

WOMEN AS MANAGERS OF POULTRY FARMS

BY MRS. B.F. WILCOXON

THE successful management of a poultry farm depends primarily upon the natural taste for the business sufficient to embrace a love for as well as an interest in fowls. The woman who succeeds must have a capacity to manage details—ability to direct hired help if such is necessary.

She must have power to understand the market and good judgment in regard to the merits of the different breeds. There are many notable examples of women who have succeeded with poultry raising. I know many who are good fanciers, many good commercial poultry raisers and they are all energetic. They know how to push aside the difficulties that arise in the poultry business.

During a trip I once took I visited a real poultry farm where a woman was hired on a monthly salary for taking charge and performing all the labor connected with the farm. I know many who have large turkey farms, many own large duck farms. Ducks have come to stay and the breeder who gives them special attention will realize a good profit from them. There are great possibilities in store for duck raisers.

Poultry farming is a hobby of mine. I know it to be one of the healthiest outdoor occupations that woman can enter. Women perhaps need hobbies even more than men do; their lives are more circumscribed. Woman is often held at home by a thousand ties which she would not loosen if she could and could not if she would. Let her have a hobby, then, which will direct her thoughts from her small cares.

Some time ago a man said to me, "Chicken raising is nothing but a fad." Even so, it does one good to have a hobby to ride if they only get there. It will pay to ride a safe hobby and there is nothing more profitable than the "fancy fowl fad."

Did you ever attend a poultry show and notice how many exhibitors there are? There is just as good a chance for a woman to win a prize on her poultry as men. It's simply a matter of knowing how.

A great many women when they want to increase their income just add to the number of their flock, and if you want to sell out your stock you can do so any time of the year. The hungry public buys our poultry products greedily and at any time.

A great many have a taste for country life and natural capacity for the management of a farm; with poultry raising the raising of fruit can be combined profitably. Who is adapted? The woman who may become a good manager of a household has the qualities which insure success as poultry raisers and women would not be poultry raisers if they did not have a strong taste in that direction.

If she is endowed with that taste all else follows naturally. If we care for poultry we like to see it and this trains the eye to recognize types and to estimate a correct value from it; it enables one to detect the conditions which in the beginning may make the difference between success and failure.

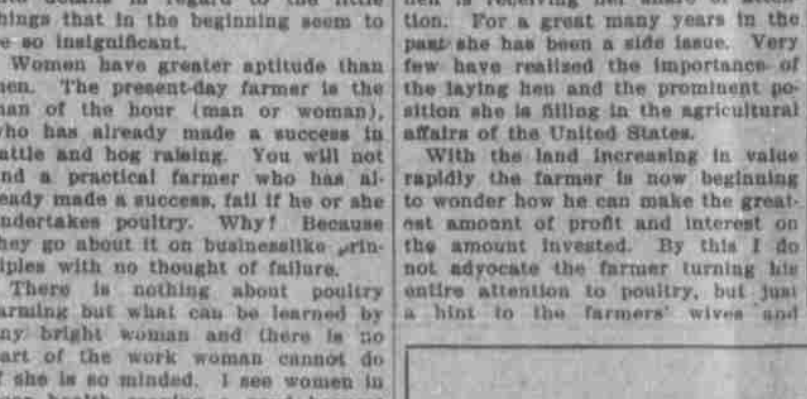
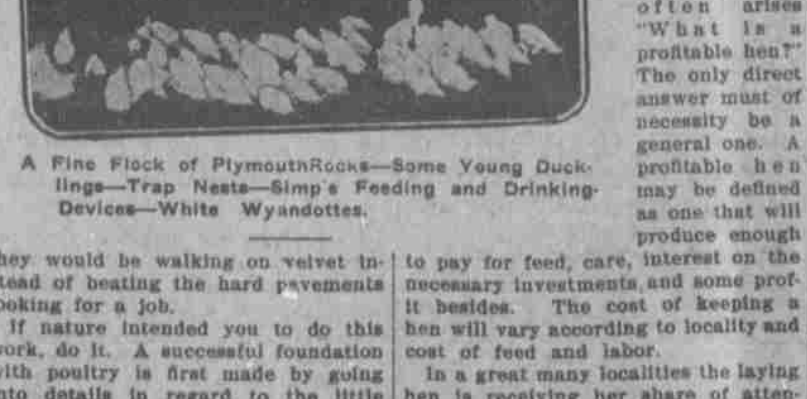
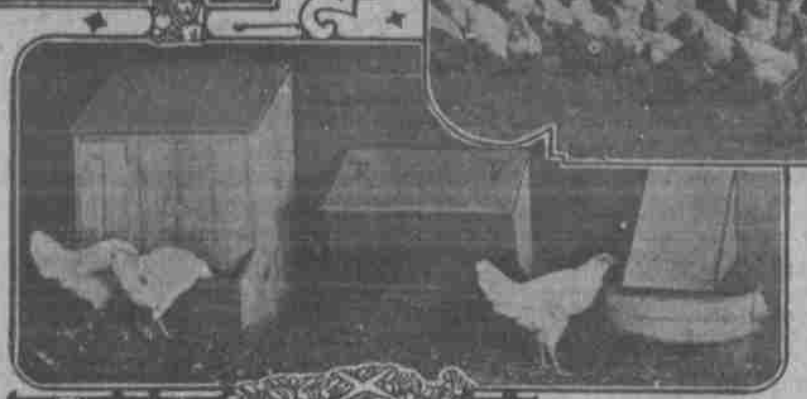
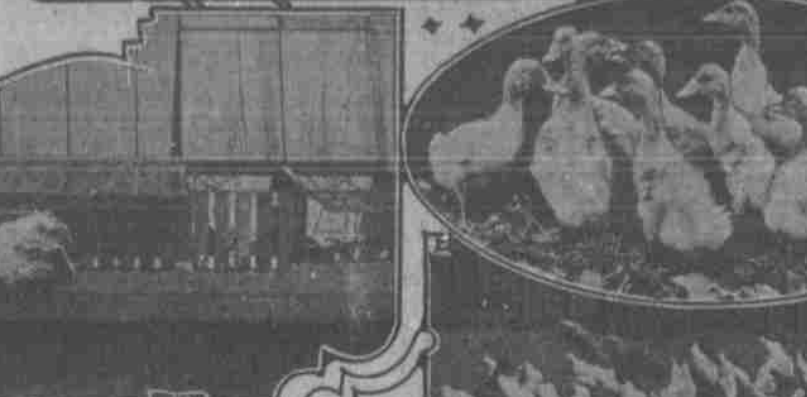
A prime requisite with poultry is that it be kept. The sympathetic nature in woman leads her to provide for comfort. Her care for appearance has real value in the market, which is the final test of her ability to produce. It is in this place where we differ from women in all other callings. We are not handicapped by our sex.

We have never had a discount proposed because poultry was owned by women, while on the other hand, no matter how well we teach, clerk, etc., we find an inevitable discrimination against us in the pay offered our ability in those lines.

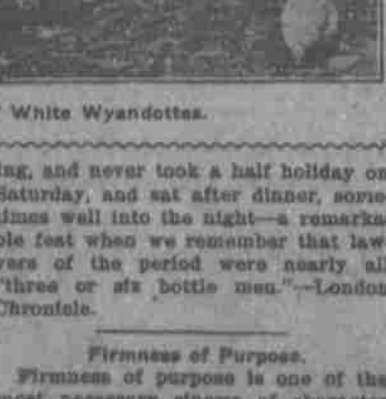
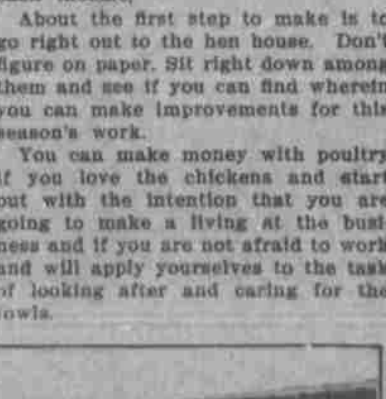
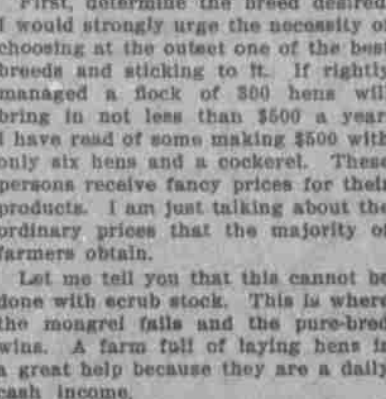
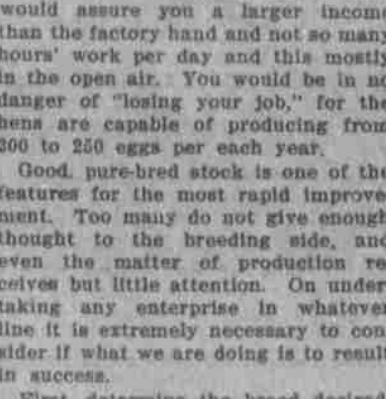
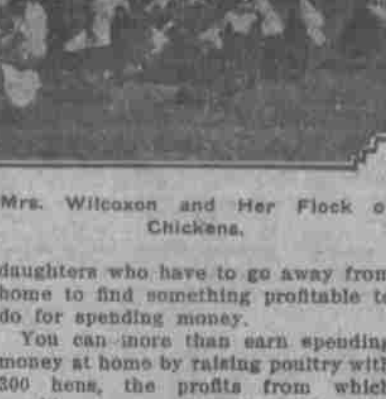
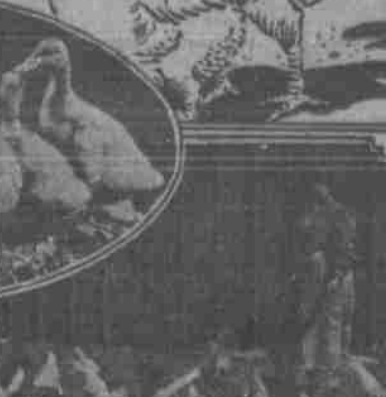
Poultry farming affords a profitable outlet for intelligence and energy with independence. If we are fitted for this work we will find a perpetual charm in poultry farming. It also gives us an opportunity to maintain a home where others may find refuge. There is no monotony in such a life. We have the poultry papers, the fairs and shows—these keep the mind alert and the interests engaged.

The woman engaged in it finds the business of poultry raising projected on such a generous scale that she has no fear of others in the same business. Then, too, the poultry farmer is her own boss. Poultry farming has many features which would appeal to woman. She is mistress of the situation. The business is hers.

Don't be an amateur in the work. Spend all your ability in becoming a professional. If the woman who half starves trying to teach, clerk, etc., would only employ their time raising poultry for the market they would make fortunes. If nine-tenths of the actresses would put as much time and study on the characteristics of a hen as they do studying Lady Macbeth



A Fine Flock of Plymouth Rocks—Some Young Ducklings—Trap Nests—Simp's Feeding and Drinking Devices—White Wyandottes.



Mrs. Wilcoxon and Her Flock of Chickens.

daughters who have to go away from home to find something profitable to do for spending money.

You can more than earn spending money at home by raising poultry with 300 hens, the profits from which would assure you a larger income than the factory hand and not so many hours' work per day and this mostly in the open air. You would be in no danger of "losing your job," for the hens are capable of producing from 200 to 250 eggs per each year.

Good, pure-bred stock is one of the features for the most rapid improvement. Too many do not give enough thought to the breeding side, and even the matter of production receives but little attention. On undertaking any enterprise in whatever line it is extremely necessary to consider if what we are doing is to result in success.

First, determine the breed desired. I would strongly urge the necessity of choosing at the outset one of the best breeds and sticking to it. If rightly managed a flock of 300 hens will bring in not less than \$500 a year. I have read of some making \$500 with only six hens and a cockerel. These persons receive fancy prices for their products. I am just talking about the ordinary prices that the majority of farmers obtain.

Let me tell you that this cannot be done with scrub stock. This is where the mongrel fails and the pure-bred wins. A farm full of laying hens is a great help because they are a daily cash income.

About the first step to make is to go right out to the hen house. Don't figure on paper. Sit right down among them and see if you can find wherein you can make improvements for this season's work.

You can make money with poultry if you love the chickens and start out with the intention that you are going to make a living at the business and if you are not afraid to work and will apply yourselves to the task of looking after and caring for the fowls.



A Fine Healthy Flock of White Wyandottes.

Vacation of English Judge.
The judges who are to have their holidays curtailed may look back with a sigh to the good old times of a century ago. The four law terms into which the year was divided lasted only a few weeks each, while the long vacation was of three months' duration. Then there were a liberal number of royal birthdays and saint's days which furnished an excuse for a holiday. But against this the courts opened punctually at 10 every morn-

ing, and never took a half holiday on Saturday, and sat after dinner, sometimes well into the night—a remarkable feat when we remember that lawyers of the period were nearly all "three or six bottle men."—London Chronicle.

Firmness of Purpose.
Firmness of purpose is one of the most necessary elements of character and one of the best instruments of success.—Chesterfield.

LATE MARKET QUOTATIONS

Western Newspaper Union News Service.
DENVER MARKETS.

| Cattle. | |
|---|---------------|
| Beef steers, cornfed, good to choice | \$7.50@8.50 |
| Beef steers, cornfed, fair to good | 6.75@7.50 |
| Beef steers, pulp fed, good to choice | 7.25@8.00 |
| Beef steers, pulp fed, fair to good | 6.50@7.25 |
| Beef steers, hay fed, good to choice | 7.00@7.80 |
| Beef steers, hay fed, fair to good | 6.25@7.00 |
| Halters, prime cornfed | 6.50@7.25 |
| Cows and heifers, cornfed, good to choice | 6.00@6.75 |
| Cows and heifers, cornfed, fair to good | 5.25@6.00 |
| Cows and heifers, pulp fed, good to choice | 5.90@6.60 |
| Cows and heifers, pulp fed, fair to good | 5.00@5.50 |
| Cows and heifers, hay fed, good to choice | 5.50@6.40 |
| Cows and heifers, hay fed, fair to good | 5.00@5.50 |
| Canners and cutters | 4.75@4.75 |
| Veal calves | 7.50@10.50 |
| Bulls | 4.75@5.75 |
| Stags | 5.00@6.50 |
| Feeders and stockers, good to choice | 6.50@7.50 |
| Feeders and stockers, fair to good | 5.75@6.50 |
| Feeders and stockers, common to fair | 5.00@5.75 |
| Hogs. | |
| Good hogs | 8.40@8.60 |
| Sheep. | |
| Lambs | 7.00@7.75 |
| Ewes | 5.00@5.15 |
| Yearlings (light) | 6.25@6.75 |
| Wethers | 6.75@6.25 |
| Hay. | |
| (F. O. B. Denver, railroad price.) | |
| Colorado upland, per ton | \$12.50@13.50 |
| Nebraska upland, per ton | 10.50@11.50 |
| Second bottom, Colorado and Nebraska, per ton | 10.00@11.00 |
| Timothy, per ton | 14.00@17.00 |
| Alfalfa, per ton | 9.00@10.00 |
| South Park, choice, ton | 15.00@16.00 |
| San Luis Valley, per ton | 10.00@11.00 |
| Gunnison Valley, per ton | 14.00@15.00 |
| Straw, per ton | 4.00@4.50 |
| Grain. | |
| Wheat, choice milling, 100 lbs. | 1.32 |
| Rye, Colo., bulk, 100 lbs. | 1.05 |
| Idaho oats, sacked | 1.47 |
| Corn chop, sacked | 1.15 |
| Corn, in sack | 1.19 |
| Bran, Colo., per 100 lbs. | 1.25 |
| Flour. | |
| Standard Colorado, net | \$2.15 |
| Dressed Poultry. | |
| Turkeys, fancy D. P. | 20 @24 |
| Turkeys, old toms | 16 @18 |
| Turkeys, choice | 16 @17 |
| Hens, large | 18 |
| Hens, small | 18 |
| Stags, lb. | 14 @15 |
| Ducks | 18 |
| Geese | 16 @17 |
| Roosters | 8 @9 |
| Live Poultry. | |
| Hens, fancy | 16 @17 |
| Roosters | 8 @9 |
| Turkeys, 10 lbs. or over | 19 @20 |
| Ducks | 16 @17 |
| Geese | 13 @14 |
| Eggs. | |
| Eggs, graded No. 1 net, F. O. B. Denver | 18 |
| Eggs, graded No. 2 net, F. O. B. Denver | 15 |
| Eggs, case count, less commission | 6.25 |
| Butter. | |
| Elgin | 24 1/2 |
| Creameries, ex. Colo. lb. | 26 |
| Creameries, ex. East lb. | 26 |
| Creameries, 2d grade, lb. | 21 |
| Process | 21 |
| Packing stock | 14 1/2 |
| Fruit. | |
| Apples, Colo., extra, box | \$2.50@3.00 |
| Apples, Colo., fancy, box | 2.00@2.50 |
| Apples, Colo., choice, box | .75 @1.25 |
| Vegetables. | |
| Cabbage, Colo., cwt. | \$1.25@1.50 |
| Potatoes, cwt. | 1.00@1.25 |

PURITY CONGRESS MEETS NOV. 6.
La Crosse, Wis.—Announcement was made by B. S. Steadwell, president of the World's Purity Federation, that the eighth Purity Congress will convene at Kansas City Nov. 5.

PREDICT RECORD WHEAT CROP.
Federal Report Estimates 551,000,000 Bushel Harvest from Condition.

Washington.—A record-breaking winter wheat crop is in prospect this year, the Department of Agriculture estimating on a conservative basis that the yield may exceed 551,000,000 bushels. The condition of the crop, April 1, was 95.6 per cent of a normal, or 11.6 per cent better than the average April 1 condition for the past ten years.

The area planted last autumn was 36,500,000 acres, and with a comparatively good winter it is believed the percentage of acreage abandoned has been somewhat less than 8.6 per cent below the past ten years, so that an unusually big acreage will be harvested if conditions continue favorable throughout the season.

LENGTHEN LIFE HUNDRED YEARS.
That is Prediction of Secretary of Kansas Board of Health.

Kansas City, Mo.—In the next century, 150 years will be considered "just a ripe old age," Dr. S. J. Crumblin, secretary of the Kansas State Board of Health, told a state meeting of mothers here. Dr. Crumblin said that scientific attacks on disease will cause life to be lengthened nearly 100 per cent in another 100 years.

FUND FOR EXPLORING SOUTH AMERICA.
New York.—Theodore Roosevelt will give to the American Museum of Natural History \$2,000 when he returns to New York in May and assist it in raising \$4,000 more to carry on explorations in South America.

JOSEPH L. PICKARD IS DEAD.
Chicago.—Joseph L. Pickard, educator and author, prominent in the Middle West thirty years ago, died at Pasadena, Cal. He was ninety years old.

JONES PERMANENT HEAD OF CONFERENCE.
Denver.—A. A. Jones, first assistant secretary of the Interior, was elected permanent chairman of the irrigation conference and the report of the organization committee was received and adopted. The committee recommended the formation of committees on the Carey act project, the reclamation service, the desert land act and on irrigation districts. These committees will consider federal and state cooperation for the promotion of irrigation work.

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