and buys a new hat within ten minutes at the utmost, while a woman frequently spends hours trying on different shapes and colors, observing it at different angles and elevations, often unable to make up her mind at all as to which piece of headgear she prefers.

This is not, as man might suppose, a matter of foolishness or vanity. The style of a woman's hat, its color and general suitability to her face and form are all matters of the greatest importance, frequently affecting her social advancement and fortunes generally. With a man, as some poet once remarked, a hat is but a lid.

Even after the hat is decided on, there is a vast difference in the adjustment. A man claps his hat on his head without much thought and rarely with a look in a mirror. A woman must adjust her hat with the greatest care and fasten it securely. If it tilts too much to one side or the other, or forward, or back, it mars her appearance to an extent that may decide the destinies of her day. If her hair is not properly fastened beneath it so as to brim above the face, it slumps or settles down after an hour or two of travel or wind, absolutely destroying the smart look which every woman strives for in these days.

Is it any wonder that women carry their popular little vanity bags and

mirrors about with them? The woman who disdains these small aids never looks what she may be as to brains and a high-thought attitude toward life; she simply appears dowdy, and neither men nor women question why.

The faster a man travels the sooner he will get there, and the faster he lives, the sooner he will get there, too.

When others fail to behave, you hear them "bawled out." When you fail to behave, others hear you "bawled out."

### MAYOR OF SUNBURY Says Pe-ru-na Is a Good Medicine.

Hon. C. C. Brooks, Mayor of Sunbury, Ohio, also Attorney for Farmers' Bank and Sunbury Building and Loan Co., writes:

"I have the utmost confidence in the virtue of Peruna. It is a great medicine. I have used it and I have known many of my friends who have obtained beneficial results from its use. I cannot praise Peruna too highly."



HON. C. C. BROOKS.

THERE are a host of petty ailments which are the direct result of the weather.

This is more true of the excessive heat of summer and the intense cold of winter, but is partly true of all seasons of the year.

Whether it be a cold or a cough, catarrh of the head or bowel complaint, whether the liver be affected or the kidneys, the cause is very liable to be the same.

The weather slightly deranges the mucous membranes of the organs and the result is some functional disease.

Peruna has become a standby in thousands of homes for minor ailments of this sort.