

Poultry Department

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and he has as much right to anticipate these prices as has the producer of any other commodity to anticipate and prepare for advanced prices at certain seasons. This effort being put forth to reduce the price of eggs at this season of the year could be exercised in a much better manner in trying to reduce the price of meat, which remains high the whole season long, and constantly climbing up, up all the time. Why not devote a little of this surplus energy in that direction and give the poultryman a rest for a while."

QUESTIONS ABOUT POULTRY DISEASES.

SCALY LEG.

Can this disease result fatally?

It can and does, but there is no excuse for it. This disease may be easily cured by dipping the feet and shanks once in coal oil and afterwards applying an ointment made of sulphur and lard two or three times, at intervals of two days. The coal oil

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Kent, Wash.

EVERYTHING IS COMING OUT RIGHT IN THE POULTRY BUSINESS

should be used but once, as a second application is apt to burn the afflicted parts.

ROUP.

Is it curable?

It is curable if treated in time; though this disease sometimes progresses with such great rapidity that the unobservant poultry raiser will fail to notice it until it has passed the stage where it is comparatively easy to cure. When the head is swollen, eyes closed and running and the nostrils discharging offensively it is best to kill the afflicted fowl immediately and burn its carcass. The remainder of the flock should then be closely inspected for other infected fowls. Those with but a slight cold or canker spots may be isolated and treated with any of the best known advertised roup cures and the premises thoroughly disinfected.

WORMS.

What is the most effective method of dislodging them?

Carbolic acid in the drinking water is recommended, 30 drops to the quart of water, equaling about a fourth of one per cent solution. Epsom salts, 40 grains to each fowl may be mixed in a mash and fed. If individual treatment can be given, olive oil and turpentine in equal parts, 30 drops of this mixture with a dessertspoonful of castor oil an hour afterwards. Powdered arca, out in 30 to 40 grain doses, is another well known remedy.

WHITE DIARRHEA.

Is this disease hereditary? It is both hereditary and contagious.

EGG EATING.

Can you give me a remedy for this habit?

My remedy would be the axe. An egg shell filled with a paste of powdered aloes and left in the way of the bird with the unnatural appetite may effect a cure. Dr. Warren recommends filling the shell with soft soap or mustard. If the hens are furnished plenty of nests, so placed as to be dark and secluded, they will never contract the habit.

NEW LIGHT ON LOGGED-OFF LAND LAW.

Amboy, Wn., Dec. 23, 1913.

Editor of The Ranch:—I wish to endorse the sentiment of the majority in the results of the logged-off land district election in King county as noted in your last issue.

I fail to see why the measure voted upon should be considered a people's

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measure. It appears to me to have been passed principally to create more high salaried offices to be filled by friends.

Please note the feature of \$10,000 allowed for administration by a commissioner and an assistant—two men.

This amount of money would keep 20 families, of an average of five members, one hundred citizens, in comfort, the like of which one-half today have never reached. Would keep them for an entire year, and in that time they would be able, if their entire time would be required upon making the clearing, to have cleared enough land on which they could begin to make their own living by the next year.

Now we, the taxpayers, are giving this amount of money in order to enable two men to keep their families up with the style. Their chief concern will be to dress well, attend shows, keep their autos in repair and incidentally manage an office and sign the pay roll, while we poor privates on the firing line who have to foot the bill, are obliged to dig and drill from 12 to 14 hours each day, seven days per week, or a part of the seventh day included, and have no social privileges, our whole families included, in order to make ends meet and provide food and clothes. Probably we own 20 to 160 acres, but in this section the average amount of cleared land on a dairy farm is about 10 acres. Our gross sales of dairy products—hogs, eggs, etc., reaching about \$500, out of which we buy mill feed, wheat for hens, besides various items of expense and for equipment. Therefore I don't believe the men who draw these large salaries as commissioners, earn what they are allowed.

I hope that The Ranch will get this matter before the people in order for them to notice just what this item of salary should procure for them.

I honestly believe that men entirely competent to handle the business ends of such propositions could be had for one-half the amount. Bring down the salaries to an amount consistent with what may be earned by a farmer. Cut down the political plum tree.

Surely a good practical working plan could be made to help people clear this logged-over land and bring it into cultivation. I should say the county should do it. Have the land owner get a committee of one or two neighbors and let the county be represented by one or two men. Make an estimate on how much it would require to clear this particular parcel of land. Let a contractor figure on it. Place the land free from encumbrances as a sale to the county.

When the contractor has completed the clearing as per contract with the land owner and as approved by the county, make the payment to the contractor and as allowed for in the present statute allow the owner to repay same in small payments with interest at cost.

In this way contractors would be safe to lay out a good equipment of stump pullers, donkey engines, road plows, etc.

The county or other public corpora-

tions when engaged in such work always lose money in the outlay for equipment which is left on hand, broken or stolen.

Wishing The Ranch continued success and thanking the management should space be allowed for this article and assuring them of my appreciation, I beg to remain,

Yours truly,

HUGH C. ERVIN.

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