

POULTRY RANCH.

[Our Poultry Editor is Harry H. Collier, No. 950 C St., Tacoma. Address him on all Poultry matters.]

"We care nothing for the man who can furnish eggs only when any fool can furnish them—when uncared-for hens have a mind to lay them. We are looking for the man who can send us eggs when his neighbors' hens are frozen up." Rather a rough way of putting it, perhaps, but that's what a Portland merchant said to a newspaper man.

POULTRY POINTS.

A dark nest in a dry house, away from much noise, is where the hens you set should be quartered to be most successful in their hatching. Seclusion is most desired.

Chop up several onions two or three times a week, throwing the pieces to them raw. It acts as a stimulant to the blood and an appetizer to a sluggish fowl. Try it now while the season of spring weather approaches.

It is never wise to catch any fowl in your flock during the day, as it frightens the entire flock and makes them very shy and afraid of any one who approaches. A fright sometimes stops laying, and the egg-bound trouble comes as a result. At night go to the hen house with a lantern, catch the bird you want, and that is the end of it.

Brood coops for spring use should be strong, light, and easily handled. They should be so made that any side can be opened quickly when the hen or her brood may require attention. A front of glass will give them needed sunlight, but a front, wooden door should be made to close over this in stormy weather. A handle at the top should be put on so that they can be easily handled and removed from place to place.—The Independent.

FOWL PICK-UPS.

Tacoma Poultry association is on a boom, having elected several new members at last meeting.

Ten hens will pay as well as an ordinary cow and are not nearly so much trouble to care for.

We shall try to answer all questions sent in to this Department. Send in your questions.

Don't get excited and try too many breeds. Beginners nearly always try too many. This is one of the greatest causes of failures.

Get all your pens mated up this month. Early birds are the winners at the early shows. This is especially true of the larger breeds.

Nothing hurts a fancier's reputation worse than scaly or scabby legs on fowls. A mixture of turpentine and sweet oil keeps legs smooth and nice, and helps

to prevent those of the yellow-legged varieties from fading to a straw color.

Ducks should be confined at night as they lay mostly at that time, never making their nest until just before they want to sit.

Provide plenty of lime and oyster shell in the spring. A good supply of oyster shell and fresh bone fills the bill all right.

Somebody has said that a woman succeeds in the poultry business because she is mindful of small things and not so careless as men.

Epsom salts in soft feed, in very small quantities, to both chicks and adults, about once a week, assists in keeping them in good health.

Where are the readers of THE RANCH who raise poultry? Why don't you write something for this department? Tell about your success and failures of last year.

Do not make the mistake of thinking it a difficult thing to successfully operate an incubator and brooder, for such is not the case. Pick out a really practical machine, and any one with ordinary horse sense can manage it. There are a few things to be thoroughly understood, a few emergencies to be met and overcome—that is all.

EGGS FOR SALE. A few settings of choice Wyandottes, Plymouth Rock and Buff Leghorn eggs, at Summit View Poultry Yards. Prices reasonable. W. C. Wilcox, North Yakima, Wn.

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