A LIVING FROM THE SMALL FLOCK OF FOWLS

One-Man Farm Profitable Occupation, But Not Lazy Man's Job.

Modest Beginning, Then Consistent, Steady Growth Is Best Plan to Follow.

BY HARRY R. LEWIS.

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The moderate-sized poultry flock is probably the most satisfactory and profitable, for it requires the time of but one man, the owner, and does not necessitate the hiring of additional labor, which means greater expense and usually less efficiency. The experiences of hundreds of poultrymen keeping from 500 to 1,500 birds on limited acreage is proof enough of the possibilities open to one who has a small amount of capital and a willingness to begin in a correspondingly small way, and after a few years' experience develop a one-man plant which will pay him a definite weekly salary and provide a most enjoyable occupation.

What One Man Achieved.

The following is a summarized record of the achievements of one poultryman, who firmly believed in the possibilities of a one-man flock, and was willing to begin with 300 birds and take two years to develop in his project the results shown below. His beginning was made at the age of twenty-seven years, after he had become dissatisfied with clerical positions in the city. Just before starting his farm he devoted twelve weeks during the winter to a short course in poultry husbandry at one of our eastern agricultural colleges. The first year he ran behind financially $300, and the second year just broke even, while the third year he cleared $500. Since that time for the last two years he has cleared an average of $1,500 each year net.

During the year this farm kept an average of 1,000 fowls, made up of 600 pullets and 400 yearling hens, the latter being mated for breeding purposes. The farm proper contains two acres, one of which is devoted to the home and a house garden, while on the other are located the laying houses, three in number. On account of the necessity for raising a considerable number of pullets each year, three acres adjoining the poultry farm proper is leased for a term of ten years, planted in peach trees, and used for range for the growing stock, making a total of five acres devoted to the poultry work. A mammoth incubator of 200-egg capacity is located in the cellar of the house, and the chicks are brooded by coal-burning brooder stoves in portable colony houses on the range. These are four in number, and are used for maturing the young stock after the heaters are removed. As a whole, the arrangement works out very efficiently, and could profitably be copied by others wishing to carry on a similar line of business. If any changes were to be made, it would be desirable, if possible, to secure more land. Ten acres might be considered about the most efficient area, although the farm plan can be modified to meet larger or small locations. Too much land should not be used, however, as the tendency is then for the work to be too diversified, requiring more than the labor of the owner.

The following figures will show what is being done on such a farm, located in New Jersey, within thirty-five miles of New York city. The income for the fiscal year closing November 1, 1915, was approximately as follows:

Market eggs, 9,500 dozen, at 35c	$3,325
Hatching eggs, 300 dozen, at 80c	240
Broilers, sold at 1 lb. weight for 48c (700)	336
Old fowl and cull pullets, 500, at 60c	300
Hens sold for breeding, 100, at $2	200
Total	$4,401

The cost of operation for the same period of time was found to be apportioned approximately as follows:

The expenses were:	
Feed for young and old stock	$1,860
Seed for ranges and yards	16
Team hire for plowing and seeding	48
Repairs and supplies for Ford delivery truck	168
Supplies, cartons, cases, etc.	211
Interest on investment, at 5 per cent	300
Repairs and insurance	76
Total	$2,679

No Job for a Tired Man.

The experience cited is but typical of many other similar cases. However, do not fail to appreciate the fact that not every one who begins as did this man can succeed in the same degree, for there are many qualifications both as to the man and his ability. A man, to succeed in such an undertaking, must first have some experience in the care and management of birds, secured from actual contact with them. He must not think for a minute that a one-man poultry flock is a lazy man's job; it is not; but for the man looking for interesting, continuous, healthy outdoor work, there is none better.

Capital is necessary to insure the success of such a venture as described. The family mentioned began poultry work with $5,000 in cash, of which $1,000 was left in the bank for working capital. The start was made with but 300 birds, which was increased to 500 the second year, 800 the third year, and 1,000 the fourth year, at which point it has since been maintained.

OPTIMISM OF GEN. GORGAS.

Believes That Scourge of Consumption May Be Banished From Land.

From the New York Sun.

The county hospitals will banish tuberculosis in a few years if every sufferer can be treated, Surgeon General Gorgas told the American Health Association. What a boon to humanity it would be! But can the money be found to make the comprehensive scheme practicable? Gen. Gorgas compares the tuberculosis campaign to the yellow fever campaign in Havana and on the isthmus of Panama. He says:

"We employed many measures, any one of which probably, if it had been completely carried out, would have succeeded in controlling yellow fever. We knew that no one of them, however, could be carried out with complete efficiency. We therefore employed all measures that promised success as extensively as we could."

He does not say, however, what the cost was. The United States government paid the bill, and it was heavy. Money was no object when the order issued to make a "health resort" of the Panama Zone. The extermination of the mosquito required an outlay larger than single states incur in the campaign against tuberculosis. Possibly that dread disease would be banished in a few years if money were spent without counting the cost. But can it be provided?

Gen. Gorgas also says, we fear with some exaggeration, that "the increase of wages in the Panama Canal Zone had more to do with the general health condition on the isthmus than any sanitary measure employed there." Accordingly, he argues that we shall never succeed fully in any public health work "until we have improved the fundamental economic conditions of the people"—and educated them, he might have added. But this is a question that must be left to the working of economic laws unless the government can be paymaster, as it was on the isthmus. But would not the government itself be subject to economic laws?

Brooding over separation from his wife and three children, William O. Norris, sixty-one, a bricklayer, ended his life at Baltimore by firing a pistol bullet into his right temple.

Poultry Yard Notes.

Maximum results cannot be expected of the layers during the winter season unless the hens are fed a ration containing a relatively high percentage of protein. That is to say, the fowls during the winter when restricted to the houses and when the summer supply of bugs, worms, etc., is cut off must be supplied with animal food in some other form. Experiments conducted at the Missouri University experiment farm recently show conclusively that beef scrap and sour milk are the two forms in which protein may be supplied most advantageously.

The hens used in the experiments referred to were separated into three small flocks, kept in separate houses, the number in the flocks being equal. All of the hens were fed corn all the time, wheat part of the time, and in addition ground grain rations of bran, middlings and corn meal.

In addition to this regular ration the hens in one pen were given a ration of good commercial beef scrap ,and those in one other pen were fed all the sour milk they would consume. The hens were all of the same age and breed.

The hens that were fed only the regular ration in a given period layed 800 eggs. The hens that received a ration of beef scrap in addition to the regular feed laid 1,518 eggs in the same period. Those that had the regular grain ration with the sour milk laid 1,425 eggs. The test period began January 1, 1914, and ended June 1, 1914.

The quantity of beef scrap fed to the hens in pen No. 2 was sixty pounds, costing $1.80. The hens in this pen laid 718 more eggs than those in pen No. 1, fed only grain and ground grain. The hens in penn No. 3 laid 625 eggs more on their sour milk and grain ration than those fed only grain.

A good preventive and treatment for roup follows: Magnesium sulphate, ten ounces; magnesium oxide, one ounce; sulphate of iron, two ounces; ground ginger, two ounces, and sulphur, three ounces. Give one tablespoonful in moist mash to twelve birds each morning for three mornings and discontinue till needed.

Farmers who have plenty of beets will find that they make excellent food for laying hens. It gives them green food for which they crave and makes a variety of food. Hens become tired of the same food day after day, and if you have beets give them some every few days. They will eat them cooked or raw. If you feed them raw drive a large nail in the side of the coop and stick the beet on this. If fed cooked mix them with the mash, as this will absorb much of the moisture.

Never discard a good breeding fowl so long as it keeps in good breeding condition.

Egg eating is a bad and expensive habit, but it seems natural for the hen to crave the material needed to form the eggshell. A plan successfully followed for years is to scald a mixture of one pint ground oyster shells and eight quarts of any grain mixture being used at the time. The egg eating stops right away, but as a precaution gather the eggs frequently for a few days so there will be no temptation to the hens. The plan is little expense and no extra trouble. Many have a box of the ground shells in the yard so the hens can help themselves. The above plan is better because the hen is obliged to take in some of the shells in her food.

The watchful man has the least trouble with sickness among his fowls.

One of the finest helps in the winter poultry business is dust for the birds to work in when the days are cold.

Poultry can be made profitable on every farm, and the farmer who neglects it is simply throwing away money.

What is especially needed in the successful handling of poultry in this climate is a house in which, when the temperature is low the fowls can be kept comfortable and where they will not suffer from frozen combs and wattles and get out of condition. Freezing of the combs when the hens are laying will retard egg production at once and will often cause them to cease laying altogether, and the best care and feeding will not avail to bring them back on a paying basis for a long time. See to it, therefore, that the hens do not get a setback in very severe weather. Give them a little extra attention at such times. See that all openings are closed during the storm and give a warm meal on very cold mornings, and especially be sure that their drinking water be not frozen, for if frozen it is not available for their needs.

When fowls are penned up one of the first things they will miss is grit. See to it that the grit box is always supplied with grinding material.

One day's neglect of water will cause the egg yield to fall off for two or three days afterward.

The most common type of crop-bound is most likely to occur among young birds that have had insufficient green feed and have as a result attempted to swallow a cabbage rib, a tough blade of grass or some other bulky article, which has obstructed the outlet of the crop and has finally become so impacted, together with other food, that the mass presses on the windpipe or fermentation sets in and induces a form of poisoning. This type of crop bound is usually easily recognized, as a moment's careful massaging of the crop will locate the offending matter.

The treatment usually prescribed is an injection of castor oil into the crop, followed by massage and an effort to remove the contents through the mouth. However, this is a matter of some difficulty, and often because of the size or shape of the offending matter is nothing less than impossible.

In such a case there is but one remedy—a surgical operation. If the bird is a vigorous one, a pound or more in weight, the operation is not difficult nor very risky.

Preferably, one person should hold the bird while another performs the operation. The light should be good and the air fresh and clean to lessen the danger of infection. The instruments needed are a very sharp knife or scalpel, a pair of small scissors, a spoon and a needle threaded with white cotton thread, white silk or surgical gut.

With the scissors trim closely the feathers from a space one to two inches over the crop and shorten any others that may be in the way. With the fingers of the left hand draw the skin tight and carefully make an incision in the outer skin near the center of the crop. Insert the point of the scissors and enlarge the slit until it is about an inch and a half long. Some small blood vessels will be plainly seen, but it is usually easy to avoid cutting any except the very smallest. If a few drops of blood flow remove them with absorbent cotton.

Carefully draw the slit in the skin about half an inch to one side and make a cut through the crop wall, enlarging it also with the scissors. Remove the contents of the crop, using the spoon handle as a scoop. Wash out the crop with a solution of permanganate of potash—a pinch of the crystals in about half a cupful of tepid water.

Sew up the crop wall, making the stitches an eighth of an inch apart and tying them carefully. Draw the outer skin together and put a few stitches in it.

Swab off the wound with a mild solution of carbolic acid or some other antiseptic and put the fowl in a clean, comfortable place to rest. In an hour the bird may have water colored with permanganate to drink. Probably by this time it will be looking for food, but this should be withheld for twelve hours. Give a light feed of an easily digested mash at the usual feeding hours for a couple of days, then the usual grain and green feed for another day. If apparently normal the bird may go back to the flock.

Mrs. Alice M. Reed of Chicago, fifty-three, died at the home of her niece, Mrs. Henry Steinmuller, in Baltimore, after five months' illness. Her husband, Howard M. Reed, died two months ago in Chicago. She was born in Baltimore, and before her marriage was Miss Neill.

HOW TO FIT FOWLS FOR THE SHOWPENS

Preparing Birds for the Big Winter Exhibitions Is Amateur's Hardest Task.

Good Physical Condition, Handsome Plumage and Careful Grooming Are Prime Requisites.

With the exhibition and show season in full blast, the amateur poultryman is confronted with the most difficult problem he is called on to solve if he is ambitious to show his fowls in competition with those of other breeders. As a rule, amateurs know nothing about conditioning birds for the showrooms and less than nothing in regard to proper methods of washing and fitting the birds for exhibition.

Every fowl, whether young or mature, should be in first-class show condition when it enters the exhibition hall. The plumage should be the standard length for the breed, lustrous and plentiful, the head bright red in color and the comb developed to the required size. The specimen should appear in handsome dress, good physical condition and trained to exhibit his good qualities to advantage. Careful training imparts to a bird sufficient confidence to assume and hold desired poses under showroom conditions.

"Gentling" the Birds.

If possible, obtain exhibition coops similar to those used at the show you will attend. Cover the floor with short straw or a mixture of bran and straw for feather-leg breeds. Two months before the show place the birds you intend to exhibit in the coops at night. Visit the coops as frequently as you can and handle the birds often. Carry them around under the arm, open their wings and examine the undercolor and accustom them to every movement of the judge. It is not advisable or necessary to keep the show birds confined in the training coops. A day at a time is sufficient. Then, allow them the run of the house for two or three days and outdoor exercise if seasonable.

It is necessary to examine show birds carefully at least ten weeks before the show. Remove all imperfect feathers, in the hops that they will be replaced by feathers of standard color. Frequently a colored feather showing little white along the edge of the web will molt out perfectly when the fowl is well fed on sour milk mash, meat and grain. Never pluck a new feather—one in which the quill is filled with fluid—as it will invariably return partially white. A few days before the exhibition examine your birds again and pluck the imperfect feathers. It is quite a problem to determine the best procedure when there is foreign color in some of the large feathers on the wings or tail. If the color is a cause for disqualification there is no justification for shipping the bird to the show. What is best to do will depend upon the quality of the specimen in other sections, and upon the amount of defective color in the wings. Usually these defects occur in similar feathers in both wings.

Wash All White Birds.

All white fowls must be washed, and most fowls of other colors can be improved in appearance by washing, fluffing and grooming before the show. For white birds have three tubs filled with (1) warm, soft or rain water; (2) warm, soft or rain water; (3) warm, soft or rain water colored the proper shade to rinse and blue white goods. Use a bar of good white or castile soap and a large sponge and a nail brush. Have the temperature of the room 80 or 85 degrees, and bring the birds in clean exhibition coops, the floors of which should be covered with fresh, dry shavings. Wash the malfaction first. Clean the shanks and feet with the nail brush, soap and water. Insert the bird in tub (1) and push it down under the water several times until the plumage is wet through; make a heavy lather with the sponge and soap and thoroughly wash the plumage with the sponge; open the wings and sponge them in the direction of the feathers; in fact, always wash the length of the feather, from the quill to the tip, and not across it. Keep the bird's head out of the soapy water, if possible; sponge the soap off the bird and remove to tub (2). Press it under the water several times, allow it to stand and drip for a few seconds, and then dip it twice in tub (3) containing the bluing water. Remove the bird from the water, hold its legs firmly and raise it up and down quickly, so that it will flap and expand its wings and tail and shake out the water. Do not use a towel to dry a white bird.

Drying and Grooming.

Move the exhibition coop near the fire or some heat, so that the bird will dry. Lifting up the plumage of the breast and opening the feathers of the fluff while drying has a tendency to increase the apparent size of these sections. It is necessary to examine the white birds frequently if the coops are near a stove to guard against overheating them or scorching or curling their feathers.

The shanks and feet of exhibition fowls must be absolutely clean and well polished. To overcome rough scales rub the legs twice daily with a cloth dipped in kerosine, and a short time before the show wash them thoroughly. Use a good scouring soap, woolen cloth, and warm rain water. Remove any old or rough scales and also the dirt between the scales. The latter can be taken out with toothpicks. Dry the shanks and apply a solution of equal parts of sweet oil and alcohol. Then warm a woolen cloth aand scrape a little beeswax on it. The warmth will melt the wax, and the shanks should then be polished with the waxed cloth.

Before shipping the birds to the exhibition apply the sweet oil and alcohol solution to the face and comb. If you are showing white birds, fill their plumage, after washing and when thoroughly dry, with equal parts of bran and rice flour. Some exhibitors use cornstarch, which is equally satisfactory. This prevents the plumage becoming soiled, and when the starch is shaken out at the show and the fowls are groomed they apparently take a higher polish. However, the coops must have wooden or muslin tops and sides to prevent rain coming in contact with the starched plumage. The final grooming is accomplished with a silk handkerchief, rubbing and polishing the feathers until the plumage has a high luster.

LOGIC.

Jinks—"Why, I repaid you that $, old chap, but you were intoxicated at the time and don't remember it."

Binks—"Huh! If I'd been intoxicated you'd have borrowed more.

MARYLAND AND THE VIRGINIAS.

PROFFIT, Va.—Miss Eunice Moore, for many years a member of the household of J. W. Austin, disappeared last week, and so far no trace of her has been found. The young woman's trunk was gone when her absence was discovered. She had prepared breakfast for the family before leaving. No cause for Miss Moore's action is known.

LEXINGTON, Va.—The board of visitors of the Virginia Military Institute has decided that the death recently of Cadet Tnurber Sweet of Chicago was not due to injuries caused by hazing. Young Sweet's father, a Chicago millionaire, has fully acquiesced in the finding of the board.

HARRISONBURG, Va.—Disputing over responsibility for payment of taxes on a farm, William H. Rexroad, fifty-one years old, and Early C. Snyder, both of Pendleton county, W. Va., engaged in a scuffle, during which Rexroad dropped dead of heart disease.

ANNAPOLIS, Md.—Frederick Fehrman, fifteen years old, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Fehrman, tried to show a crowd of boys how high he could shoot a marble with his new Christmas rifle. Placing a marble on the muzzle of the rifle, the boy pulled the trigger, and six boys in the crowd yelled with pain. The bullet, instead of driving the marble into the air, shattered it into fragments which lacerated the faces of the boys standing near, several of them requiring the attention of a physician.

ANNAPOLIS, Md.—Gilbert Schafer, sixteen years old, skated on thin ice on Blue Dam pond Christmas day. His body was recovered from forty feet of water the following day.

CUMBERLAND, Md. — Thieves who worked the combination on an old-fashioned iron safe in the Carpenter hardware store got $179 cash and overlooked more money and checks in another part of the safe. They left no trace as to their identity.

DANVILLE, Va.—Floyd Banner Ball, nine years old, found a half-pint flask of whisky while alone in the house. He drank the liquor, and although doctors worked with him for several hours, the boy died the next morning.

KABLETOWN, W. Va.—Fire which destroyed the store and residence of C. D. Johnson caused a loss of several thousand dollars, partly covered by insurance. An exploding coal oil stove started the blaze.

WARRENTON, Va.—"Institute farm," 500 acres, near Oatlands, Loudoun county, has been purchased by Ramsey Turnbull of New York for the National Beagle Association. It is understood future field trials of the association are to be held there. The organization held its first field trials in Loudoun county last fall, thirteen of the best beagle packs in the country competing.

CULPEPER, Va.—"Aunt Martha" Payne, Culpeper's best known colored resident, was burned to death in a fire that totally destroyed her home early Sunday morning. She was an example of the fast-disappearing type of colored mammy and was held in high esteem by everyone in the community.

HOPEWELL, Va.—Citizens of this place have set on foot a movement to obtain a Carnegie medal for Adam Drumm, the eleven-year-old hero of the recent Hopewell fire. The boy, at great risk of his own life, saved two babies from burning when their home was destroyed by flames.

ROANOKE, Va.—James B. Botts, city tax collector, has announced his candidacy for state treasurer.

RICHMOND, Va.—A conditional contract, depending upon the sale of bonds to the extent of $100,000 immediately, for the construction of the Richmond, Rappahannock and Northern railway, was awarded by the board of directors at a meeting here. The contract is conditioned upon the sale of the stock to one. The contractors have agreed to start work on the road as soon as this amount of money is paid over to them, and bonds for the remainder will be accepted. It is estimated that the cost of construction and equipping the road will aggregate $250,000.

RICHMOND, Va.—The Virginia Road Builders' Association is to hold its fourth annual meeting here January 18 and 19, and Mayor Ainslie, who is deeply interested in the good roads movement, appointed the following delegates: Col. Thomas B. McAdams, C. E. Bolling, D. F. LaPrade, J. M. D. Morris, Dr. L. D. Batkins, Dr. R. A. Nichols, G. P. Clay, E. B. Thomason, J. B. Wood, H. M. Phillips and R. B. Allport.

HARRISONBURG, Va.—Douglas and Elliott Dold, sons of Dr. William E. Dold, a native of this place, now a New York physician, have been taken prisoners by the Bulgarians in the march through Serbia. The boys were graduated in medicine in New York city and last spring joined a Serbian relief expedition, organized by Sir Ralph Paddegett. After a long, hard summer of toil the boys joined the Serbian army this fall. Several times they had narrow escapes from death around Nish and were finally made prisoners.

BERRYVILLE, Va.—W. H. Carter eighty-eight years old, is dead at his home near here. For thirty years he was deputy treasurer of Clarke county, and it was said of him that he knew or was known by every man, woman and child in the county. He was the last surviving member of a large Fauquier county family, his brother, Capt. Robert Carter, having died several years ago.

CHARLES TOWN, W. Va.—J. Campbell Janney, who served in the civil war in Stonewall Jackson's brigade, is dead here, at the age of seventy years.

HAGERSTOWN, Md.—Petitions from students of the high school have become so numerous and the requests contained in them so varied that the school board has adopted a rule providing that hereafter no petitions from students will be received unless the papers are signed by a certain number of the parents of pupils. The board's action was precipitated by the presentation of a students' petition asking that the Christmas holiday be extended to double its contemplated length, the original announcement being for a vacation from December 23 to January 3. The request was refused.

HAGERSTOWN, Md.—The state board of health has announced that the water supply of this place is not responsible for the numerous cases of typhoid fever. Careful analyses of Hagerstown's public water supply, the board says, shows the water is not contaminated.

FREDERICKSBURG, Va.—Business men and others of this place and Reedville, Va., have organized the Reedville to Fredericksburg Highway Association, the purpose of which is to bring about the construction of a state highway between Fredericksburg and Reedville and Chesapeake bay. Officers are: George N. Reed, Reedville, president; Albert Stuart, Montross, secretary, and H. W. B. Williams, Colonial Beach, treasurer.

CULPEPER, Va.—Farmers of this vicinity sold more than 3,000 turkeys to a local produce company the week before Christmas. In the number was one lot of 1,500 turkeys, driven to town from the Rixeyville vicinity.

COLONIAL BEACH, Va.—James Rogers, seventy-seven years old, a Confederate veteran, is dead at his ome here. He was a native of King George county, coming here about a year ago.

CUMBERLAND, Md.—Father Matthew, for nine years assistant pastor of SS. Peter and Paul's Church here, is dead at Hays, Kan., where he went after leaving Cumberland. He was a member of the Capucin Order, being ordained in 1885.

FROSTBURG, Md.—Stockholders in the Lonaconing oil well have subscribed a fund sufficient to drill the well to the depth of 3,500 feet, if it is necessary to go that deep for oil. The well is already down to the depth of 2,400 feet.

FREDERICKSBURG, Va.—"Cussed out," he said, by "Bubby" Lee, a star boarder at his home, Rev. James T. Green, colored, had the offender arrested. In police court it was shown that liquor had figured extensively in the alleged cursing, and the colored minister was required to pay the costs of the proceedings. Lee was ordered to pay his board and move.

STRASBURG, Va.—Charles L. Rhodes, twenty-seven years old, postmaster at Linville Depot, near here, accidentally shot himself, death being instantaneous. He had finished cleaning a rifle and placed a cartridge in the chamber for a trial shot, when in some manner he struck the rifle against a table, causing its discharge. His wife and three small children survive.

HAGERSTOWN, Md.—Mrs Susan Dixon, nearly eighty years old, was found dead in her log cabin near Trego. Her throat had been cut from ear to ear. Officers have not been able to discover whether the case was suicide or murder. Mrs. Dixon was the widow of George Dixon and lived alone. Her body was found crumpled up back of the stove in the kitchen. A bloody cloth was bound around the gashed throat and the woman had evidently been dead for many hours.

HAGERSTOWN, Md.—Business of the local post office for Christmas just past was more than double the volume of business a year ago.

FREDERICK, Md.—Lewis Stull, thirteen years old, son of Mrs. Fleet J. Stull of Poplar Heights, is in the hospital here because his brother George didn't know a shotgun was loaded. The entire charge of birdshot from the gun took effect in Lewis' right thigh and amputation may be necessary.

NORFOLK, Va.—The body of Virginia Howard, daughter of Capt. Richard Howard of the steamer Tivoli, which was burned to the water's edge November 26, was washed ashore at Middle Hoopers Island, Chesapeake bay. The young girl was among those reported missing after the fire. She was a passenger on the boat with her father, mother and a sister and brother. The boy was also lost.

TAZEWELL, Va.—Fire at Grundy, county seat of Buchanan county, destroyed seven buildings and caused a loss of more than $100,000, partly covered by insurance. The fire started in the building of the Grundy Mercantile Company, which was totally destroyed together with the buildings of J. H. Stinson & Co., E. H. Witten Company, office of the Sandy Valley News, and the homes of Mrs. Glen Watkins, Dr. John Waldron and E. H. Combs.

RICHMOND, Va.—Good Roads day is to be observed in every public school in Virginia January 28, in accordance with a proclamation issued by Gov. Stuart. The state highway commission and the Co-operative Educational Association are co-operating in the movement.

UPPE RMARLBORO, Md.—Charles S. Rowe of this place was run down and killed by a train at Hopewell, Va., according to word received here. He was a son of Mayor J. P. Rowe. After his graduation from the University of Wisconsin last June he took a position at Hopewell in the chemical department of the du Pont powder plant. He was twenty-five years old.

BERRYVILLE, Va.—Frank Galloway, former star catcher on the Berryville base ball team, is in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where he is in charge of construction work on a big cold storage plant. He is also catching for a base ball team composed of Americans and a few Argentinans, and newspaper clippings received here last week containing reports of contests in which his team has figured indicate that he is playing a great game.

HAGERSTOWN, Md.—John Brown, a negro living near Rohrersville, this county, has been charged by a coroner's jury with the murder of Mrs. Susan Nixon, seventy-six years old, who was found dead in her log cabin Christmas day with her face almost shot away. Brown, who is said to be a mixture of negro, Indian and white, is in jail here. His trial is to be held during the February term of court.

WINTER CARE OF HORSES.

"Roughing" Animals Keeps Them in Better Condition Than if Grain Fed.

Farm economy requires that during the winter months the live stock, particularly the farm horses, shall be properly fed and cared for, but at the same time proper management demands that feeding cost be reduced as far as is reasonably possible without impairing the condition of the animals. Horses improperly fed and cared for during the winter cannot be expected to come out in the spring in condition to round to quickly for the season's work.

At this time of the year practically all the heavy work on most farms has been finished, and with the approach of winter horses are more or less idle. Since idle horses give no return in labor performed, the feeding should be as economical as possible, and proper care should be taken of the animals in order that they may be in the best possible condition for work in the early spring.

Horses should not be confined to the barn during the winter on a liberal supply of grain. It is far better to "rough" them through the cold months. They should be given the run of the yard or lot during the day. This should be provided with a protected shed, one that is thoroughly dry and well provided with bedding. While nature does her part and protects the horse with a heavy coat of hair during the cold months, the shed is necessary in order to afford the necessary shelter and protection against rains, snow and cold winds. Winter winds come mostly from the north and northwest, and the shed should be so situated and constructed as to give the proper protection from this quarter.

In the feeding of idle horses the high-priced feeds should be avoided in order to keep them in proper condition at the lowest cost. It has been found that idle horses do very well on a winter feed consisting of all the hay, oat straw, cornstalks or sorghums they will consume, so that little grain is necessary. Idleness also permits of a more thorough mastication of the feed, thus insuring proper digestion.

From six to eight weeks before the spring work is started the horses should be put at light work and started on a small grain ration in order that they may be in proper condition for the work required of them. The grain ration may then be gradually increased until the regular allowance has been reached for the working season.

Growing colts require considerable protein. They should be so fed as to secure proper development and at a minimum cost. Rough feed, such as clean mixed hay, alfalfa or clover, may be fed along with a mixture of bran, oats and corn.

Mrs. Jennie B. Shumaker, wife of Luther Shumaker, of Arlington, near Baltimore, was taken ill at her home with acute indigestion and died a few minutes later.

Mrs. Etta Hartz, widow of Solomon Hartz, died after a long illness from the infirmities of age, at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Aaron Cohen, Baltimore. She was ninety-three years old and was born in Russia.

WRONG TIP.

Jones—Yes, I advertised for a chauffeur. Do you drink?

Applicant—Not a drop, sir.

Jones—You wouldn't do! I'm sick of the car and want it smashed!

POLICE PROBE ROW; FIND MURDER DONE

Frank Davis, Colored, Arrested for Killing Florine Johnson, Negress.

Alexander F. Davis, colored, charged with having murdered a laundress, Florine Johnson, also colored, at 6 Allen court, between 3d and 4½ and L and M streets southeast, Thursday, was arrested about 10:30 o'clock last night by police of the fourth precinct.

The death of the woman did not become known until yesterday morning. The police went to the house to investigate a report that a fight had occurred there. The nude body of the woman, with her head and face badly cut, was found on a bed, covered with a heap of bedclothing.

Davis Under Suspicion.

Suspicion pointed to Davis. The police learned he had quarreled with the woman. A search was instituted for him, but it was not until last night that he was located.

Policemen Patterson and Fields of the fourth precinct received information that Davis was in the home of a friend on L street between 3d and 4½ streets southwest. He was arrested there.

When taken to the police station he was questioned for about a half hour. Capt. Williams said Davis had declared he and the woman had a fight Thursday, and that he cut her with a safety razor. The prisoner is also said to have stated the woman attempted to cut him with a razor, but was not successful. According to the officer, Davis is said to have stated he then kicked the woman to death.

Just what caused the trouble between the couple is not known. Davis is said to have stated he had been drinking heavily.

Occupants of the house declare Davis slept in the room Wednesday and Thursday nights, while last night he slept in a room on the lower floor.

Murder Not Suspected.

When Policeman Calhoun went to the house yesterday to inquire what was the matter he did not know there had been a murder until he saw the body. When he returned to the lower floor he was told that Frank Davis had left by the back way, and that he had a fresh cut on his neck.

Everything in the room in which the body of Florine Johnson was found suggested that there had been a desperate encounter. The stove and bed were broken, and large pools of blood had been removed with articles of wearing apparel belonging to the woman. The garments were found in a closet covered with ashes.

Policeman Calhoun saw Davis in the rear room on the ground floor when he reached the house. Persons in the room denied that there was anything wrong upstairs. Joseph Minor, an occupant of the rear room on the second floor, followed the policeman and seemed horrified at the sight of the dead body. Davis disappeared before the policeman could return to the first floor.

Knew Nothing of Row.

Mary Burrell, a colored woman, occupied the lower floor of the house in Allen court. She said she had heard nothing of the fight that neighbors reported having heard. She had had no occasion to visit Florine Johnson, she said, and had not been in the habit of visiting her, except when she was sick.

James Wilson, colored, alias "Jack the Bear," said to be an actor, wanted for killing Lucien Mines, also colored, last Wednesday morning, at 331 Missouri avenue, was still at large up to a late hour last night. The last seen of Wilson by police was about 1 o'clock on the morning of the shooting, when he ran through Armory Square.

The police think he had both money and friends to assist him in hiding and preventing his arrest. They feel confident he will be captured soon.

FOREIGN PRESS COMMENT.

Views of Papers in Paris, London, Budapest, The Hague and Rome.

PARIS, December 31, 4:40 p.m., delayed.—Great interest is shown here in the Austrian reply to the American note. La Liberte characterizes Austria's answer as "a backdown which is verbose, and is made with bad grace." It asserts the Austrian account of the sinking of the Ancona is at complete variance with the evidence obtained by the American inquiry.

The Intransigeant publishes the Austrian reply under the heading: "Vienna making game of the United States."

LONDON, January 1, 2:20 a.m.—The London papers are not yet in possession of the full text of the latest note from Austria-Hungary to the United States regarding the sinking of the steamer Ancona, but all publish the summary received yesterday with headlines, in which the words "evasion" and "reparation" are the most prominent.

BUDAPEST, via London, January 1.—In commenting on the Austro-Hungarian reply to the note from the United States regarding the sinking of the steamer Ancona, the Pester Lloyd says: "The manner in which the Ancona case has been settled, thanks to the chivalry of Austro-Hungary, signifies a bitter disappointment for the entente. The hope that German-American relations would be broken as a necessary consequence of the incident will be disappointed by the tone of the Austro-Hungarian note."

The Pester Journal says it hopes that the readiness of Austria-Hungary to meet the wishes of the United States will be appreciated in Washington and that the incident will be regarded as settled.

THE HAGUE, via London, January 1.—The Nieuwe Courant characterizes the Austro-Hungarian reply to the note from the United States regarding the Ancona incident as veiled in diplomatic retreat. The paper adds that the readiness of the Vienna government to compensate the victims even with a "gap in the American evidence" shows that Austria-Hungary is anxious to maintain good relations with America, but that this is not so important as Washington's victory over Vienna on the submarine question.

The Courant says that the Austro-Hungarian government confesses that the rights of humanity were infringed.

ROME, December 31, 8:45 p.m. (Delayed.)—The Tribuna, in commentingon the Austro-Hungarian reply to the note from the United States regarding the Ancona incident, sums up its article in the heading "Austria Submits to America."

BOMB FOUND IN STATEHOUSE.

Unsuccessful Attempt Made To Dynamite Building In Boston.

BOSTON, January 1.—An unsuccessful attempt to dynamite the statehouse was made today. A bomb containing four pounds of explosive was attached to a basement door and a fuse had been lighted, but the flame apparently died before reaching the detonator.

Had the explosion occurred, in the opinion of the police, the building would have been greatly damaged. The fact that tarred rope was used as a fuse, according to investigators, indicated that the bomb was the work of a novice.

A scrubwoman discovered the bomb this morning. The police took it to a suburb and there discharged the dynamite. It showed a high explosive force.

ROCKVILLE AND COUNTY

Special Correspondence of The Star.

ROCKVILLE, Md., January 1.—A large number of guests from this county, Washington, Baltimore and other places attended the annual New Year ball of the Rockville Assembly, which was held in the opera house here last evening. The committee of arrangements was composed of Charles A. Beard, Albert M. Bouic, Berry E. Clark, Edward S. Dawson, Thomas L. Dawson, Arthur B. McFarland, Charles G. Myers, Wilson S. Ward, Robert L. Warfield and Roland Wootton, and the chaperons were Mrs. Edward C. Peter, Mrs. Willis L. Moore, Mrs. William Dorsey and Mrs. Howard Larcombe. At midnight refreshments were served.

Frank L. Hewitt, chairman of the campaign committee recently organized in this county in the interest of the candidacy of Gist Blair for the republican congressional nomination to succeed Representative David J. Lewis, is engaged in forming a committee of one hundred of the more prominent members of the party in this county to help boost Mr. Blair's candidacy.

No Motorists Arrested.

Neither Sheriff Frank Gaither nor any of his deputies made any arrests today of operators of motor vehicles for their failure to have displayed on their machines Maryland license tags for 1916; neither will these officials molest any of them tomorrow. Next week, however, it will be different. Sheriff Gaither announced today that he had instructed his deputies to allow none to escape, no matter what his excuse might be, after tomorrow, so it is highly probable that all who venture out on Montgomery county roads with machines minus 1916 license tags after the two-day period of grace will find themselves in the clutches of the law.

There are a number of constables in the county, however, several of whom patrol on motor cycles the principal thoroughfares leading out from Washington, who are not under the control of Sheriff Gaither. While so far as known no arrests were made by any of these officers today, it is possible they will not be as lenient as Sheriff Gaither and may get busy tomorrow.

Hymen Wins After All.

When Samuel A. Anthony of Jackson, Va., was refused a license in Washington yesterday for his marriage to Miss Nellie S. Sharp, also of Jackson, because the license clerk was in receipt of a telegram from the youth's father, imparting the information that he was but eighteen years of age, the couple did not give up their marrying project by a good deal. Instead, they made straight for Rockville, where matrimonial obstacles are more easily surmounted. Upon presenting himself at the marriage license office here he represented that he had attained his majority on the 26th of last May. The license was accordingly issued and the couple were soon afterward married by Rev. O. C. Barnes, pastor of the Christian Church, at the home of the minister. Immediately after the ceremony the couple returned to Washington.

In honor of her sister-in-law, Mrs. Clifton Veirs, who was until recently Miss Griffith of this county, Mrs. F. Bache Abert entertained at a tea at her home here Wednesday afternoon.

Issued 548 Marriage Licenses.

During the year just closed 548 licenses to marry were issued by the clerk of the circuit court here. This is a record for the office, exceeding by about fifty the greatest number issued in any previous year, and shows that Rockville is still popular as a Gretna Green.

Of the licenses issued during the twelve months, 241 were to District of Columbia couples, 167 to couples from Montgomery county, 115 to Virginia couples and 55 to couples from various parts of the country.

Rev. Samuel R. White, a retired Baptist minister, again topped all of the ministers of the county in the number of ceremonies performed. He officiated on 200 occasions, making a total of more than 2,000 nuptial knots tied by him during his career of sixty years as a minister of the gospel. Rev. Oscar W. Henderson, pastor of the Rockville Baptist Church, married forty-five couples during the year; Rev. Frank M. Richardson, pastor of the Methodist Church, forty-five couples; Rev. John R. Henderson, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, fifteen couples; Rev. John T. Coolahan, pastor of St. Mary's Catholic Church, twelve couples, and Rev. O. C. Barnes, pastor of the Christian Church, nine couples. The others were married by ministers in various parts of the county.

Transfers of Real Estate.

Transfers of real estate were recorded in the office of the clerk of the circuit court here during the week as follows: Sarah E. Boyd to D. W. Baker, trustee, 325 acres; Charles E. Mobley to James H. Eckersly, 12½ acres; Edmund P. B. Margerum to Walter L. Bryan, 2 acres; Truman R. Cissel to E. Lloyd Fawcett