

POULTRY

SELECT BREEDING STOCK FOR 1927

Early fall is none too early for poultry keepers to make plans for the 1928 breeding stock, says Cora Cooke, poultry specialist with the department of agriculture, University of Minnesota. A Wisconsin authority has said that the selection of breeders should begin as soon as the chicks are hatched.

Miss Cooke says the following requirements should be kept in mind when breeders are being selected: 1, of a pure breed; 2, high vitality; 3, high producing ability as shown by records or examination; 4, right size and type; 5, conforming as nearly as possible to the proper breed and variety characteristics.

"Further information, such as may be obtained by trap-nesting and pedigree, is very valuable," says the specialist. "Absolute knowledge as to how many eggs a hen has laid in her pullet year, how many times she has been broody, and what kind of eggs she lays is a distinct help in selection. But when trap-nesting is not practicable, ordinary examination will achieve results, though in a somewhat smaller degree.

"After selecting the breeders it is important to keep them in the best physical condition for breeding. This calls for comfortable quarters with plenty of room, fresh air and sunshine. The birds should have an ordinary laying ration which will keep them in good flesh without their getting too fat."

Bird Tick Very Serious

Menace to Turkey Grower

Dr. W. A. Billings of the agricultural extension service, University of Minnesota, warns turkey growers to be on the lookout for the bird tick which has made its debut in Atkin county, its first appearance in Minnesota. This tick should not be confused with the common Minnesota wood tick or the fowl tick of the Southern states. It has the same general appearance, but is a distinct species.

"The ticks are seen most around the eyes and necks of the young turkeys," says Doctor Billings. "They are very destructive and in one outbreak killed 40 out of 46 poults. There is no successful treatment. The only thing that can be done is to go over the birds once or twice a week by hand and pick off the ticks.

"It is possible these parasites were introduced into Minnesota from wild fowl or through the interchange of breeding stock from other states. The tick appeared in Vermont in 1909."

Teach Chicks to Roost

as Early as Possible

As soon as possible chicks should be taught to roost. After they roost the dangers of crowding or piling in the corners is eliminated and a great problem of the poultry keeper is nearing solution. At the earliest opportunity roosts should be installed a foot or eighteen inches above the floor along the back of the house so as to encourage roosting. One should carefully observe the chicks and always provide an abundance of roosting space. The brooder house should be supplied with fresh air so as to afford comfort to the chicks. This discourages their roosting in trees. A good rule is to get the chicks on the roost at the earliest age possible.

Discrimination Against

Eggs in Cold Storage

An interesting argument has been going on recently over the question, "When Is an Egg Fresh?" Undue discrimination against eggs that have been kept in cold storage has aroused butter and egg dealers to an effort to change the public attitude. One suggestion is that storage eggs should be labeled "Kept Fresh in Cold Storage." It is pointed out that eggs which are placed in cold storage are of the finest quality, being produced in the spring, and may actually be better after several months of keeping than others which are fresh in the present use of that term.

Roosts for Turkeys

A great many of the turkey growers build the roosts about 10 or 12 feet high for the large turkeys and about 5 or 6 feet high for the young ones; around these roosts is built a 6-foot fence with a large gate. When the turkeys get their feed and drink on return from the fields they are driven into this enclosure and the gate shut; in this way dogs, coyotes and other animals are kept away and the turkeys are amply protected against thieves.

Spray for Mites

Mites live in the house, laying low in the daytime, and swarming over the hens at night, sucking their blood and poisoning their sleep with evil dreams. The best way to put a crimp in their game is, first, to scrub the house out thoroughly with strong soap-suds, then spray the walls, roosts and everything else in the house, with a 5 per cent solution of some good coal-tar disinfectant. Repeat the spraying in three or four days and keep the house clean.

THE WORLD'S GREAT EVENTS

ALBERT PAYSON TERHUNE

Joan of Arc

THE great presence-chamber of the French court was crowded to the doors. On a dais at the upper end of the room sat a gorgeously attired man, surrounded by flattering courtiers. Into that brilliant assemblage a poor peasant girl was ushered. Her tanned face was homely, but lighted by unusually large, melancholy eyes. She was Joan, the peasant's daughter of Domremy.

Her eyes swept the gay court, rested indifferently on the gaudy form in the chair of state, then passed on to a far corner of the room, where she singled out a plainly dressed man who stood unnoticed in a lesser group of courtiers. Going up to this man, she knelt before him, saying: "You are Charles, the dauphin (crown prince) of France!"

A murmur of amazement ran through the listening crowd. The dauphin raised the peasant girl to her feet. The smile of derision that had curled his lips gave place to a look of awe. Joan of Arc's career had begun.

France and England had for centuries been bitter foes. They were forever at war with each other. (These wars endured at intervals until the battle of Waterloo, in 1815.) France had been repeatedly beaten by the better-disciplined islanders. Invasion after invasion on the part of the English had torn away more and more French territory and had annexed it to England. Edward III had several times invaded France, and his son, "the Black prince," in the battles of Crecy and of Poitiers (1336 and 1356) had wrecked France's military power.

The Black prince has come down through history as the very flower of chivalry; whereas, as a matter of fact, he was a brutal freebooter.

Later, Henry V of England had further subdued France, until, early in the Fifteenth century, England had conquered all the country north of the River Loire, and the infant son of Henry V was crowned not only king of England but of France as well—France, lying helpless, almost passive, in the grip of her British masters. Charles, son of the French king and rightful heir to the French throne, should have been crowned on his father's death, but he had no genius or ambition and was content to spend his time in idleness and dissipation, uncrowned, while his kingdom slipped away from his nerveless hands.

Affairs had reached this point when Joan of Arc appeared. She had passed her childhood in the forest of Domremy, at the edge of the province of Lorraine, where she tended her father's flocks, excelled at housewifely arts and repelled all offers of love. She could neither read nor write. But she had heard of the prophecy made of old by the magician, Merlin, that France, in the hour of direst need, should be saved by a maiden. Tradition had added that the maiden should come from Domremy. Joan brooded over this prophecy in her long hours of solitude in fields and woods until she hypnotized herself into the belief that she heard divine voices telling her she was the Holy Maid destined to rescue her country from ruin.

At this juncture the English captured Orleans, the way to all southern France. Joan declared that the "voices" bade her to wrest Orleans from the invader and to crown Charles at Reims. With this double aim in view, and backed by the clamor of popular feeling, she secured an interview with Charles. To deceive her, he decked out a courtier in his royal robes, and himself stood, disguised, in a remote corner. Joan at once saw through the imposition. So impressed was Charles that he gave her an army of about 4,500 men and sent her against Orleans.

She had no military knowledge, no education of any sort. Yet she had absolute faith in her own inspiration, and she inspired her soldiers with the same belief. Incidentally, she worked strongly upon the superstitious fears of the English. Clad in mail and carrying a sacred banner, she rode at the head of her fanatical army, captured Orleans, beat the English in battle after battle and drove them helter-skelter beyond the Loire. Then she returned and assisted at Charles' coronation at Reims.

Her double mission thus accomplished, she begged leave to go back to her flocks and the quiet life of her village. But Charles would not hear of it. He ennobled her and her family and sent her to wrest Paris from the English. In vain she pleaded that she had no further divine call. Charles relied on the fanatic enthusiasm of her soldiers to sweep all before them. So she obeyed. But she was henceforth no more than a mere woman. On September 8, 1429, she attacked Paris, but was beaten back and wounded. Her luck—or divine power—was gone. Soon afterward she was captured. Charles, who owed her his kingdom, made no effort to ransom or rescue her.

The English tried her as a sorceress and a heretic. Although no crime or deceit could be proven against her, they pronounced her guilty, and on May 30, 1431, burned her at the stake.

Thus died Joan of Arc, holy martyr-maid, and the bravest, purest patriot the world has ever known.

Improved Uniform International

Sunday School Lesson

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Lesson for November 7

THE FALL OF JERICHO

LESSON TEXT—Josh. 6:1-20.
GOLDEN TEXT—This is the victory that overcometh the world even our faith.

PRIMARY TOPIC—Joshua Leads His People to Victory.
JUNIOR TOPIC—The Victory of Jericho.

INTERMEDIATE AND SENIOR TOPIC—How God Helped Joshua.
YOUNG PEOPLE AND ADULT TOPIC—Overcoming by Faith.

Jericho was the key to the land of Canaan. A signal victory here would put the Israelites in control of the land. Failure here would mean irretrievable ruin.

I. Jericho Shut Up (vv. 1-5).
The Canaanites felt secure because Jericho was strongly fortified from the south. Approach to the city from the east was not thought of as the Jordan river was a barrier. The miraculous crossing of the Jordan by the Israelites and their surrounding the city of Jericho greatly alarmed the people—"Therefore none went out and none came in."

1. God's promise to Joshua (v. 2).
"I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, and the mighty men of valour." Because of this promise from the Lord their faith had a firm basis.

2. God's Instructions (vv. 3-5).
They were to encompass the city with seven priests bearing trumpets of rams' horns. The ark, a symbol of the Divine Presence, went before the people. They encompassed the city once a day for six days and on the seventh day they encompassed it seven times. When the last circuit was made the priests were to give a long blast of the trumpets and the people were to shout with a great shout and the walls of Jericho were to fall down.

II. The Obedience of the People (vv. 6-10).
They advanced according to the directions of their leader, for they were going forth according to the command of the Lord. To the natural eye the means employed were very inadequate, even foolish. If they had looked at the inadequacy of the means in themselves, they no doubt would have faltered, but they believed that He who had given the orders would fight for them. Joshua and his people set out at once to obey the divine directions. The people marched around the city every day for six days. This, no doubt, was very trying to their faith. There was absolutely no connection between the means and the end. Perhaps as the days wore wearily away the whole affair became monotonous. Even at the end of the sixth day there was no change. Doubtless the people on the walls of the city used this unseemly behavior as an occasion of great merriment and ridicule. Even at the end of the sixth round on the seventh day there was no change. Yes, the seventh round brought no change until the very last moment. At the mighty shout, accompanied with the blowing of trumpets, the walls came tumbling down. This is the way of all works accomplished by faith. At the time when everything seems against us, faith holds on and wins the victory.

III. The Fall of Jericho (vv. 17-20).
At the end of the seventh day the seventh round having been made of the city, the long silence was broken with a shout. As the walls crumbled down, the Israelites clambered over them, slaying men, women and children. They were not to spare anything save the gold, silver, brass and iron which were to be saved for the treasury of the Lord. However, Rahab and her household were saved according to the promise of the spies. This wonderful deliverance was calculated to inspire the people with courage and enthusiasm. They could now see how God could fight for them and deliver them from their enemies. Also, it would strike terror in the hearts of the Canaanites. The blowing of the trumpets and shouting of that day with its great victory is typical of the greater day when larger victories shall be won by the Almighty for His people, and even greater consternation will be struck into the hearts of the enemies of God's people (I Thess. 4:16, 17).

Let us learn of this whole lesson that spiritual victories are won upon principles and by means which are not sufficient in themselves. According to human wisdom it is utter foolishness (I Cor. 1:17-29).

The Living Trees

Living trees are always shedding something in order to produce more.

The Bible Leads

Judge the Bible by the influence that it has had upon the lives of men, and it wins first place with all other books trailing in the dust.

The Christian

A Christian, when he makes a good profession, should be sure to make his profession good.

On God's Side

Stand on God's side and He will stand by your side in times of need.

OUR COMIC SECTION

Our Pet Peeve



THE FEATHERHEADS

The First and Great Commandment



MICKIE, THE PRINTER'S DEVIL

Dogs Will Be Dogs

