

sented for sale. The following considerations, therefore, are worthy of note:

*Freshness.*—Be sure that the eggs are fresh. This is only made possible by gathering them every day and marketing them frequently.

*Cleanliness.*—A dirty egg looks bad and of two lots one dirty and the other clean, the dirty lot sells much more slowly. Washing eggs that have dirty spots brings a sufficiently higher price and quicker demand to pay for the trouble.

*Uniformity.*—The cook likes to get eggs of one size and colour and the larger the better. It behoves the poultryman therefore to endeavor to satisfy the whim. This is done by having but one breed, having it pure and using only eggs that are large and uniform in shape and colour for incubation.

*Label the Eggs.*—The man who supplies fresh, clean, uniform and large eggs regularly, soon finds that his product is in more than ordinary demand, and it is to his interests to increase that demand. He can do so by stamping each egg that is up to the standard with his name and the date on which it was laid. His reputation will then grow in proportion to his adherence to the standard which he desires to establish.

By producing only a first class article, by having the name neatly and prominently attached and by protecting it with a trade mark, the products of any poultryman will come into greater and greater demand and command ever increasing prices.

**SELECTION OF BREEDERS WHEN TRAP NESTS ARE NOT USED.**—To the poultry keeper who has not the time nor the inclination to make a selection of his breeding stock by the use of trap nests, it is advisable to select the desired number required from those of his flock that are laying during the winter months. A regular leg band or a piece of wire can be placed round the leg of each desirable pullet so that they can be readily selected when the hatching season arrives, at which time they can be mated with a suitable cockerel. The eggs will be suitable for hatching purposes at from ten to fourteen days after the male bird has been placed in the breeding pen.

To identify strains and ages a good plan is to secure a toe punch and when the chicks are hatched to punch the web between the toes on either the right or left foot and between the first and second or second and third toes as desired. By careful calculation you can in this way make fifteen different identification marks. Keep a toe-mark record and the ages of the different birds can be readily obtained at any time.

*Influence of the Male.*—In building up the laying strains the poultry man must give consideration to the birds that are to head the pens. The male birds should be the offspring of females of good laying strains. The male bird has a greater influence in strain breeding than the average breeder gives him credit for and too often strains do not develop to the satisfaction of the breeder because no consideration is given to the egg-producing qualities of the ancestry of the male bird used.