

POULTRY FACTS



SMALL FOWLS MOST POPULAR

Better or More Economical Producer Than Large Varieties—Dryden Favors Plymouth Rock.

"The small, active fowl, other things being equal, is a better or more economical producer than the large fowl, and when the farmer is seeking only after egg production, he should choose a small breed," says Professor Dryden, the man who is responsible for the origin of the Oregon Agricultural college hens. It seems to be a law of nature in the animal kingdom, that heavy producers are small in size, active and nervous. It is another question whether the best egg producer is on the whole the most profitable fowl. The poultryman cannot eliminate the cockerels. These must be marketed and the larger breeds, of course, sell for more than the small breeds. Again, the production of the laying hen does not improve with age or experience. The flock must be sold off at least every two years. The Plymouth Rock, or breeds of that size, will sell for about twice as much as the Leghorn. Even within the breed or variety, Professor Dryden says, that the heavier producers, on the average, are those of light weight. Sometimes some of the heavy hens are heavy producers, but this is not true of the average. At the Oregon station a pen of 47 Plymouth Rock hens averaged 160.9 eggs. Separating them according to weight into three groups, we got this result: Those having an average weight of seven pounds produced in the first year 141.1 eggs; medium weight, or averaging six pounds, 163.4 eggs, and light weight, averaging five pounds, 173.7 eggs. The 11 heaviest layers, those laying over 200 eggs, averaged in weight 5.34 pounds. "I believe it to be undeniable," says the professor, "that if we breed for large size or if we increase the size of the fowls of any breed, we will de-

GREATEST MISTAKES OF POULTRY RAISERS

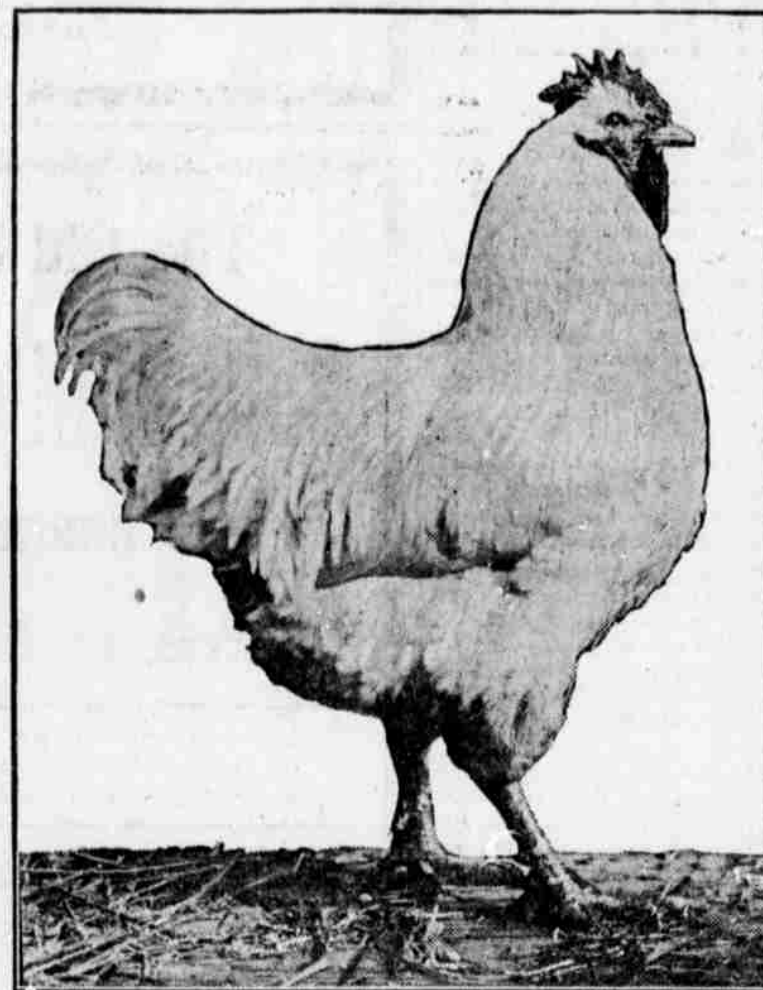
One of the greatest mistakes a poultry raiser can make is to allow sick and ailing birds to run with the rest of the stock. In this way the sick bird drinks from the same pan that the others use, and the disease spreads most rapidly. Chickens with the gapes or any other trouble will easily transmit the disease through the medium of the drinking pan. The safest way is to take the sick bird out and keep it away from the rest of the stock until it has entirely recovered.

An old farmer who is now off the active list, but still lives on the farm and raises poultry as a diversion, says he visited many of the largest poultry shows in the country just to inspect some of the best birds of the new varieties, and he declares emphatically that he has never seen anything better than the Plymouth Rock and Wyand-

valid as there can be. Then, too, you can fuss over a cow, a horse or a dog without feeling the insignificance of the labor, but when it comes to a hen you just don't want to waste your time, and so you let it alone, and if it lives well and good, and if it dies it's no great matter. In itself it is not, and far be it from me to advise fussing over a sick hen. Let it die in peace, but let it be a reminder that it is well to learn how to avoid such mishaps in future.

Cost of Feed.

According to the New York agriculture experiment station, the cost of food, per chick, to weigh one pound, on ground grain, is three cents; on whole grain, three and seven-tenths cents. After making repeated tests in feeding, this station says the ground ration proved considerably more prof-



VIGOROUS, HEALTHY WHITE PLYMOUTH ROCK COCK.

dotte varieties for real business stock. He said, "You can tell all inquirers that these two breeds are still at the top, and there are enough varieties of them to please any sensible person."

Complain of Nests.

If a hen could speak, the first thing she would complain of would be the nests. The first complaint would probably be in regard to their size and the meager amount of nesting material allowed her. Then we should hear about the location being so public, and not a bit of whitewash there to kill the mites. Some of the nests are low down; of course it is easy for the hen to reach them, but they are also handy for the pup you set such store by. Oh, no; the eggs won't hurt the dog, but eggs at 25 cents per dozen make a pretty expensive diet for growing dogs. There are remedies for most of the diseases that afflict poultry, but a sick hen or cock is about as hopeless an in-

table than the whole-grain ration with the growing chicks; and the same is true of capons of equal weight from these chicks, and from others of equal weight and age, fed alike before canning. No difference was noticed in health or vigor of chicks or capons fed either ration.

Clover hay, or clover clippings dried or green clover growing on the lawn or in the field is a great help to egg production for two reasons: It furnishes the green food necessary for the fowl, and it furnishes the nitrogen that goes to make the albumen, which is a large part of every egg. If a hen is fed corn all the time, from what source is she to get the material for making the large amount of albumen that must be elaborated by her? The corn indeed supplies a small amount of this material, but clover hay is worth much more for this purpose, pound for pound.

EGGS DURING WINTER

Early Hatched Pullets Must Be Given Best of Care.

Select Most Desirable Fowls for Breeding Purposes and Keep Only Few of Choicest Cockerels—Furnish Green Feed.

There is no need of farmers carrying a flock of poultry all through the winter without getting eggs. To secure plenty of eggs in winter the early hatched pullets must have the best of care from the beginning. That is, they must be kept growing from the time of hatching until fully matured, which should be about the first of November.

So far as facilities are concerned the farmer has everything "coming his way" and there is no reason why his flock of pullets should not produce an abundance of eggs during the winter season. With but little attention pullets which have free range where they may glean an endless variety of seeds, bugs, worms and grain, sunshine and fresh air, shade and pure water than can be so easily provided, will, without a doubt, make very rapid development and mature much earlier than pullets kept where these natural surroundings are not to be had.

Another important point is the culling of the flock. The early hatched chicks, when sufficiently developed to distinguish the sex, should, if possible, be separated, as the pullets will grow and thrive much better by themselves. Select the most desirable pullets for breeding purposes and keep only a few of the choicest cockerels. The pullets are placed in their winter quarters and fed as great variety of food as the farm usually produces to get them in a laying condition as soon as possible. Feed them plenty of green food, such as cabbage leaves, all small apples and potatoes, turnip tops, in fact, anything

to make a variety, which is greatly relished by the flock. Milk, either sweet or sour, is fed to them, all that they will drink every day. Fresh water is kept constantly before them. It never pays to compel poultry to drink impure water and this can easily be avoided by cleaning their drinking vessels each day. Success in getting eggs in winter is due to keeping the flock healthy and in a good thrifty condition. The poultry house and yards are kept in a sanitary condition, as this is the first requisite of successful poultry keeping.

PRODUCTION OF BIGGER EGGS

Purdue Experiment Station Thinks It Possible to Produce Eggs of Better Color and Shape.

Is it possible to produce bigger eggs, or more uniformly colored eggs, or eggs with firmer white or yellower yolk than we are at present producing? The Purdue experiment station thinks it is, and the eighth annual Purdue egg show last May had on display 370 dozen eggs. There were represented the commercial class, the fanciers' class, the experiment station class, the students' class, the high school class, the fresh egg class, besides several others. The object of the show is to encourage the production of more and better eggs.

COMPEL FOWLS TO EXERCISE

All Grain Should Be Fed in Deep Litter—Birds Should Always Be Eager for Feed.

Feed the grain in a deep litter on the floor and make the hens exercise for all of their grain. The mash may be fed either wet or dry, and should be so regulated that the fowls will get about equal parts of mash and of the scratch grains.

It is necessary to give the fowls plenty to eat to get good results, but the birds should always be eager for each feed.

HORSES PIGS and CATTLE

WINTER HOUSES FOR SHEEP

Especially Important That Feet and Fleece Be Kept Dry—Ventilation Must Be Ample.

Contrary to general opinion, sheep as well as any other class of farm animals require clean, dry shelter. It is especially important that the feet and fleece be kept dry. If their quarters are dry and clean the sheep will stand very cold weather without dis-



Sheep in Winter Quarters.

comfort or disease. There must be ample ventilation, for sheep if closely crowded sweat badly and quickly use up the oxygen in the air, but there must be no drafts, as sheep are very subject to colds.

In the ordinary climate the sheep barn may be constructed of one thickness of matched boards. It should be large enough to house the entire flock without crowding. Windows enough to permit lots of sunshine to enter, and clean, dry bedding underfoot are necessities. The lambing pens should be of warmer construction than the general shed.

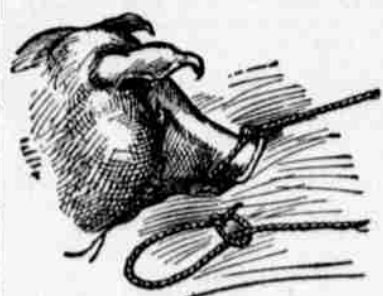
RINGING HOGS IS EASY TASK

Rope Slipped Over Nose and Back of Large Teeth Will Prove Efficient With Large Animals.

(By R. B. RUSHING.)

I was called the other day to help a neighbor ring some hogs that were giving him some trouble rooting under his fence and getting into his stuff. He had some hogs that were rather heavy, and he considered that he had a great big job to hold them and ring them. He called me and another neighbor to help hold them for him. On arriving he had one tied by the foot (hind foot) and was going to down them and hold them, and then put the rings into their nose. I asked for another rope. I made a slip loop in it, and slipped the loop over the hog's nose back of the large teeth, and tightened the slip loop down on the nose.

When put on the hog will pull back with all its might, and when you go



Manner of Molding Hog.

to put in the ring he will pull the harder, which makes it an easy matter to put the ring in.

We just treated the hogs as described above, and one man can usually hold the largest hog, and it is much less trouble than to get them down and wallow around, and get hot and mad.

FIVE-CALK SHOE FOR HORSES

New Jersey Veterinarian Claims Extra Calks Add 100 Per Cent to Working Value of Animal.

A New Jersey veterinarian, in a recent article in the Journal of the American Veterinary Association, advises a shoe with five calks instead of the customary three. The two extra calks are placed, one on the middle of each side of the shoe. It is claimed that these two extra calks prevent the undue side strain on the foot which so often causes lameness with the three-calk shoe. The New Jersey veterinarian making the suggestion, claims that this will add 100 per cent to the working value of horses, and he closes his article with the following:

"Will someone give just one reason why shoes having but three calks ever should be used, or will anyone offer a single objection to the use of two additional calks?"

IN THE LIMELIGHT

ARGENTINA'S NEW PRESIDENT



Hipolito Irigoyen, the recently inaugurated president of Argentina, heads the first radical administration in that country. He was elected president because a majority of the voters trusted him, personally, implicitly and blindly. Those who believe in him consider him Argentina's greatest man. His opponents regard him as extremely dangerous and look forward to his administration with the gravest misgivings.

Doctor Irigoyen is about sixty, a tall, powerfully built, imposing man, and very dark. His blood is Spanish Basque, with a slight Indian strain, some say.

He began life poor. He is self-educated and a highly cultivated man. He is now very rich, the result of land transactions. By occupation he is a ranchman on a huge scale, with a very modest residence in Buenos Aires.

For a long time, for pure recreation, he held the professorship of "civic instruction" at the Buenos Aires Normal School for Women. His salary for this work he turned over regularly to the United Charities of Buenos Aires. Twelve years ago a president who was his personal enemy caused his removal from this post in the normal school and he has never held it since.

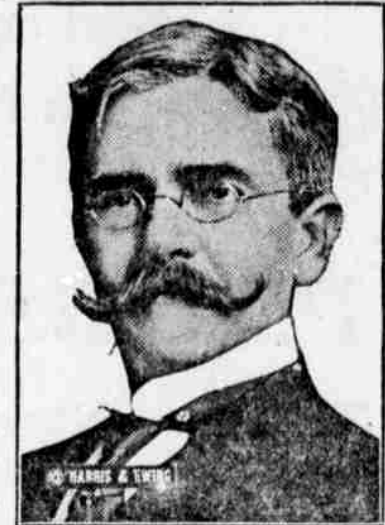
BELISARIO PORRAS RETURNS

Friends both in the diplomatic corps and in residential circles have welcomed back to Washington Dr. Belisario Porras, until October 1 president of the republic of Panama, and now minister of that country to the United States. Before his presidential term Doctor Porras served his country in the same capacity here.

There are few honors that his country can confer which have not fallen into the basket of Doctor Porras, and both he and his wife, a charming Porto Rican, are pleasantly remembered for their hospitality and charm.

Shortly after Doctor Porras first was appointed minister at Washington Senora de Porras was married to him by proxy, the first marriage by proxy ever solemnized in the diplomatic corps in Washington. The minister was not able to go to Porto Rico for his bride, and the strict etiquette governing the conduct of gentlemen of her country would not admit of her coming here before her marriage.

Therefore, an intimate friend represented the minister at the ceremony, and after that Senora de Porras sailed for New York, where she was met by her "vital" bridegroom. Not long afterward they went to Panama that the minister might enter the campaign for president.



ADVICE FROM DOCTOR WILEY



"Food prices could be reduced 50 per cent if manufacturers would sacrifice their velvet."

"The people should get back to fundamentals. There is no sense in paying 40 cents a pound for a cereal preparation when with \$2 wheat there can be no more than four cents' actual value in it."

That is what Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, former chief of the government bureau of chemistry, thinks of the high cost of living, according to a talk he made in Toledo.

"The American people, and especially the American housewives, know little about foods," he continued.

"That is why they spend one dollar and twenty cents a pound for the nourishment they can get from a pound of meat, when they can get enough wheat to last a man a month for the same price."

"Some of the factors that tend to increase prices beyond the actual value of a commodity as food are excessive advertising of brands."

"Americans drink labels and eat brands, and it is good exercise for them—opening their pocketbooks. The value of brands often is overestimated because of extravagantly worded advertising."

MISS ANNIE R. ROE

It would be hard to find a better example of what woman's work stands for in the federal service than that supplied by the record of Miss Annie R. Roe, chief of the numbering division of the bureau of engraving and printing. Miss Roe entered the bureau in June, 1865, and has given it over half a century of service.

Amid the whirl of flying machinery doing its full part in the daily output of the nation's wealth, Miss Roe sits serenely at her desk in evident obliviousness to the noise of the busy wheels. Here she directs the last stage in the many processes which turn raw pulp into United States currency.

Miss Roe superintends the numbering, sealing and separating of all United States notes, which is the final act in their creation before being taken to the treasury of the United States to become the legal tender of the nation. Miss Roe is modest almost to the point of reticence in regard to her work, and it is with difficulty that she can be persuaded to speak of it. With the weight of responsibility which for so many years has rested upon her shoulders, Miss Roe yet looks younger than her age, and except that the tenure of her service indicates maturer years one would find it hard to believe that she had passed the half century mark. Mental and physical activity and efficiency are stamped upon her every movement, and there is hardly a doubt but that she knows every minute of the day the exact condition of the work engaged in by every one of the 229 men and women under her supervision.

Nor is it a harsh or unsympathetic surveillance she exerts. A woman of full experience and trained understanding, she knows what comprises a honest day's work for those under her. While she demands that this be given, she also appreciates the situation when conditions warrant leniency. Among all her people she is to herself the only severe taskmaster, and from herself she exacts harder and longer hours than from any of the employees under her charge.



Splendid Plymouth Rock Cockerel, Owned by Alphonse Leppert, Avondale, Ill.

crease the egg yield on the average. It would be a serious mistake, however, to select year after year the smallest individuals for breeding purposes without regard to other considerations. Vigor and health must always be uppermost. Continued selection of the smallest would, in the Leghorn breed, for example, finally evolve a Bantam type, so far as weight is concerned. On the other hand, it is a mistake to pick out the nice large hens and the nice heavy males and save them for breeding, where eggs are the object. Better send those to the pot."

SHELTER TURKEY IN WINTER

They Are Hardest of Poultry, but Appreciate Some Extra Care During Severe Weather.

Turkeys are considered as among the hardest of poultry after they are mature, but they appreciate some extra care in winter. This does not mean that they require pampering. In spite of the fact that when left to themselves they prefer to sleep in the bare branches of trees or on the ridge pole of a building, they are better off for having some shelter.

Did you ever notice how blue the turkeys' heads look as they come down from a roof or treetop of a cold mid-winter morning? Somehow their feathers—although they have a heavy coat—do not seem to turn rain as well as the feathers of other poultry.

Provide a good dry shed, enclosed only with poultry netting on the south side, for the turkeys intended for the next season's breeding stock. Good strong roosts, not too near the roof, should be provided. If the roosts are too close to the roof, the turkeys batter their wings when flying up, and this will cause them to seek other roosting places.