

AN ARTICLE OF UNUSUAL MERIT FOR GOOD OF POULTRY INDUSTRY

"Some People Keep Hens While Other People Make Hens Keep Them," Is the Title the Author Gave to the Article—it Is Worthy of Careful Reading and Study

By F. M. SHANK, Hubbard, Or., Route 2.)

It never pays to keep hens; make the hens keep you. Some farmers seem to keep hens because their grandfathers did, or possibly because they think it a necessary nuisance and pay little or no attention to them, and as the result there is little or no profit derived from them.

Poultry requires care and attention as well as any other kind of live stock, and it is the opinion of the writer that there is no other kind of live stock that will respond to care and attention so quickly as will poultry. If we will get our foundation stock from a good laying strain and give them good care and attention by feeding properly and keeping them in dry, comfortable quarters, we will be well paid for the effort.

Some poultrymen cull 365 days in the year, and any time they see a hen that no longer pays, they place her on the market and save the high priced feed for the layers.

Some people never cull, while others have their flocks gone over once a year during the general culling season that is just in the future.

Any one that keeps only a dozen hens should cull at least once a year; that it pays to cull there is no question.

There are two classes of cattle—the beef and dairy type, and there are also two classes of chickens—the egg and the meat type; and we find both classes in all of the popular breeds.

It is as impossible to get a profitable egg yield from a meat strain of hens as it would be for a dairyman to try to establish a profitable dairy with a beef strain of Short Horn cows.

In the egg type of hens they require a certain amount of feed for body maintenance and the surplus is converted into eggs, while with the meat type the surplus is turned into fat.

With a little study we are able to examine fowls and detect to which class they belong and in this way market the meat type and keep the ones that will produce eggs and breeders to improve the flock.

There are always some birds in one flock that will not be valuable as layers, even though we have a good laying strain, as in a flock of pullets those lacking vitality and making slow growth will be the short term layers, and will not pay for their feed and should be sent to the market and

the room and feed given to the more promising birds.

Then there are hens that have laid well the past season that will not be profitable to keep over another season unless they are valuable as breeders, and if we do not use the trapnest, we should at least go over the flock once a year and market all the unprofitable birds.

Our state experiment station or the United States station at Washington, D. C., have quite a bit of reliable information on this line of work as well as other subjects, and the information is free. There are also several good books printed on culling that are worth many times the price to the person that will study them and apply the knowledge to his flock.

There are many points to notice in selecting the laying hen from the poor producer, and while one of them alone would not be of much value, it is a proven fact that by a combination of the different tests we are able to do a very reliable and profitable work.

The laying hen is a business hen. She is the first to leave the roost in the morning; the last to go to roost in the evening, and is generally found busy searching for food, while the hen that is not laying often remains on the roost late in the morning and returns early in the evening. She will generally be an early moller, while the heavy layer does not take the time to molt until late in the fall.

Then we have the bone test denoting the shape and thickness of the pelvic bones, also the distance they are from the keel, which represents type in the first and capacity to digest and assimilate in the latter. Then we note the head, and here we see quite a distinction, as the heavy layer has a fine, clean-cut appearance, while the head of the heavy, low-producer is heavy with deep creases, with the eye hardly visible from a front view, while the eye of the heavy layer is full, round and bulging, and easily seen from a front view.

We note the general type of the fowl, also the pigmentation changes that we have only in the breeds having yellow skin.

Any of the yellow shank breeds soon show a faded appearance after laying has begun, but we must not mistake this for a faded color, as the male birds will generally be a good example of the average shade that a low producer would have, providing the males are of the same breed as the hens.

When a hen begins to lay, the yellow color first leaves from around the vent and fades with the first few eggs laid. The eye-ring is next to fade and then the ear lobe in the Leghorn and Ancona, next the beak, beginning at the base and generally fades out in 30 to 40 days of laying.

After the beak has faded the color begins to leave the shanks, leaving first in the smaller scales on the side, then the front, and finally the back of the shank with the heel being the last part to fade, but is bleached out in 110 to 120 days of laying.

As soon as a hen stops laying she begins to restore the yellow pigment in the same order that it was drawn out, in the following order: Vent, eye-ring, earlobe, beak and shanks. For example, we may pick up a hen with all the above named sections faded with the exception of the shanks, and with the application of the other tests we find that she had been laying a few days over a month and just ready to begin fading the shanks.

Another hen may have faded shanks and all the other sections yellow; this would represent a hen that had laid at least 110 days, but that was resting and had restored the yellow pigment as far as the beak.

We are able to closely estimate the length of time that a hen has been molting by looking at the 10 primary feathers in either wing; these feathers drop by pairs and the first to molt is the primary feather next to the axillary feather, and requires six weeks to completely renew, two weeks after the first primary drops the second pair drop; so in counting the time that the molt has been in progress we allow six weeks for the first pair and an additional two weeks for each additional full grown pair.

If you have not had the habit of culling your flock at least once a year, let's get the habit this year and see the great advantage of using the feed and house room for producers and getting all we can for the culls on the market—where they should go.

registrations yesterday. Those registering yesterday were: Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Utter, Seattle; Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Johnson, Tacoma; Mr. and Mrs. S. Stafford and family, Lebanon; Mr. and Mrs. O. P. Ricketts and family, Pullman; E. D. Libby and E. A. Wilson, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Edmundson, Puente, Calif.; W. H. Apter, Los Angeles; Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Morehouse, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Walker, Pasadena; Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Wilde and family, Vancouver; Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Bepoule and family, Vancouver; Mr. and Mrs. H. Papham, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Larson, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. L. W. Weston and daughter, Starbuck, Idaho; Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Jones, Bonanza, Greenacres, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. F. Merton and family, Lebanon; Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Rogers and family, Gooding, Idaho; Mr. and Mrs. G. L. Sleppy and family, Los Angeles; Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Kenyon, Pacific Beach, Wash.; Mr. and Mrs. E. C. Williams, Albany, N. Y.; J. W. Silva, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. J. Hoover, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. S. B. Crawford, Klamath Falls; Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Welch, Los Angeles; Mr. and Mrs. L. Jones and family, San Diego; Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Witsch, Columbus; Mr. and Mrs. H. M. Bell, Garrett, Kan.; Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Emery and family, Long Beach; Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Newton, Portland, O.; E. Hissell, San Francisco; A. Wiltman, San Francisco; Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Hannon, Portland; Mr. and Mrs. E. Axilson and family, Rialto, Cal.

MRS. KABER TO DO LIFE TERM

Woman Convicted of First Degree Murder by Jury At Cleveland

DEATH CHAIR ESCAPED

Mother, Daughter and Three Others to Be Tried for Same Offense

CLEVELAND, O., July 14.—Through mercy recommended by a jury of men, Mrs. Eva Catherine Kaber today escaped the electric chair though found guilty of first degree murder for plotting the assassination of her husband, Daniel F. Kaber.

It was the hope that mercy would be extended by those of the opposite sex which induced her counsel to exclude women jurors on the ground that they are "more cold blooded and merciless than men."

As a result of the recommendation for mercy, Mrs. Kaber was sentenced to life imprisonment in the Ohio reformatory for women at Marysville by Judge Maurice Bernon.

There remain five others to be tried on first degree murder charges in connection with the crime. Two of these are Mrs. Mary Bickel, mother, and Miss Marian McArdle, daughter of Mrs. Kaber.

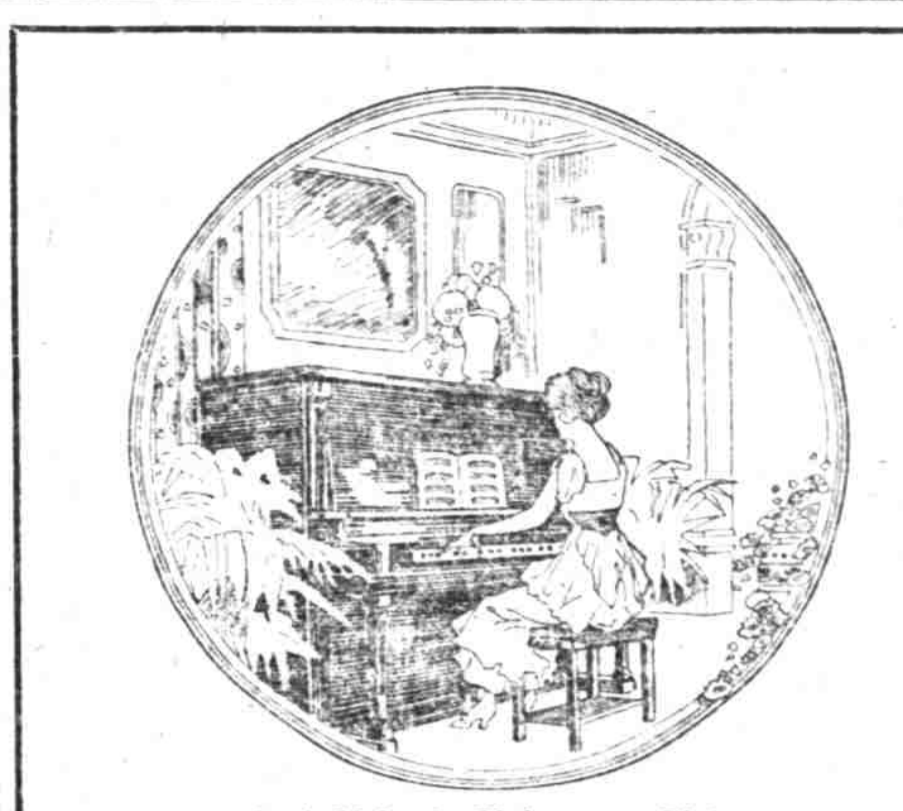
Miss McArdle was with her mother who was lying in a semi-conscious state in her cell in the county jail, when news of the verdict was brought to them by W. Poulsen, Mrs. Kaber's counsel.

THE IDEA!

A Scotsman named Macdonald was very proud of his ancestors and was never tired of boasting about them. On one occasion he remarked to a friend that his clan had lived before the flood.

"Well," replied the other, "I never heard of the name Macdonald ganging into the ark."

"Noah's ark!" retorted Macdonald, contentedly. "Who ever heard of a Macdonald that hadn't a boat of his own?"—Indianapolis News.



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These fares save 95c and 57c respectively, compared with regular fares. —J. W. Ritchie, Telephone 727. Agent—Adv. State & High Sts.

Chieftain's Arrest is Cause of Indian Threat

LIMA, Peru, July 12.—The arrest by the authorities of an Indian chieftain in the province of Chimborazo, Ecuador, resulted in a general uprising of Indians in that province that spread terror among the inhabitants for more than a week, according to advices received here from Guayaquil.

The insurrectionists, it was said, had sworn to liberate their leader.

A newspaper correspondent reported that the villagers had organized defense committees in various parts of the province to protect the families of farmers, a number of whom had been kidnapped and that there had been sanguinary encounters between troops and the Indians.

The advices said additional troops had been sent to the disturbed districts and that it was believed order soon would be restored.

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