

THE FAME OF JOSEPHINE COUNTY AS A POULTRY SECTION IS ENHANCED BY THE ILL-A-HEE YARDS

By F. R. Steel

Real progress in farm live stock or poultry has always come in the past and probably always will come in the future; first, from the worthwhile, up-building work of one leader in each line, continued until permanent improvement has been achieved; and second, from spreading the lessons learned from this leader's work widely over the territory involved. Such work while and up-building work has been accomplished with Barred Rock chickens at the Ill-A-Hee poultry yards at Grants Pass, Ore., under the management of U. L. Upson, Jr., and one link in the chain of publicity necessary to spread the inspiration and benefit of this work throughout the surrounding territory was accomplished at the successful poultry demonstration held at Ill-A-Hee recently, under the joint auspices of the poultry plant and County Agricultural Agent C. D. Thompson of Josephine county, representing the extension service of the Oregon Agricultural college and the U. S. department of agriculture.

The occasion was in every way a success. About 150 were present. Following luncheon in which the picnic baskets brought by the visitors were supplemented by roast chicken and coffee, the program of talks commenced. Mr. Upson introduced the speakers.

Rev. L. Myron Boozer, the first speaker, pointed out that the farmer is no longer "just a farmer," but a stockman or poultry or grainman or orchardist or some other form of specialist, and had become a vital unit in the nation's resources in the present world crises.

A. Wylberg spoke on standardization of breeds. He advocated a community confining itself to one breed and making a reputation on that.

The third speaker on the program was Geo. Lundberg, cashier of the First National Bank of Southern Oregon. Mr. Lundberg congratulated the county upon the excellent feeling that existed between the farmers, stockmen and poultrymen of the country and the business men of Grants Pass, its chief city.

The next speaker was Prof. James Dryden, of the Oregon Agricultural college, probably the most famous chicken expert in the world. Prof. Dryden said that southern Oregon was naturally a very favorable location for the development of a worthwhile poultry industry. He emphasized the fact that the average production of eggs and chickens in the

United States was now carried on at a loss, due to the price of poultry products not being as high in proportion as feed and labor. This, however, does not mean that a profit cannot still be made on poultry, but that to do so, higher laying hens must be used. Prof. Dryden stated that no hen that laid less than 100 eggs per year was profitable to keep, and intimated that the profit line might be raised considerably above this. He said it was a patriotic duty to keep high laying hens; but that it was a criminal waste of food values to keep any hens that laid less than 100 eggs per year—it was like robbing our soldiers of that much food. On the other hand, the production of eggs by high layers helped supply the hospitals and armies of the allies. Prof. Dryden pointed out that armies cannot fight on a vegetarian diet. They must have meat, eggs and milk. Keep your good layers, and kill the poor layers, was his advice.

Prof. Dryden stated that trap-nesting was the only accurate method of telling good from poor layers, but that approximate selection could be made in other ways.

The most striking thing brought out during the whole demonstration however was the remarkable proof given by the tabulated records of the Ill-A-Hee plant for the last seven years, that egg laying tendency is transmitted entirely from sire to daughter and not at all in the first generation from dam to daughter.

Mr. Upson exhibited tables which conclusively showed dominant egg laying tendency is not transmitted from dam to daughter in chickens, not in the Ill-A-Hee flock anyhow.

The immense importance of this fact to the poultry industry as a whole—the commercial egg industry particularly—is that a poultry man who cannot take the time nor go to the expense of trap-nesting his flock, can depend upon getting good layers right along by always using a sire with a high average egg record pedigree.

After the speaking program was finished Mr. Upson took the visitors through his up-to-date plant, showed the methods of handling, feeding, trap-nesting, and record keeping. Many valuable pointers were gotten by those in attendance upon these points; and Prof. Dryden complimented Mr. Upson highly upon the management of the plant. Altogether a most successful poultry demonstration was held. May there be many more like it.

GREEK SUPREME COURT HAS BEEN SUSPENDED

Athens, Sept. 15.—(By mail)—The new government, which succeeded that of King Constantine, has adopted radical measures toward the supreme court, or areopagos, on the charge of having used its high judicial functions for political ends in protecting the officials of the late king, and permitting the persecution of the Venizelos element. The chief justice, associate chief justice and five associate justices have been summarily removed, and some 60 judges of courts below the supreme court are similarly displaced. Such a sweeping overturn of the judiciary has never been known before.

The minister of justice has explained to parliament that conditions were such as to warrant the suspension of the constitutional provision giving the judiciary a fixed tenure of office. He referred to the dismissal of the supreme court and other judges as a work of purification, and said it would be continued until all those who had taken a hand in politics were removed. He cited a number of instances in which the harsh treatment of the Venizelists last December resulted from rulings by the courts.

Hell Gate Bridge.
Hell Gate bridge in New York represents a mass of 10,000 tons of steel alone. Its arch spans an interval of 1,017 feet, making it the longest steel arch in the world and the heaviest bridge of any description ever built across an obstacle. Two massive towers support the enormous weight. They rise to a height of 270 feet on each side of the river. The ends of the bridge rest upon four ponderous shoes of cast steel, each weighing 500,000 pounds, the largest castings ever made.

FERRYDALE

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Cochrane, Miss Norma Cochrane, Emmett Cochrane, Miss Pearl Green and Mrs. Black from Quartz creek were Sunday visitors at E. C. Neely's and T. H. Overton's.

G. H. Griffin and family motored to Ashland and back Sunday. On the return trip they stopped in Medford to visit relatives.

L. H. Raber and Will Taylor, of Corvallis, are spending several days prospecting at the Flanagan mine.

A. J. Hussey made several trips to the Britton mill this week for lumber to be used in the construction of a silo on his farm.

Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Wertz and daughters, Mary and Ida, and Mrs. M. A. Griffin motored out to G. H. Griffin's Monday evening.

Harry Neely, Percy Green and Roy McAllister returned Wednesday from a hunting trip in the mountains.

T. Ogden and Roy Peterson are helping Wm. Anderson build a silo on his farm.

A. C. Ford as just commenced gathering his late peach crop.

Mrs. Millie Johnson and children left Wednesday, returning to their home at La Center after visiting relatives here for the past two weeks.

T. J. Everton was a Grants Pass visitor Wednesday.

Never Had It.
Parson—This eccentricity you speak of in your daughter—isn't it, after all, a matter of heredity? Her's Mother—No, sir. I'd have you know that there was never any heredity in our family.—Boston Transcript.

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Orchards by the Wayside.

Wayside orchards are quite a feature of the roads in many parts of Herefordshire. Damsons are the trees usually planted for this purpose, and along many of the main roads there have been planted in the hedges at intervals of a few yards for considerable distances.

Great masses of snowy bloom in spring and the purple of ripening fruit in the late summer do much to add to the beauty of one of the most beautiful counties in England.

Some enterprising farmers have planted damson trees in every hedge on the farm, and the damson crop is quite a considerable factor in their agricultural returns. Thus the fruit are gathered in a half ripe state and used for dyeing purposes.—London Standard.

Forests of Africa.

Que of the great natural treasures of Africa is the immense extra tropical forest that extends almost unbroken from the extreme southern end along the eastern highlands to the equator. There are gaps in it, and the trees change in kind somewhat with change of latitude, but upon the whole it has the same character throughout. The altitude above the sea changes regularly with decrease of latitude. Near the cape the forest grows at sea level, in Natal and the Transvaal its altitude increases to 4,000 and 5,000 feet, and on approaching the equator it rises to 7,000 feet and finally to 10,000 feet. In the equatorial highlands the growth is very chaotic.

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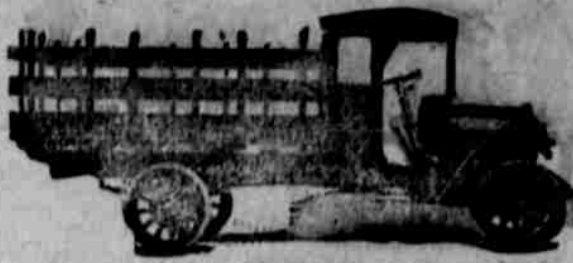
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