The Poultry Yard.

S. M. SHIPLEY, : : : : : : Editor.

BARRED ROCK EGG RECORD.

A breeder of Barred Plymouth Rocks submits the following record of 20 hens for one year ending December 30, 1897: "Eggs laid—January, 92; February, 165; March, 466; April, 461; May, 302; June, 248; July, 252; August, 228; September, 208; October, 141; November, 94; December, 88; total, 2,746; average per hen, 137 2-3; profit on eggs over cost of production, $34.37. Fed, in morning, mash of 1-3 shorts and 2-3 corn meal, giving just what they would eat up clean; at noon, light feed of wheat, scattered in straw; at night, a little corn. My hens weighed about 9 pounds in good laying condition."

While the foregoing results are good, and indeed, much better than is realized from the average farm poultry, still we are satisfied the feeding was too heavy for Plymouth Rocks both in quantity and fat producing qualities. There was entirely too much corn in morning feed, one-third corn meal is as much as should be used, while corn regularly at night throughout the year, and feeding three times per day, is not conducive to best results. If oats, barley, peas and vegetables had been substituted in place of corn and wheat three days in the week the egg yield would have been increased one-third.

WHY THE HEN PAYS.

Because she converts a great amount of waste into money, through the medium of eggs and market poultry that would otherwise be lost to the farmer.

Because, with intelligent selection of stock and careful management, she is an all and every season revenue producer.

No other agricultural industry will yield quicker or greater returns for the amount of capital invested.

With proper food and healthy exercise the thoroughbred hen cannot resist the performance of her natural function, viz.: to convert food into eggs and flesh, and consequently into money.

Because she can be made to produce eggs during the winter months, at the very season of the year when they are in greatest demand, if given proper shelter and suitable feed, with room for indoor exercise.

YOUNG TURKEYS.

Keep them free from vermin. If you do not exterminate the lice, they will exterminate the poults.

Nine-tenths of the mortality is owing to lice and filth.

A high roost in open shed is preferable to a closed house for half-grown poults.

Lettuce and onion tops with cooked vegetables, rice, cornmeal, oatmeal or other ground feeds must be constantly supplied during the first month.

A little raw meat every other day or finely cut fresh bone will give them an extra lease of life.

They can be advantageously raised in a brooder, but don't put over twenty-five in one flock.

In general, the same rules should be observed in rearing poults as in case of other poultry.

In fattening turkeys do not attempt too close confinement, as they require more range and exercise than any other variety of poults.

After the young turkeys reach four to six weeks of age, give them unlimited range, if possible, and they will require but little attention from that time till the season for fattening arrives.

Remember that turkeys are subject to the same ailments that the hens are.

LICE REMEDIES.

A reader of Ranch and Range wants to know if the editor of the poultry department can recommend any of the liquid lice preparations.

In our own poultry yard we cannot get along without them. A number of good articles of this description are on the market. This season we are using "Lee's Lice Killer" with good results. It can be secured at $1 per gallon, either direct from the manufacturer or from your local druggists, who can order it for you if they do not carry it in stock. Paint roosts, dropping boards and nests with it and you will be astonished to see the large number of dead insects in the morning. The sitting hens and mother hens should be thoroughly dusted every few days with some good powder such as "Persian insect Powder," "Lambert's Death to Lice," etc. Also rub lard, into which you can with good results drop a few drops of coal oil, under wings and feathers of the body of the mother hen.

POULTRY AS A BUSINESS.

It may be repugnant for farmers, as a class, to devote their time and energy to so small an object as the laying hen, but with poultry selling on our Seattle market at 12 to 15 cents per pound, live weight, and eggs at this season at 15 to 20 cents per dozen, there are dollars in it, and it is the profits, measured in dollars and cents, towards which all the farming energy is directed. Eggs and market poultry are cash at all seasons of the year, bringing in regularly daily receipts. A great amount of cheap farm produce can be converted into cash by the medium of the farm poultry, at a much greater profit than by marketing in its natural form. What we most need is to realize that the hen business should be, as it is, one of the regular branches of legitimate farming, and not a mere sideshow to be looked after by the already overworked housewife. It is a man's work to prepare necessary sheds, roosting places and runs and last, but not least, to keep them properly cleaned up. It is probably true that the woman can succeed well with the chicks, as they, as a rule, are more particular with small details, but the men should see to the heavy work. With cheap grain and vegetables and unlimited range for the fowls, it will be to the great advantage of the farming industry to increase the size of the flocks, thus selling more poultry and eggs, provided reasonable care in selecting and handling the birds is exercised. With our sheep, cows and horses the small details are never neglected, why should they be in case of the poultry?

Let the men folks cease looking upon the hens as only fit subjects for the attention of the women and children, see to it that they are properly housed, kept free from lice, fed the right kind of food at the proper time, the eggs gathered, pullets and cockerels separated and the latter marketed as young as possible, the pullets kept growing for early egg production, the eggs properly marketed, and the returns will compensate for the labor fully as well as any other branch of farming. If the hen can be made to assist in making farming pay better, and we believe she can, then by all means give her every opportunity to do so.

ITEMS.

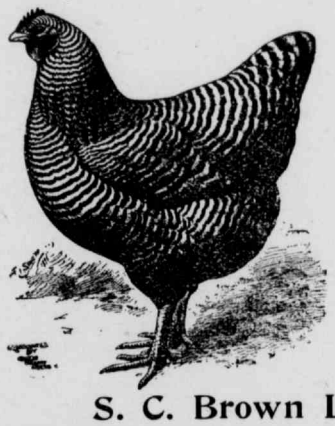
As a rule it is best not to hatch goslings until they can be put onto new grass.

Both goslings and ducklings must have fresh water constantly at hand, with which to wash down their food.

At this season of the year all varieties of young poultry should be yarded where they can find shelter from the direct rays of the sun.

In the poultry yard raise a good sized grove of sunflowers for shade; the chickens also relish the seeds, which give the meat a fine flavor.

Barred Plymouth Rocks



Scoring 90-92½.

No better blood in America!

S. C. Brown Leghorns

Scoring 90-95.

Black Minorcas

Scoring 91-95½.

Breeding Pens of 1898, composed of vigorous stock selected and mated for the best results.

Eggs after June 1, $1 per 13.

A few breeders for sale.

S. M. SHIPLEY, 434 Pioneer Bldg. SEATTLE.

MINORCA NUMBER.

PACIFIC POULTRYMAN will publish a special issue devoted to this variety July 15th. You should subscribe at once.

50 CENTS PER YEAR.

You can get back numbers as follows: March issue, BLACK LANGSHANS; April issue, LIGHT BRAHMAS; May issue, BUFF LEGHORNS. Sample copy for a two-cent stamp. Special numbers 10 cents each, or you can begin the year with any of these numbers.

PACIFIC POULTRYMAN,
Harry H. Collier, Editor,
Tacoma, Washington.

EGGS FROM NOW ON

from my best

Barred Plymouth Rocks, Prize Winners.

$2 per sitting of 13.

Chas. C. Johns, 618 South N street, Tacoma, Wn.

East Lake Poultry Yards.

FOR SALE—One pen (4), Golden-Bearded Polish, $5.00; one pen (4), C. Indian Games, $5; one B. P. Rock Cock, $2.50; one S. Wyandotte Cockerel, $2.50.

MRS. C. C. MATHEWS,
P. O. Address, Hinckley Block.
Yards—1614 Federal Ave.

...EGGS...

Walthew's White Wyandottes

$2.00 per 13, $3.50 per 36. A few choice cockerels left—cheap

J. R. Walthew, 200 Burke Bldg. Seattle, Wash.

Prize winners

Buy your Eggs from Wanamaker and raise them; 16 birds at Tacoma show. Hews judge. Won 11 prizes.

Golden Wyandottes, $2.00 for 13.
B. B. R. Games, $2.00 for 13.
B. Minorcas, S. C. B. Leghorns, $1 for 13.
Two eggs extra if you mention this paper.

A. H. WANAMAKER,
Coupeville, Island Co., Wash.