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SELECTING BREEDING STOCK

For Next Spring's Chicks.

By G. E. Conkey.
True, it is still several months before the average poultry owner wants to hatch any chicks, but if you would have your fluffy little fellows strong, healthy and vigorous, you must begin selecting your breeding stock now.
Upon the wisdom of this selection depends not only the general health and stamina of your chicks, but to a large extent their size, future habits and laying qualities. This may not have occurred to you, as many people have never stopped to analyze the importance of hatching the eggs of only such hens as have been carefully selected for breeding purposes. However, I am sure that as you read the rest of this article, you will realize that fully one half of the average flock is wholly unfit for breeding purposes and that the proper selection of breeding birds is a very important matter.

It is the very importance of this particular phase of poultry raising that, to me, makes it so wonderfully interesting. It is hard to imagine a thing more fascinating than to pick out certain parent birds which will reproduce certain qualities in the offspring and then eagerly waiting to see whether the results will show the soundness or inexperience of one's judgment.
You, too, will enjoy this part of poultry raising, I am sure, and you do not have to wait to demonstrate your ability to select good breeding birds, for the selection of breeding stock should begin immediately. It is best to have the breeding birds in their own house shortly after January 1st and when they are once mated, they must be kept entirely separate from the rest of the flock. That means, too, that you must have clean, dry quarters ready to receive them.

In selecting breeding birds, your aim should be to take only those that will be most likely to give you all round good chicks—chicks that will possess rugged health and stamina, that will mature in reasonable time, that will make good layers and that will possess good qualities in general.
This makes it necessary for you to watch your flock very closely each day and pick out only those hens that are strongest, most healthy and vigorous. It is also desirable to choose hens that you know are good layers or that show indications of being good layers, as they will be most likely to produce chicks that will mature into good layers. Heavy laying hens are very active, are off the roosts early in the morning and on late in the evening and are big eaters. However, do not forget that hens that have been laying regularly are likely to be run down and should not be used for breeding purposes until they have been put in good condition by getting a good tonic along with their feed. No hen should be selected as a breeder that is known to be a poor layer.

The best breeding hens seem to be those that are about two years old. Three year old hens are also good. If it is necessary to use pullets, only those that are fully matured should be chosen. Several undesirable results are likely to follow the use of pullets as breeders. Often, many of the eggs are infertile, because the birds have really not reached maturity; many of the chicks are small and weak; and the chicks do not mature into full size birds.

Even worse than the use of pullets is the use of birds possessing defects or crooked bones. It should always be remembered that "like begets like" and that at least part of the offspring of such birds are almost sure to be deformed or show the defect in even a more marked degree than the parent.

When hens two or three years old are selected for breeding purposes, they should be mated to a well matured cockerel. Experiments have proven that such mating, as a rule, produces the most desirable chicks. However, if pullets must be used, it is better to mate them to an old male.
In either case, you should give just as much attention to the health and appearance of the male bird as to that of the hens and, if possible, select a male that you know comes from a good laying strain. The male is really half the flock and has an even greater influence over the laying qualities of the offspring than the female.
A male bird should not be mated to more than ten or twelve hens. Some raisers of the lighter breeds of poultry often place

RALPH KELLARD PLAYS LEAD IN BIG FOX DRAMA

In "Her Mother's Secret?" He Excels-All of His Many Past Stage Triumphs.
Play Has Wide Appeal.
Thrills, Grips, Sways—and Reaches Base of Every Human Emotion.

The photoplay entitled "Her Mother's Secret?" which was written by Martha Woodrow and produced by Frederick Thomson for William Fox, and in which Ralph Kellard, Adonis of the silent stage, is starred, is one of the most powerful and most human dramas that has ever emerged from the Fox studios. It is full of dramatic situations that grip and hold the soul of the spectator, and its climax, which, by the way, teaches a great moral lesson, is brought out with the compelling, thundering, irresistible force of the steam hammer. Clergymen and educators who have seen "Her Mother's Secret?" in script form declare that its potency for good is greater than that of "The Old Homestead."
Mr. Kellard appears first as Seth Cartwright, Sr., and later as Seth Cartwright, Jr. His transition from the self centered, adamant hearted father to the big, dissipated, pleasure loving son, is one of the greatest triumphs of his career.

Cartwright, Sr., and his law partner, Schwab (Edward Davies) love Bernice Archer (Julie Power). Cartwright, who is already married, is the father of a child born to Bernice. The latter, after she is cast off, becomes deranged and deserts her child, but the baby is adopted by Mrs. Cartwright (Jane Meredith) who has learned about its parentage. Upon the death of Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright the baby is miraculously restored to its mother, who regains her reason.

After a lapse of many years, young Cartwright returns from school. Dissipation has ruined his health and his doctor sends him to the seashore where he meets Bernice and her daughter, Lorna (Dorothy Green). Ignorant of his relationship to Lorna, he falls violently in love with her. During the course of the courtship they are marooned over night on a cliff far from shore. Upon their return to the mainland in the morning Lorna is rigorously questioned by her mother. Cartwright openly declares his love and insists on an immediate marriage.

He wires his guardian, Schwab (his father's former partner) to come and meet the future Mrs. Seth Cartwright, Jr. Schwab arrives, recognizes Bernice, turns to Cartwright, and then pointing to Lorna, says: "She is your sister."

In the next few scenes the drama hurries through to its terrific climax.
BLK THEATRE, TUESDAY, DEC. 21.

The Specialty Store issued Heralds this week, announcing a Xmas Sale for an entire week.

General Building Materials—Trolate Roofing a specialty.
BERTRAND LUMBER CO.

What has become of the old fashioned kid who could name the capital of every state in the Union?

On Monday night, Dec. 20th, the members of the Improved Order of Red Men are requested to attend a meeting at which officers for the ensuing year will be elected.

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a larger number of hens with each male, but for all round best results, it is not advisable.
Careful selection and mating, such as outlined, is sure to produce chicks that will be a credit to any owner. Besides, I feel sure that if you try it, you will feel repaid by the single interesting process of picking out the choicest breeders from among the poor layers, drones, underbred and unhealthy birds.

CHRISTMAS TREE A SUCCESS.

The Christmas Tree Celebration given at the Catholic College was a perfect success; and the "Junior Auxiliary" has much reason to be proud of their first Big Party. All the little ones of the Parish seemed to have found the way to Santa Claus' Quarters and very eager was every little face to catch a glimpse of Santa's "cheery face." Every one was in good humor. Who can withstand the dear little ones merry mood? It is catching—and every one present became a child with the little ones. The tickets soon gave out—and some had to content themselves with a look at the pretty glittering tree.

The Convent Orchestra opened up the Evening's Entertainment. Little Edwin Bronsard recited about Santa Claus; so did Master Dick Landry. The Senior Girls of Convent sang "Christmas Stars;" then the little boys sang: "Christmas Bells" and so merry were those bells that Santa hurried down. There was a big romp when he started on his way—down the big stairs followed by the Junior club 127 members. Then Santa Claus paused, and in a loud voice told the little ones of his many difficulties in coming down the modern flues. Gifts were then taken down from the Tree. The devoted Pastor repeating every number after Santa Claus, and as he handed the gift to the little ones it reminded one of the one who said: "Bless the Little Ones to Come Unto Me."

Sweet songs were sung: "I Long To Hear The Old Church Choir" and "In The Beautiful Long Ago." There were two contests. The Donkey contest was won by two Convent boarders, Miss Irma Villomot and Master Irenaus Estrada. The Peanut Contest—by Louise Mcquet, also Convent boarder. All the members of the Junior Auxiliary are elated over their great success and every one thanks heartily all those who contributed to the success of the Entertainment.
VERITAS.

REPORT BOARD OF INQUIRY.

Date and time: Between midnight and 2 A. M., November 8, 1915. Place: New Iberia, La.

Nature of accident: Both arms crushed and head bruised in unknown manner.

Train or trains: None.

Damage to property: None.

Injuries to persons: Arthur Cleveland Gunn, Age 25. Residence Sellers, Ala.

The undersigned, constituting a Board of Inquiry, convened at New Iberia, La. December 9, 1915, for the purpose of determining cause of and responsibility for above accident. **THIS BOARD FINDS** that cause and nature of accident cannot be definitely determined as there were no witnesses to accident and when injured person was found, was partially unconscious, hence unable to make a comprehensive statement concerning accident. Careful investigation was made of track through corporate limits of New Iberia and no blood stains were found on rail or on track indicating that injury was caused by being run over by train, however, wounds on arms bore appearance of having been caused by wheels of car passing over same.

Following trains passed through New Iberia on night of accident: X 1767 west, 12:10 AM; X 564 east, 12:15 AM; No. 11, 12:20 AM; No. 12, 2:20 AM. December 8th 1915. None of the employees engaged on any of the above mentioned trains have any knowledge whatever of the accident. Deceased was found about 2:30 AM on the gallery of Mr. Frank Biane corner of Washing ton and Iberia street. This real corner joins the right of way of the Morgan Company on which its main tracks are located.

IT IS THE OPINION OF THIS BOARD that the cause of the accident cannot be definitely determined, but probably caused by falling from passing train:

No individual responsibility.
J. W. Knightlinger, Superintendent
L. E. Cecil, Assistant Superintendent
D. A. Dimitry, Agent, M. L. & T. R. E.
Max Levy, Coal and Wood Merchant
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JOHN T. WHITE, Agent.

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says Mrs. Sylvania Woods, of Clifton Mills, Ky., in writing of her experience with Cardui, the woman's tonic. She says further: "Before I began to use Cardui, my back and head would hurt so bad, I thought the pain would kill me. I was hardly able to do any of my housework. After taking three bottles of Cardui, I began to feel like a new woman. I soon gained 35 pounds, and now, I do all my housework, as well as run a big water mill.
I wish every suffering woman would give

CARDUI The Woman's Tonic

a trial. I still use Cardui when I feel a little bad, and it always does me good."
Headache, backache, side ache, nervousness, tired, worn-out feelings, etc., are sure signs of womanly trouble. Signs that you need Cardui, the woman's tonic. You cannot make a mistake in trying Cardui for your trouble. It has been helping weak, ailing women for more than fifty years.

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