

# CENTRAL POINT STAR

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Office With Al Hermanson

**How to Raise Poultry**  
By Dr. L. D. LeGear, V.S., St. Louis, Mo.  
Dr. LeGear is a graduate of the Ontario  
Veterinary College, 1892. Thirty-six  
years of veterinary practice on diseases  
of live stock and poultry. Eminent author-  
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from your flock, but are you sure  
you have gotten them all? If you  
are a good judge of the signs which

indicate poor layers, the chances  
are you have eliminated the worst  
drones. In all likelihood, however,  
there are still a number of hens left  
which are on the border line or just  
below it; either they consume as  
much in food as they pay back in  
eggs or just a little bit more. In

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TEETH  
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FOR  
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be thankful for. Have your teeth examined peri-  
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either case, they are unprofitable to  
keep, but hard to discover when  
ordinary methods of culling are em-  
ployed.

Now these "border line" fowls re-  
quire just as much care and equip-  
ment as their more profitable sis-  
ters. Care and equipment represent  
part of the investment on which a  
profit must be paid. It becomes self-  
evident, therefore, that very many  
such fowls will cause a serious cut  
in the percentage of profit returned  
on each dollar of capital invested.  
But the question is how to cull  
the offenders of their shortcomings.  
I know of but one certain way and  
that is to keep books on the whole  
lot of them and in a short while you  
will know beyond peradventure or  
doubt which are the egg layers and  
which are destined for a speedy trip  
to market.

Trap-nesting, in short, is the one  
sure method of determining exactly  
how much each hen is laying and  
whether or not she is going to be  
worth keeping on the job. Such  
knowledge is of especially great im-  
portance to the breeder of fine ped-  
igreed fowls, but is sufficiently im-  
portant to most poultry raisers to  
be worthy of consideration. Trap-  
nesting, incidently, is valuable in  
taming young birds which tends to  
increase productiveness.


Many will object that trapnesting  
involves too much labor. It is true  
there is some additional work in-  
volved but it is questionable wheth-  
er there is much more than would  
be required for taking care of a  
large number of fowls from which  
no profit could possibly be realized.  
Furthermore, the work can be ma-  
terially reduced by dividing the  
flock and trap-nesting one section  
at a time. As soon as the desired  
purpose has been, definitely, another  
section can be put through the  
course and so on until a dependable  
record has been made by every hen  
in the entire flock. This record not  
only serves to indicate the best lay-  
ers, but is an invaluable guide for  
the selection of breeding stock.

A flock should be trap-nested for  
twelve (12) months to tell accurately  
just what each individual hen is  
capable of doing in egg production.  
To trap-nest for three months and  
multiply by four does not give an  
accurate yearly record.

And now, just a word about the  
mechanics of trap-nesting. A trap  
nest, as everyone knows, is one  
equipped to hold a hen captive when  
she enters it to lay. Each hen in  
the flock has a numbered leg band  
on one of her legs, and before she  
is released if she has layed, her  
number is put down on a daily  
record sheet, indicating that she  
layed that day. After a hen lays  
in a nest, she has to be released  
by an attendant and the nest left  
open ready for another hen. Home-  
made nests of this kind are easily  
constructed, although space is lack-  
ing in this article for giving definite  
instructions as to how it is done.  
There are many ready-made forms  
of trap-nests that give satisfaction  
and are reasonably priced. Some  
manufacturers simply furnish a  
front with the trap mechanism at-  
tached. It can easily be fitted to a  
suitable form of home-made nest.  
Numbered leg bands for identifying  
the hens are purchased in series at  
comparatively trivial cost.

At least one trap-nest should be  
furnished for every four birds in  
flocks of fifty or more, and one for  
every three in smaller flocks. Try  
to have a sufficient number so that  
hens do not have to wait too long  
for their respective turns. For the  
same reason pay a bit more of atten-

no compromise  
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**THE JOKERS CORNER**

**KEPT HIS WORD**  
For nearly a week Smithers and  
his wife had not been on speaking  
terms. Soon one of the neighbors  
got to know about it. The same af-  
ternoon she called on Mrs. Smithers.  
"What is the trouble about, dear?"  
Mrs. Smithers looked tearful.  
"Jim is such a beast," she burst  
out. He promised me a big surprise  
if I learned to cook—and so I had  
a course of lessons."  
"I see," nodded her friend. "And  
didn't he keep his promise and give  
you the big surprise?"  
"Yes he did. He went and fired  
the cook."  
**PLENTY PERSONAL**  
The professor had asked time and  
again for the students to put more  
personal touch in their themes, so  
one of the papers which he received  
ended thus:  
"Well, professor, how are the wife  
and kiddies; and, by the way, before  
I forget it, could you lend me five  
dollars?"  
**AND HOW HE YELLS**  
"Can your little brother talk yet?"  
"He doesn't need to. He has only  
to yell and he gets what he wants."

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