

O. A. C. HENS FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD

With Only Three Pens Entered the College Fowls Hold Highest Places

RECORDS RELATIVELY GOOD

Unfavorable Conditions Holds Actual Egg Yield Lower Than Those of More Favorable Climate and Environment.

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, Sept. 29.—The tenth report of the Panama-Pacific International Egg Laying Contest shows that the three pens entered by the Oregon Agricultural College now stand first, second and third for the entire term of the contest to September 1 and also in the August records. The college white leghorns are first with a total of 1434 eggs. The cross-breds second with 1274 and the barred rocks third with 1227. The leghorns and crosses have stood first and second for the last few months but it was during August that the barred rocks cut down the lead of their competitors, passed them and took the lead by 27 eggs. In doing this they gained 47 eggs on the Canada Wyandottes which they passed and which had led the contest for several months. The leghorns are now 234 eggs ahead of the Canada pen, a lead which practically insures that they will win first place in the term contest.

In the individual records for the term the Oregon cross-bred that has been leading for several months, still maintains her lead, though by the narrow margin of two eggs. Her closest rival, however, is another Oregon hen, a barred rock entered by F. M. Sherman, of Lebanon. Among the ten highest individuals the College has another cross-bred hen and three white leghorns thus taking five of the ten possible places. Another cross-bred hen stands first in the August individual records with 25 eggs, pretty close to an egg a day for the entire month of August. The ten highest records for the period to August 31 are as follows:

No. 15—White Leghorns, Oregon, 1434 eggs; No. 16—Crosses, Oregon, 1274 eggs; No. 13—Barred Plymouth Rocks, Oregon, 1227 eggs; No. 25—White Wyandottes, British Columbia, 1200 eggs; No. 30—White Leghorns, New York, 1136 eggs; No. 3—White Wyandottes, British Columbia, 1106 eggs; No. 9—White Leghorns, England, 1099 eggs; No. 23—Rhode Island Reds, California, 1073 eggs; No. 20—Barred Plymouth Rocks, Oregon, 1063 eggs; No. 10—White Leghorns, Washington, 1054 eggs.

A great many inquiries have reached the College in regard to the actual performance of the hens that are doing relatively so well. Among other things it is asked whether the College hens and other hens entered from many parts of the world are making as good records as they have made at other times and in other places. This very matter is taken up as a part of the tenth report issued by the committee in charge of the contest under the direction of the University of California and the facts with reference to this question and the reasons therefor are stated as follows:

"The record of the hens in the egg Laying Contest has not been as high as it would be in any contest where the hens were kept under the conditions which were more like those found on the ordinary farm. Where thousands of people are passing within a few feet of the hens, day after day, they will never lay as well as they would if they were more quiet and more secluded. They are always disturbed more or less and made more nervous where they are constantly

coming in contact with strange faces, strange figures and parties attired in strange clothing. In the Missouri contest no one is allowed in the pens or near the birds but the attendant, and he goes through the pens in the same direction each time, always entering the same door, going from house No. 1 to No. 50, and always attired in the same kind of clothing. Whenever he reverses this course, and goes from house No. 50 to No. 1, the hens are not expecting him at the doors in the opposite end of the houses and they are always more or less nervous and excited as a result. The attendant in the Missouri contest

conditions. The birds have had the best of feed and the closest attention and kept under the most sanitary conditions. They have been handled as directed by the poultry department of the University of California and by two student experts from the Institution. Practically nothing has been neglected that could be done to obtain the best results. Hundreds of thousands of people have seen the hens and many have become interested in poultry raising as a result. Many of the hens are now in full moult and we ought to have a good average production during the fall months."

O. A. C. HENS STAND CLIMATE

News reports from the Panama-Pacific Exposition egg laying contest say that there is every reason to believe Oregon will capture first, second and third places with the three Agricultural College pens. "Professor Dryden," the report continues, "is the man who produced the world championship 303-egg hen for Oregon and is now demonstrating that Oregon methods and Oregon breeding stock will result in producing the champion flocks even in such an abominable climate as that in the immediate vicinity of the Golden Gate."



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SUGAR BEET PROSPECTS

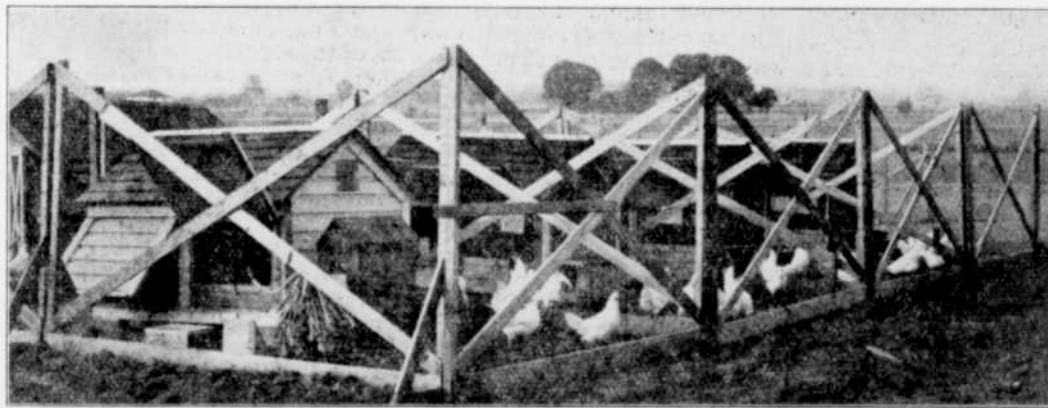
Of special interest to Oregon farmers who contemplate embarking in sugarbeet production is the statement of Clifford Willis, editor of the Northwest Farmstead, that the outlook for home producers is more encouraging than ever before. This is due, Mr. Willis thinks, to the fact that experience has bettered cultural methods, that climatic conditions are better than ever before, and that the market is influenced by war conditions more nearly to approach the normal under favorable tariff regulations.

HAMPSHIRE HOG TYPES

Hampshires or belted hogs are black at both ends and usually white around the heart-girth and forelegs. While strictly an American breed, Hampshires have rather a larger proportion of lean meat and more of the appearance of the bacon type than most American hogs. A few years back, swine of this breed for several years in succession won the carcass contest at the International Fat-Stock Show. The greatest impediment to the progress of this breed is the color fancy. The belted appearance being consid-

uses khaki suits and whenever he puts on a black suit, the hens look upon him as a stranger. Little things like this have a greater influence on egg production than most people imagine, and for that reason many of the large egg farms require their attendants to always whistle or knock on the doors before they attempt to open them.

"At a great exposition like this the visitors expect to and must see the hens, and the advertising value of having your name constantly on a pen for the period of a year is worth much to any contestant. The Exposition is located right on San Fran-



"Where Hens Were Kept Under Conditions More Like Those of a Farm."

cisco Bay and very near Golden Gate through which blows a brisk wind and often a heavy fog. The nights are cold and damp and the climate and conditions are so different from most sections of California and from the states from which the birds come that many of them have been handicapped by these facts, and it is therefore no discredit to any breeder if his pen has not done quite all that he expected, and all they would have done under more natural or ordinary

Production in many districts has also greatly increased and many of the largest manufacturers of beet sugar report that they have contracts to their full capacity and have been forced to turn down scores of applications for furnishing raw products. He is greatly impressed with the favorable sugar beet conditions of the Willamette Valley. Mr. Willis is the successor to John E. Larson, Extension agronomist of the Agricultural College, as editor of the Farmstead.

ered fancy, leads to the retention of well-marked animals, sometimes regardless of the fact that they may be inferior in essential respects to other individuals not well marked. The small number of herds from which foundation stock as well as herd boars may be secured in the Northwest is still an obstacle to the progress of the breed, though some excellent Hampshires appear on our larger show and fair circuits.—G. R. Samson, O. A. C. Swine Specialist.