

Astronomical Sales of Baby Chicks Reported in Eugene Area

By GLADYS TURLEY
Here chick. Here chick. Here chick, chick, chick.

Have you heard it? The cry of the Eugene chick owner. If you haven't you will. Just wait until the weather warms up and your neighbor turns loose his newly feathered flock into the back lot. Right now that flock may be in his basement huddling beside hot water bottles, warm bricks, or nestling in the environs of a home-made electric brooder, but it will be out in the open space the adolescent feathers sprout and the sun rides high in the spring heavens.

For Eugeneans are chick conscious. Perhaps it's only a matter of time before the city limits will be crowded with the young of the season. Another dealer said that his sales have reached the 2500 mark every week for the past eight weeks. A third dealer, approached for the number of his season's sales, uttered one word—"astronomical."

That's a lot of chicks running around. Enough to guarantee a breakfast egg for each of us for months to come to say nothing of an occasional fryer.

Of course not all of these chick sales were to Eugene citizens, but a good half were to "city people" as one dealer expressed it, and he told of a business woman who recently bought 500 baby chicks which she intends to raise within the city limits.

The number of chicks bought at a time has varied from five or six to place under an old hen to 1000—the nucleus of a young poultry ranch.

The average number has been from 50 to 300. Prices have ranged from around 16 cents for the

meat conscious. Anyway, Eugeneans have been buying chicks this spring as they have never bought them before. A flock in every yard would seem to be the Eugene goal if the tremendous sale of baby chicks in this community is any indicator of events.

"Hog wild and crazy over chicks" is the way one Eugene chick dealer summed up the chick-buying craze. He estimated that he has sold in the neighborhood of 25,000 chicks this season. Another dealer said that his sales have reached the 2500 mark every week for the past eight weeks. A third dealer, approached for the number of his season's sales, uttered one word—"astronomical."

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JAP VICTIM—Taken by the Japs as a victim of war when he fell into their hands after raiding Tokyo, Lt. William G. Farrow, of Darlington, S. C., may be one of the captives the Japanese have admitted executing.

straight run chicks to 32 cents for the sexed. Cockerels have been sold for \$2 a hundred with one store reporting giving them away earlier in the season.

People are buying chicks not only for egg production but for locker meat, it has been pointed out by several dealers. This observation is based on fact that there have not been many calls for sexed chickens, buyers preferring to take the straight runs and having a percentage of fryers and broilers after eight or nine weeks. Then too the fact that many calls have been for "colored stuff" or the meatier chicken shows that the buyer has his future meat supply in mind. Some dealers report that a number of calls have been made for cockerels.

The sale of New Hampshire Reds exceeds that of other breeds but the Barred Rocks, White Leghorns and Rhode Island Reds have found many takers.

The heavy demand for chicks this year has the feed men, the hatchery men and the chick dealer about at their wits end. This week one dealer called a halt to his sales. Another can promise no more chicks until July 1 and still another has no idea when he will be able to again take orders.

The feed and mill men hope that the supply of feed holds out for the season's unparalleled sale of chicks. They've got their fingers crossed. The dealers in chicken mash, water fountains, feeding troughs and other chick raising paraphernalia are cleaned out and don't know where more is coming from. As one man said forlornly, "All I've got left is some leg bands."

The egg is an elemental form but it is also an elemental necessity. Eugeneans have found that out. In a few months down in Eugene should be a raucous, strident affair with every backyard chancier trying to be first to rouse the slumbering Eugene householders.

Varied Reports Given For Grange

CENTRAL—Central grange met Friday night. Four names were read for membership. Mr. and Mrs. Dorcus Halstead, Leland Halderson, and Lenore Halderson. The agriculture chairman, S. D. Buck reported on rodent control and that the fair committee will meet soon to appoint various committees. Carl Petzold reported lime available and prices delivered at Veneta. Annella Storey reported that canning sugar will be available and the need of saving boxes. The H. E. committee chairman, Evelyn Petzold reported there will be a grab bag for the next meeting, each member to bring an article not to exceed 10c in value. Mr. and Mrs. Burr Fitch, Evelyn Schoog, Marjorie Halderson, and Mr. Inman will serve on the refreshment committee for next meeting. Members South and West are asked to bring salad and those North and East, sandwiches.

The legislative committee reported on the Ruml plan, Wheat, crop insurance under AAA out, Foreign War Field, and Car Insurance.

A resolution was read by the secretary on continuing the grange radio programs and by vote was in favor of the resolution. Communications were read by

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the secretary on, idle trucks, state grange meeting in Eugene and national farmers relation Act. The truck communication was referred to the agriculture committee with power to act. The following digger control committee was appointed by the master: Burr Fitch and Clayton Inman. A motion in favor of the national farmers relation Act, carried, and Central grange is to go on record as in favor of the bill. The chairman and relief committee chairman, Velda Sutherland asked that Margaret Jessee and Brother Otto Petzold be remembered. Jessee Petzold is in Dr. Nichols sanatorium in Savannah, Missouri for treatments and Otto Petzold is confined to his bed from a heart attack.

The following Mother's Day program during the lecturer hour was in charge of the lecturer, Cordelia Jessee: Song, by all; poem, My Mother, by Mrs. Lester Thomas; solo, That Wonderful Mother of Mine, by Willet Jessee; game, by all.

chairman, Evelyn Petzold, will soon be completed and the drapes for the hall windows are well under way.

The new curtains for the stage in charge of the H. E. committee

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