

How to Raise Poultry

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There is No Best Breed of Chickens
—Select Your Breed According to What You Want to Accomplish, Keep the Strain Pure and Breed Carefully to Strengthen the Natural Tendencies of Your Choice.

In the first place, let me make this emphatic statement: There is no best breed or variety of chicken. In due respect to all, I make this statement. If you have a certain breed or variety, do not think they are the best, because they are not. There are good strains in all breeds and in all varieties of chickens. Choose the breed or variety that suits your fancy, and devote your energies to making them profitable. It is the strain or blood lines that really counts. Just because a chicken is a Plymouth Rock, a Leghorn, an Orpington or a Rhode Island Red is not what makes it a world beater. It is the breeding up of any flock to higher egg production that makes record producers. By trap nesting any breed or flock of hens, and using for breeders only those that are high producers, good size and chick full of vigor, and are reasonably close to the standard requirements, you can in a few years build up a strain with blood lines behind them that makes them far superior to the ordinary flock of the same breed or variety with which such careful methods have not been used. In this way, or by line breeding, all strains of chickens originate.

"What breed shall I select?" is the question one is always sure to ask whenever I make the foregoing statement. To that, I can only make the classic reply, "It all depends." Then I counter with the question, "What do you want to accomplish?" There are three general classes, the meat class, the egg class and the general purpose class. The purpose of the first two named is perfectly plain and that of the third is almost equally so.

General purpose fowls are very often little inferior as layers to the so-called "egg-class" and will

often compare favorably with "meat class" fowls for table use. They make excellent broilers, fryers, roasters and capons and the old hens, if fat, will usually bring good prices. Perhaps the most popular general purpose breed is the Plymouth Rocks which may be had in several varieties. The Barred Plymouth Rocks are the most popular farm flock chicken in the corn belt sections of the Middle West, as well as in many other sections. They outlayed all other breeds and varieties of chickens in all the egg laying contests in the United States in 1927. Second only to the Plymouth Rocks, if even to them, are Rhode Island Reds. Wyandottes are still highly esteemed by many fanciers and justly so. Orpingtons of which there are several varieties are a very popular English breed. The eggs of this class are brown and usually of good size.

The egg-class is a particularly important one for commercial poultry raisers. The various egg-breeds are usually small in size and do not get broody often, so they can seldom be used for hatching or mothering chicks. As the name of this class indicates, however, they are specialists in the art of laying eggs. In addition to that, their eggs are white in color. This feature is desired in some markets and such eggs frequently bring higher prices than brown eggs.

Exceedingly popular among the egg-class breeds are the Leghorn, of which there are several varieties, the White Leghorn being the most popular. Having been bred almost exclusively for egg production, the Leghorn lives up to its nick-name, "The Egg Machine." Consequently if egg production is the major requirement, you cannot well afford to overlook the Leghorns. Other desirable egg-class breeds are Minorcas, Anconas, and others of the so-called Mediterranean breeds.

While the meat-class is not so extensively raised as the others described, they are very desirable for many reasons. Although not such star performers as Leghorns or good

"SCENIC OR SIGN-IC?"



The photograph, according to the Standard Oil Bulletin, illustrates "a motorist viewing California Mountain Scenery." The Standard Oil Company of California is now conducting four prize contests with a view to finding a solution of the problem of the defacement of the scenery of the Pacific Coast by objectionable advertising signs. Cash prizes of \$1,000, \$500 and \$250 are being offered for the three best 1500-word or less answers as to how the evil can be corrected, of \$500, \$250 and \$125 for the best 1000-word or less statements on why it should be corrected; of \$250, \$125 and \$75 for the three eight-word or less slogans which will most effectively arouse public sentiment on the question; and additional prizes of \$50, \$100, \$75, \$50 and \$25 for the five best amateur photographs of actual signs

which best portray defacement. The judges of the contest are: Hon. Horace M. Albright, Director, National Park Service.

Kathleen Norris, Ex-Senator James D. Phelan of California.

W. L. Valentine, Former President, Automobile Club of Southern California.

H. B. Van Duser, Chairman, Oregon State Highway Commission.

Mrs. H. F. Alexander, Seattle Garden Club.

David Whitcomb, Chairman, Executive Committee, Pacific Empire Association.

Full text of conditions may be obtained from any Standard Oil office or by writing to the Company at 225 Dush Street, San Francisco.

COAST PEAR MEN SCHEDULE MEET

A movement to unite the pear-growing interests of the entire Pacific coast in a way to permit national advertising and general support of other projects, will take shape at the time of the annual meeting of the Oregon Pear Growers' cultural society in Medford November 13-15. A call has been sent out by Clayton L. Long, extension specialist in horticulture at Oregon State college and secretary-treasurer of the society.

Many Washington and California dealers and growers have already sent word that they will attend, and the California Pear Growers association has called a meeting of its

general purpose breeds, they are usually fair layers and bring top prices for table use. The capons from these breeds are particularly fine. Some of the better known breeds in this class are Brahmas, Cochins and Langshans.

Now it must be understood that these classifications are not matters of hard and fast differentiation. Some egg-class fowls are excellent for table use and some meat-class fowls are good layers. Conversely, some general purpose breeds are as good layers as some egg-type breeds and as good for the table as some meat-types. Nevertheless, these classifications are fairly accurate guides and will help considerably in selecting the breed best suited to your own requirements. Those thoroughbred chickens that have been specifically developed for some definite purpose. That way lies the best chance for success and satisfaction.

Finally, let me emphasize, one breed or one variety of chickens is enough on one farm, and never cross breeds of chickens. If you wish to keep more than one breed or variety, keep them absolutely separate. Never let them run together, especially at breeding time. Cross bred or mongrel chickens do not pay. Nothing is worse than a conglomerated dukes mixture of all breeds, all varieties and all colors of chickens in one flock. They do not grow as fast or as large, nor lay as well as pure bred chickens.

Directors at that time. Improvement of marketing conditions, now that production and storage practices have been standardized, is in prospect.

The special pear assembly will not replace matters of general horticultural interest on the program, as many other phases will be touched. For the first time garden clubs will have a place on the program as well, a half day being set aside for the southern Oregon clubs.

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oline for the Rogue River valley through this port, left here late Monday, with Mr. L. D. Fox of Grants Pass, personally in charge of the operations. Mr. Fox, who secured the contract for all the hauling, has two large trucks on the job at the present time, but expects to have as many as six trucks engaged in the work during the summer time.

The trucks are large affairs, capable of hauling approximately 4000 gallons per trip, but since it is thought the demand will reach about 20,000 gallons per day in the summer season, it will keep five trucks busy supplying the demand.

Mr. Fox will haul to Grants Pass, Medford and Ashland to start with, but as soon as transportation problems are ironed out, he will probably haul into Klamath Falls, and probably as far north as Roseburg, as the officials of the Standard Oil company believe they will be able to save money even by hauling to those cities.—Del Norte Triplette.

FARM POINTERS

Oregon is one of the comparatively few places in the United States where goats are raised profitably.

The average Oregon potato yield this year is expected to be considerably below normal. It is estimated at 87 bushels, indicating a total production of 4,080,000 bushels compared to 6,240,000 bushels last year,

and the five year average of 4,584,000 bushels.

A fine concentrate for dairy cattle can be made of Austrian field peas, cracked, and oats, with some bran added, according to recent results from the Oregon experiment station. Cracked peas and oats have sold readily this season at \$30 to \$40 a ton, it is reported. Production of Austrian field peas as a seed crop is becoming increasingly important in western Oregon, the acreage having increased from 15 acres in 1927 to 1200 acres the past season, with a larger amount expected next year.

RELIEF CORPS HOLDS MEETING

The local W. R. C. held their regular monthly meeting Wednesday at their club rooms in the city hall building and a fair sized attendance was present. The state treasurer, Mrs. Lenna Sweetlund of Portland was present and inspected the post and at the dinner at noon made a very splendid address. Mrs. Sweetlund was accompanied on her trip to this city by Mrs. C. Newman of Portland who also expressed her pleasure at being a guest of the local corps. The ladies served a very sumptuous and tasty luncheon which was greatly enjoyed by all who had the pleasure of attending. Mrs. Ella Patrick responded to the address of Mrs. Sweetlund and invited her and her guest to visit often with the Gold Hill corps.

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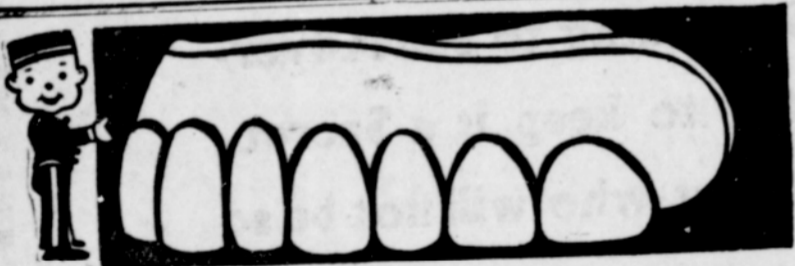
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