

Failure to Provide Proper Poultry Quarters Means Small Supply of Eggs

MOVE HENS EARLY IN FALL MONTHS TO NEW QUARTERS

Chicken Raisers Fail to Realize That Biddies Must Be Accustomed to Housing Conditions.

RESULTS SHOW REASON

Few Eggs in Fall Result Where Moving Is Delayed Until the Last Moment Before Winter.

Pullet love of home and contentment with simple surroundings, no matter how humble, make it advisable to transfer the prospective layers from the range to the winter quarters early enough in the fall that they will be thoroughly accustomed to their new quarters before they begin to lay. Many practical poultrymen neglect this precaution and maintain their birds under range conditions almost up to the beginning of cold weather, with the consequence that egg laying is retarded and often jeopardized.

ACCUSTOM PULLETS TO QUARTERS

Timeliness—and timeliness means to do today the jobs of today—is highly essential in the fall moving of the flock. The owner of exhibition fowls would never neglect to feed and condition his birds for the exhibition circuit. It is just as essential that the egg producing birds be properly quartered for the winter season as early as possible consistent with the most progressive poultry management. This means to accustom the pullets to their cold weather home before they begin to lay.

When pullets are moved to the winter quarters at the right time they soon become reconciled to their new surroundings and begin to lay without any interruption. On the other hand, if they are kept out on the range until they attain maturity, when they finally are moved to the cold weather houses their laying ability is so seriously checked that the birds do not produce any eggs for several weeks and in some instances do not lay again for some months.

ROOSTS ON SAME LEVEL

Where the mature hens are to be confined closely all winter it is essential to provide three to four square feet of floor space for each bird, while fowls having free access to range all winter in a mild climate in addition to comfortable quarters need only about one and one half to three square feet of floor space for each bird, while fowls have all the roosts in the winter house on the same level. Otherwise the birds will crowd to the highest positions to the extent that the weaker ones may be seriously injured, as the stronger birds are sure to gain possession of the desirable perches.

It is also essential, just before the pullets are quartered in their new location, to clean out the old quarters, to build up thoroughly and to provide plenty of clean, dry litter. The house should be scrutinized carefully as to need for repairs. Be sure that the sides, ends and roof are weather proof and the building is open sufficiently in front that it will not sweat from inadequate ventilation.

RATION PRODUCES EGGS

As a rule, the same ration that makes growth also produces plenty of eggs, so that it is not necessary to make any change in the pullet dietary at the approach of cold weather. It is worthy of special mention that the United States department of agriculture, at the government experiment farm, Beltsville, Md., kept a number of hens for a period of over three years on a ration which contained no wheat or wheat products and got good production. The federal specialists have maintained the production in their flocks by the proper and scientific use of corn and oats in the ration, feeding two parts of cracked corn to one part of oats night and morning, while they used three parts of corn meal and one part of beef scraps as the scratch mixture kept before the hens at all times. Last year 30 hens fed in this manner made an average yield of 144 eggs, while the same individual hens

PROVIDE PROPER WINTER QUARTERS



Poultry require the best of winter quarters if best egg laying results are to be obtained

yielded over 200 eggs during the 12 months.

When the fall rains are on in full, every poultryman should be sure to protect the exposed end of his poultry house so that the rain can not beat in and wet the bedding and litter, as damp litter causes colds, roup and other diseases.

POULTRY NOTES

It is an easy matter to overfeed fowls. Bear this in mind unless the fowls are on range.

Hens that are laying are not likely to accumulate fat; it is when they are not laying that they do so.

Give the fowls good dust and plenty of it. This is how they keep themselves free of vermin and well.

Hens of light breeds may be profitably kept for three seasons; those of the heavy breeds for two seasons.

Good layers are bred up and not fed up. All the feeding in the world cannot induce a naturally nonproductive hen to change her nature.

A trap nest is the one accurate way to tell whether you are keeping a paying flock, but the poultryman who keeps it must look after the nest in a proper way.

If you have made a failure of everything else, don't think the chicken business will prove to be a life saver. It requires not only brains but an overplus of energy.

Chickens never wash, as many other birds do, but cleanse themselves of insects by wallowing in soil. For this reason, every poultry house should be provided with a dust box.

Five eggs out of every 100 are spoiled by being fertile. Producing infertile eggs does not require anything but the removal of the rooster from the flock after the need for hatching eggs is past.

Milk is no substitute for meat, for it is not sufficiently concentrated. It is impossible for fowls to drink enough of it to take the place of meat. When fed with animal food, milk performs excellent service.

Infertile eggs are more common among poor layers than good ones. Experiments at the Maine experiment station proved it nearly impossible to get fertile eggs from the hens that were the poorest layers.

NINE COUNTIES ENTER DISPLAY IN CONTEST STATE FAIR, YAKIMA

Competition for Prizes Will Be Spirited; Each County Making Extra Endeavors.

Nine counties, King, Spokane, Snohomish, Pierce, Jefferson, Clallam, Kitsap, Grays Harbor and Lewis, have entered the county agricultural exhibit at the state fair at Yakima September 15 to 20.

This means a total of \$900 to be awarded to the various exhibits, according to scores, with an additional \$50 for each exhibit scoring 900 out of a possible thousand points. But the cash prizes are no indication at all of the rivalry which exists, and the determination of each county to win first honors.

King county, which scored third last year, is coming back with the determination to land first money, as it did two years ago. The exhibit is being prepared by F. N. Rhodes, horticultural inspector for the ninth district, with the enthusiastic backing of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce which enlarged its appropriation for the exhibit this year.

J. R. Shinn, county agricultural agent of Spokane county, with his assistant, is preparing the Spokane county exhibit and will probably come to Yakima to install it.

Lewis county, noted for its epileptic grains and grasses, has an exhibit which was shown at the Southwest Washington fair at Chehalis. George Walker, secretary of the Chehalis fair, is assisting E. F. Perry, horticultural inspector for the ninth district, in handling this exhibit and bringing it to the state fair.

Grays Harbor is entering the competition this year with an exhibit prepared by Frederick Robie, who is said to be a wizard in the art of preparing the

products of field and garden in attractive displays.

Henry Huff, genial horticultural inspector for the eighth district, is backed by the commercial bodies of Pierce county as usual. Pierce took second place last year and Huff expects to make it a winner this time. Mr. Huff has also arranged for exhibits from Jefferson, Clallam and Kitsap counties. The Snohomish exhibit is being arranged by J. S. Makke of Everett, horticultural inspector for the tenth district, and is expected to be a strong contender for honors.

Ermentrude, the army recruiting tank, which recently made such a stir in Seattle by demolishing a brick wall before breakfast, and other playful stunts, will cavort about the state fair grounds at Yakima September 15 to 20. This is the word received by Secretary Frank Meredith of the fair from Colonel Otto W. B. Farr of the U. S. A. recruiting service, Seattle.

Good Supply of Grit Necessary for Hens

The hens should have access at all times to a supply of grit or stones of a size small enough to be swallowed readily. Grit is used by the hens to help in grinding in their gizzards the hard grains which they eat. A supply of ordinary gravel will answer the purpose of grit very well. Crushed oyster or clam shell also should be given to the hens and be kept before them at all times. If this is withheld the hens are likely to lack sufficient shell forming material in their feed, with the result that they lay many soft shelled or thin shelled eggs. Grit or shell can be purchased in small quantities at any feed or poultry supply store.

Cure for Colds

If any birds in the flock develop colds put as much potassium permanganate as will remain on the surface of a dime into a gallon of water and keep this mixture in their drinking water for several days, or until the symptoms of the colds have disappeared. Remove any sick birds from the flock as soon as they are noted and treat them in cooperation by themselves, or kill and bury them if they are not worth treating.

CULLING FLOCKS LOWERS EGG COST

Poultrymen Have Learned More in Last Two Years Than in Previous Fifty Years.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Sept. 6.—Poultrymen have learned more in the last two years about culling non-productive poultry than in the previous 50 years, in the opinion of James Dryden, professor of poultry husbandry at the college. Cull out the non-layers and the cost of producing eggs falls, he points out.

"Several hundred million dollars worth of good feed has been wasted in the past years on nonproducing poultry," he said. "Now is the time to reduce the flock by eliminating the nonproductive birds." Professor Dryden says.

The following are conditions which indicate nonproductiveness: Shrivelled condition of the comb, wattles, and ear lobes; closeness of pelvic bones, and keel bone, contracted or hardened condition of the abdomen; yellow shanks and beak and such as naturally have yellow shanks and beak such as the Leghorn and Plymouth Rocks; molting of the feathers.

The best breeding hens may be selected by October 15 to November 15 the following characteristics: Incomplete molt, red comb and wattles, and bright eyes; well spread pelvic bones, good depth from pelvic bones to keel bones and soft abdomen; pale shanks and beak and vent among breeds that have naturally yellow skin and shanks.

Marshfield Chamber Of Commerce to Aid Orchardists of Coos

Marshfield, Sept. 6.—The Marshfield Chamber of Commerce has taken steps to assist the farmers in disposing of the apple crop. There are many orchards of various sizes in the county, some yielding the best quality of Gravenstein apples and others the winter varieties. Experts claim that the Coos county apples are quite up to the standard of any grown in other parts of Oregon, but the farmers have never given them much attention, dairying being the main industry. The chamber of commerce has secured the services of an expert packer, who will be supplied in the orchards where needed and will also furnish the apple boxes to the farmers and handle the crop, shipping to other points and securing the best possible prices. By this plan it is expected that the farmers can be saved much that was previously lost, as many of the orchards are not large enough for the owners to ship without cooperation.

Already the chamber of commerce is finding markets for the Coos apples. Several inquiries and orders have been received from points in Montana, where there seems to be a good market.

Livestock Sale to Be Held Sept. 13

The Jackson county farm bureau picnic and livestock auction sale, originally planned for September 6, will be held on September 13 at Medford. A number of registered livestock will be offered for sale, also registered Hereford cattle. A few registered Herefords and some registered hogs and sheep will be sold, also horses and other livestock that is not registered.

The program will begin at 10:30 in the city park of Medford, and a big barbecue will be held at noon. The merchants of Medford will cooperate. Every farmer of Jackson county and his family should attend this picnic.

Grind Table Scraps Before Feeding Hens

Table scraps and kitchen waste are best prepared for feeding by running them through an ordinary meat grinder. After the material has been put through the grinder it is usually a rather moist mass, and it is well to mix with it corn meal, bran or other ground grain until the whole mass assumes a crumbly condition. The usual method is to feed the table scraps at noon or at night, or at both times, as may be desired, in a trough or on a board. All should be fed that the hens will eat up clean, and if any of the material is left after one-half or three-quarters of an hour, it should be removed. If allowed to lie it may spoil and would be very bad for the hens.

Yakima Apple Crop Sold on Ton Basis

Yakima, Sept. 6.—A feature of apple selling in this valley this year is the purchase of the crop on the tonnage basis. C. E. Udell, who has a Tieton orchard, claims the high record price thus far reported in the sale of his Delicious apples unpacked at \$100 a ton with \$80, \$75 and \$65 a ton for other varieties. Minor Roberts, dean of the school of mining of the University of Michigan, has sold his crop of Winesaps from a 20-acre orchard near Harrah on the reservation at \$90 a ton orchard run. Mrs. Elizabeth Alderson of Fruitvale sold 10,000 boxes at an average price of \$2 a box.

Large Alfalfa Crop in Deschutes County

Statistics gathered by County Assessor W. J. Mulroney show that Deschutes county has 10,320 acres in alfalfa. The increased alfalfa campaign carried on this spring by the First National Bank of Bend brought in 35,000 pounds, which went to over 300 farmers and which has increased the alfalfa acreage of Deschutes county by over 4000 acres or about 40 per cent. The value of the crop based on present hay prices this year will be about \$615,000. The value of the crop, when the new seedling, brought about by the bank produces, will be about \$850,000.

In answering advertisements mention the Farm usage of The Journal.

POULTRY, RABBIT EXHIBIT ATTRACTS

Gresham Fair Display of Bunnies to Be Largest Ever Seen in the Northwest.

One of the interesting features of the Multnomah county fair at Gresham, September 15 to 20, will be the poultry and rabbit exhibit. Dr. Newell Smith, superintendent of this department, is exerting every effort for the success of the exhibit, which, from present indications, will undoubtedly be the largest held in the Northwest this year. The fact that no rabbits are to be shown at the Salem state fair will cause more breeders to display their bunnies at Gresham.

Judge Keeney of Amity, Or., a noted authority on rabbits, has consented to place the awards. Three ribbons will be placed in each class as follows: New Zealand and Flemish doe and litter up to three months of age; Baby Juniors three to four months of age; Juniors, four to six months of age; Intermediates, six to nine months of age; seniors, all over nine months of age. For the other breeds of rabbits, the classes are Juniors under six months of age; seniors, over six months of age.

At the last meeting of the Oregon branch of National Breeders and Fanciers' association, resolutions were

passed condemning the state fair directors for not having a rabbit exhibit at Salem this year. The next regular meeting will be held in The Journal Auditorium September 11, at which time plans will be discussed for furthering the success of the mid-winter show, which will be held in The Auditorium December 14 to 20, 1919. The public is invited to attend these meetings.

Prince of Wales to Open Canadian Show

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Sept. 6.—The fame of Oregon Jerseys has caused the livestock committee of the provincial exposition, New Westminster, Canada, to look to Oregon for a judge of the Jersey display. Professor E. B. Fitts, dairy extension specialist of the college, has been appointed official judge. The Prince of Wales will officially open the exposition September 29. Professor Fitts has also been appointed official judge of all dairy cattle exhibited at the Utah state fair at Salt Lake City October 6 to 11.

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