

Newcastle Disease Rare in Oregon Poultry but Precautionary Rules Guard Against Possible Epidemic

Only one case (and that not in Douglas County) of Newcastle disease has been found in turkeys so far in Oregon, according to information furnished by the Oregon State Department of Agriculture. Since the first case in this state was diagnosed in April 1947, a total of 17 cases have been found in poultry flocks.

Although incidence of the disease in this state thus far should not be considered alarming, the State Department of Agriculture and the State College veterinarians, as well as poultrymen, are exerting every precaution to keep the situation here under control. There appears to be no general incidence of the disease in the flocks of this state at this time.

As the State Department of Agriculture is the regulatory agency charged by law with the control of infectious disease in livestock and poultry, M. E. Knickerbocker, chief of the division of animal industry of that department, has provided the News-Review with an account of the program which has been and

is being carried on in Oregon to control Newcastle disease. He points out that Section 32-101, O. C. L. A., requires the department to exercise general sanitary supervision over the stock, fur-bearing animals and poultry of the state and "to take all measures necessary and proper in the judgment of the department to eradicate and prevent the spread of infectious, contagious and communicable diseases. . . and to prevent the entry into this state of animals or materials liable to convey disease to the livestock or poultry in this state . . ."

Prompt Action Taken

With appearance of Newcastle disease in Oregon, the department sought the advice and counsel of members of three poultry groups vitally concerned, a disease committee of the Oregon Poultry Council and the advisory committees of the Oregon Turkey and Poultry Improvement Associations. Existing regulations were worked out in conference with such industry representatives.

At the outset of the control program, and in the initial cases of Newcastle disease, the diseased birds were ordered slaughtered and owners were paid indemnity. Available funds for indemnification were exhausted this year and it became necessary for the department to resort to the use of quarantine measures.

The plan adopted and now in effect is the quarantine of all birds infected with Newcastle. Under the quarantine, birds are released only for slaughter purposes and complete disinfection of premises must be carried out before restocking can be done. It is important, Knickerbocker emphasizes, that poultrymen throughout the state understand the nature of the disease and that they take three or four of any birds showing suspicious symptoms direct to the Poultry Disease Laboratory on the Oregon State College campus at Corvallis. Birds should be taken to the laboratory rather than shipped, as the disease may be spread to other birds indirectly through shipping, especially if common carriers are utilized.

Newcastle is an acute contagious respiratory disease which results in a very sharp drop in egg production in the case of hens in lay. Egg shells may be soft or deformed. While the respiratory symptoms are usually the first warning, in younger chicks nervous symptoms of paralysis, incoordination or tremor may develop. In the younger birds these nervous symptoms may follow from 10 to 14 days after the respiratory symptoms have apparently cleared up, veterinarians point out.

The mortality in young brooder chicks averages from 20 to 25 per cent. Young stock on range and mature birds usually do not show such high mortality. Because birds that recover

War With Soviet Inevitable, Says Research Expert

SEATTLE, July 21.—(AP)—A former research director for the congressional Dies committee predicted at a legislative hearing yesterday that war with Russia "is inevitable." The witness before the state legislature's un-American Activities Committee was J. B. Matthews of New York City, who served for the Dies committee from 1938 to 1945. He said he now is a writer and lecturer.

Matthews asserted Joseph Stalin himself had said war between Communism and other powers would be inevitable.

"I am not here to say whether it might come next year or in the next decade," the witness continued.

In referring to the likelihood of war, he declared that the consequences for American Communists should be viewed "on that basis," and "their position would be the same as those young Nazis who landed in the United States during the war and went to the electric chair."

Teachers Included
Matthews was on the stand for the second day in the committee's hearing into alleged Communist affiliations of University of Washington faculty members. The session was quiet in contrast to yesterday afternoon's interruptions by chanting and shouting picket-line outside the Washington State Armory.

Throughout his testimony, Matthews emphasized that educators from the disease may become carriers of the infection, it is particularly important that poultrymen be sure that Newcastle disease has not been a problem in flocks from which they purchase stock. This is especially true where purchases are made from outside Oregon.

As a further precautionary measure the department has, since April 20 of this year, required that poultry, except unfed chicks and poult, imported into Oregon be accompanied not only by an official health certificate but also by certification showing the poultry has no symptoms of Newcastle disease and, further, that the birds have passed an official H. I. or S. N. test for Newcastle within 15 days before entry into Oregon. The Newcastle-free certificate must show the date and place of testing and the laboratory where the test was made.

Show Entries to be Eyed
Knickerbocker says common carriers of the state, and particularly the Railway Express Agency, have been very cooperative with state officials in watching that the certification requirement on imported poultry is carried out on all shipments. He adds that Newcastle detected in Oregon has originated in imported poultry. Serious consideration has been given, according to Knickerbocker to the question of banning poultry shows in the state. However, since all known cases of Newcastle have been quarantined or the birds destroyed, no such action is to be taken at this time except in the case of any sudden and widespread outbreak.

All live poultry shows including county fairs will be required to have a veterinarian on hand to examine birds offered for exhibit for symptoms of any disease and entry will be refunded to any exhibits showing active symptoms of disease of any kind. The veterinarian will also require that any birds arriving at shows from other states will have complied with the requirements for interstate shipment.

and Communist-front organizations for students played important roles in a Russian-directed Communist program in the United States.

He declared "Communists have a fanatical determination to insert the party's dogmas into all subjects in schools where Communists have been able to penetrate." He named two former university faculty members as having been Communist party members — former U. S. Rep. Hugh DeLacy and Selden Menefee.

Matthews described DeLacy as "one of the most notorious" party members in the Northwest, whose Communist affiliations were "very extensive."

He also said Communist activities of Jerry O'Connell, former Montana congressman and controversial Washington state political figure, are an "open book" but added, "I am not able to say whether he ever was actually a member of the Communist party. I can testify to his extensive aid to the Communist party."

O'Connell was arrested yesterday as a leader of the demonstrations outside the hearing chamber and booked by police on a charge of disturbing the peace. Hunger Chief Cause

The witness described Communism as "a foreign controlled conspiracy to destroy the American system of government and society." He said one of the great fallacies today is to consider a Communist as a liberal or progressive. He described international Communism as "the most illiberal, unprogressive movement in the world today"—one that would bring "a slave society."

Matthews said another major fallacy was that nations go Communist because of hunger.

"There never has been a case of a country going Communist by act of a hungry population," he declared. "It is always by action of a small minority."

Costs of Housing Reach Peak, FHA Official Says

PORTLAND, July 21.—(AP)—Housing costs have reached a peak. In fact they are going

down in some areas. So asserted Franklin Richards, Federal Housing Authority commissioner, here.

"That doesn't necessarily mean costs of materials and labor have

gone down . . . More materials, faster building time and generally more efficient labor than a year ago make the difference," the Washington, D. C., man told a reporter.

THURSDAY, 8:30 P. M.

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