

FARM CO-OPERATIVE DIVISION

A MESSAGE TO EVERY MEMBER.

SUNYARDS FOR HENS.

By Professor J. S. Carver, State College of Washington, Pullman, Washington.

(Continued from last week.) The seven months mortality of this pen was four per cent. The health of the birds has been excellent and the rate of production for the month of September through April was 79 per cent. It would appear from the results which we have secured from this demonstration and many other pens on our experimental plant that mortality and culling can be greatly reduced by the use of sunporches or sunyards, in Washington, when the pullets are properly reared.

Sunyards Maintain Production.

How can a sunporch or sunyard assist in maintaining egg production and reducing the per cent of culls of the flock? It has been our observation at the experiment station farm during the past few years that when birds are closely confined to laying quarters, especially in cold weather where muslin curtains, glass or glass substitute are used in the front of the house and the amount of ventilation is necessarily restricted because of extremely cold weather and high winds that the birds very quickly become ragged looking, their combs lose their healthy red appearance, their plumage becomes rough, and after extremely heavy production a varying percentage of the flock often goes into a neck moult and ceases production, becoming a subject for culling.

We believe that by the use of the sunporch and the sunyard when possible throughout the winter laying period, taking advantage of every warm, sunny day that many of the winter slumps in egg production may be arrested and the number of culls be lowered through the use of the sunshine and exposure of the birds to the fresh air and infrared rays of the sun. Birds with one or two days treatment of this kind, a week, show a most wonderful improvement in condition.

We would not be justified in recommending any such procedure to the poultrymen of the State unless they take pains in properly constructing these sunporches or sunyards to supply them with proper drainage for protection against disease and to insure clean eggs.

Construction of Sunporch.

The question is often asked, "How should we construct a sunporch or sunyard for our laying hens, at the lowest possible cost?" A sunporch is defined as a porch constructed of wire built in movable or portable frames on the south side of a laying pen. A sunyard is defined as a restricted yard usually from one-half to the same size as the floor space in the house, constructed of cinders, coarse gravel, or crushed rock.

A suggested construction for the wire floor sunporch is to construct frames eight or ten feet long and three feet wide of 1 by 4 material, covered with one inch mesh hexagonal wire, 16 or 18 gauge. Use four of these frames in front of the house making the porch twelve feet wide. The side of the sunporch and partitions of the pens may be constructed by 1 by 3 material using two inch mesh hexagonal wire. The top frames may be constructed in the same manner using two inch hexagonal wire. The front of the sunporch which should be two feet high should be so arranged that feed troughs and green feed hoppers may be filled from the outside, and located along the entire front. One inch wide or upright slats may be used for the construction of the grit in front of the feeding troughs. Running water which can be used in western Washington for a greater part of the year should be supplied for the porch. A projecting board at least one foot in width hinged at the top should be used to cover the hopper so that rain will not spoil the mash. A hinged door should also be built at least two and one-half feet wide at intervals of 12 feet in the front of each sunporch in case it becomes necessary to drive the pullets into the house, pick up eggs from the floor, or remove dead hens.

In the summer time it may be necessary when using these sunporches to provide shade by placing boughs or clean burlap bags over the top of the sunporch.

Building the Sunyard.

Sunyards, if properly constructed, will give as good results as the sunporches, although they are not quite as sanitary. They may be constructed from 12 to 20 feet in width on

CANNING SCHEDULE.

| August 7th to 12th. | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| A. M. | P. M. |
| 8:00 to 11:00 | 1:00 to 3:30 |
| Monday Beans 2½ | Corn, greens |
| Tuesday Beans 2s | Corn, 2s |
| Wednesday Beans | Corn |
| Thursday Beets | Beans |
| Friday Beans | Corn |
| Saturday Beans | |

Corn will not be accepted after 3:30 p. m.

CROP REPORTS OF EXTENSION PROJECTS GIVEN.

According to figures recently compiled by H. K. Dean, superintendent of the Umatilla Experiment Station, from the crop reports of the Hermiston and West Extension projects, we have the following comparisons for Alfalfa acreages for the years 1922 and 1932:

| | 1922 | 1932 |
|--------------------------------------|----------|--------|
| Total Acres Alfalfa..... | 10,316 | 4,418 |
| Tons of Alfalfa | 39,000 | 11,132 |
| Ave. Acres of Alfalfa per farm | 18.6 | 9.3 |
| Ave. yield per acre .. | 3.8 tons | 2.5 T. |

Since the 1932 figures were prepared we have had a severe freeze, which has resulted in between 60 and 75% further reduction in hay. To balance this tremendous reduction in yield, the Farm Bureau Co-operative reports the sale of about 29,000 lbs. of alfalfa seed this spring, and it is estimated that about half of this was used to re-plant on these two projects. This will help out to the extent of a little over a 1,000 acres. Beside this new seeding alfalfa, we had about the same amount of emergency grain, which was planted for hay.

We are still going to be short of hay for the stock on the project, so it is going to be necessary, either to find an additional source of feed, or dispose of part of our stock. Perhaps the best way to handle this situation is a combination of the two: First, cull and market the poorer stock, so that expensive feed will not be inefficiently utilized, and second, increase the feed supply by using the silos to their capacity, and planting pasture for fall use.

If rye is seeded about the middle of August, and the stock kept off it until it gets a good start, say about a foot high, it will furnish good feed during October, and part of November, depending on just how heavily it is pastured. If it goes into the winter without having been too heavily pastured, it will make feed again in the early spring, before there is much pasture of any other kind growing.

GARNET D. BEST,
Assistant County Agent.

the south side of the poultry house by filling into the depth of ten to twelve inches with cinders, small size crushed rock, or coarse gravel free from silt and sand. This method will provide drainage every time it rains and should if constructed properly provide clean feet for the layers in wet weather, prevent contamination from intestinal parasites and in the winter time be even more attractive, for the use of the laying birds, because of its warmth.

It is suggested in using sunyards of this type that green feed may be most satisfactorily fed to the birds in the front of the sunyards. In using sunyards of this kind poultry litter should never be cleaned from the laying pen and thrown on the sunporches as this will very quickly contaminate them. Even under the extreme winter weather conditions of eastern Washington, as experienced in the month of December with temperatures sub-zero, it was possible to use the sunporches an average of two days a week, with a temperature of about 20 degrees above zero in the sun, for several hours in the middle of each day.

Sunporches and sunyards are especially valuable to Washington poultrymen for the prevention of disease by improving the general physical condition of the hens, by assisting in the prevention of infection from internal parasites, through their help in supplying necessary amounts of vitamin D through ultra violet irradiation, in the prevention and cure of a large number of vicious habits developed in laying birds, and more important than all other factors the increased egg production and profit to the commercial poultrymen.

Further details regarding these sunporches and sunyards may be secured by writing the poultry department at the State College of Washington, Pullman.

Girls' Clubs Hold Meeting.

The regular meeting of the We-Can and Kocooke clubs will be held August 9th, at the Hermiston Union church under the leadership of Mrs. W. Hinebine.

Edith Clarke
Edna Turnblad

THE COOPERATOR

The spirit of romance still breathes in this prosaic world of sordid economic depression, at least as far as Bulgarian co-operators are concerned. D. Nedelkoff sends the following almost epic story of co-operative effort in Bulgaria.

"Along the Black Sea coast, south of the Bulgarian town of Bourgas, stretches a large mountain chain known as 'Strandja.' The population of this area is almost entirely occupied in the co-operative production of charcoal which was formerly sold to Turkey and Greece. When the latter two countries set up huge tariff walls against Bulgaria, the Strandja Co-operative Charcoal Productive Society was faced with the danger of collapse, since there is no home market in Bulgaria for charcoal.

"Then the society's director took the risk on his own account, and chartering a sailing vessel, set out with a cargo of 400,000 kilos of charcoal and sailed, as in olden days for fourteen days and nights, to Spain, seeking new markets for the Bulgarian co-operator's charcoal.

"The Barcelona Co-operative Retail Society bought a large quantity of the charcoal and introduced it onto the Spanish market. Since the first shipment over 2,000,000 kilos have already been sold, thereby proving of invaluable assistance to the lives of the entire population in the Strandja area.

"The moral of the story points to the solution of many heavy international problems," concludes Mr. Nedelkoff, "that co-operators from one country should stretch out assisting hands to the co-operators of other countries."

COMMODITY SITUATION NOTES.

The first six months of 1933 have been the least favorable for crop production of any season in fifty years, according to the United States Department of Agriculture. Acreage planted has been reduced and prospective yields are low.

Reduced acreage is attributed to various causes such as low prices and financial difficulties at planting time, winter killing of a large acreage of winter wheat, wet weather during the spring seeding period, and drought in the Western corn belt and in the Dakotas.

Rainfall during June in the Mississippi Basin was only about a third of normal, while crop areas of the nation generally had about half of normal. Rainfall in Oregon, however, has been about normal, with an abundance of irrigation water in most sections. Temperature has averaged above normal throughout the Central States and much of the mountain territory, while in the Northwest temperatures have been below normal.

Pastures and Ranges.
The feed situation is generally unfavorable, although not serious in Oregon on the whole. Farm pasture conditions in July were the poorest on record for the country as a whole, and poor in the Western states, except in local areas. Range conditions in Oregon and the other Western states were generally below average, particularly in California. East of the Rocky Mountains, range conditions were very poor, especially in Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

Hay.
In Oregon, there is a rather sharp decrease expected in the production of wild hay and alfalfa east of the Cascades, and in clover and practically all the vetch hay west of the Cascades. In both territories, grain hay has to a considerable extent replaced these legumes so that the total tonnage will not be far out of line with the normal.

The 1933 hay crop in Oregon-Washington-Idaho was estimated on July 1 at 5,600,000 tons. This compares with 6,576,000 tons last year and a 5-year average of practically 6,000,000 tons. Oregon's production was estimated at 1,585,000 tons, or about 400,000 tons less than last year. The crop is composed of 1,312,000 tons of tame hay and 273,000 tons of wild. The wild hay crop is especially short. Although the total hay crop in the Northwest is only about 14 per cent less than

last year, the proportion of legume hay is down much more. In California, the hay crop is lighter than average and in the other western states about average. Estimated production of all hay for the United States is a little less than 75,000,000 tons compared with 82,000,000 tons last year and a 5-year average of 84,000,000 tons.

HUMAN WORRY SOLVED IN FILM ON AT OASIS THEATRE.

Any play that throws light upon an eternal human problem and helps humans to understand and solve it has an element of lasting greatness. Such a play is "The Silver Cord," which is coming to the screen of the Oasis theatre Friday and Saturday.

In the palm accorded Miss Crews there is no derogation of splendid performances by Irene Dunne, Frances Dee, Joel McCrea and Eric Linden, each admirably cast and playing with understanding and skill.

Even aside from its searching human analysis, "The Silver Cord" is an expert piece of dramatic construction, adapted to the screen with such skill that those in the audience who understand the significance of a "Jocasta complex" will find in the film version the full value of the original, while those who see in the film only a mother-in-law comedy will enjoy the brittle humor of the lines.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS.

IN THE COUNTY COURT OF THE STATE OF OREGON FOR UMATILLA COUNTY.

In the Matter of the Estate of Anna E. Taylor, Deceased.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed executrix of the last will and testament of Anna E. Taylor, deceased, and has qualified as the law directs. All persons having claims against the said estate are required to present the same to me at the office of W. J. Warner, my attorney, in Hermiston, Oregon, verified as the law directs, within six months from the date hereof.

Dated this 6th day of July, 1933.
Ina Gilbert, Executrix.
(July 6-August 3)

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1 Cent a Word

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