

each where the producer is known to them, and the service being absolutely free to the consumer. This is the first poultry club ever organized, it seems, for other purposes than giving annual chicken shows." The New York Times.

This seems to be a simple effort to arrive at the greatest source of waste and loss in marketing poultry. The farmer's eggs, when they leave home, are too often in doubt as to where they will be eventually consumed. On the way to their final destination they may pass thru two or three pairs of hands, losing in weight and quality at each transfer, so in the first case a small price is offered for these eggs to cover the expense and loss of finding the final market. The same may be said of other farm products, and if more simple methods could be evolved, and they could easily, of placing farm products in a more direct way into the hands of those that need them, an enormous amount of money would be saved to the producer and consumer alike and much more money would find its way back to the farmer. Much of our loss and the waste in marketing, which is loss

valid reason, as this waste does no good to anyone and is usually a total loss to all of us. So some definite plans, neatly and simply evolved, of bringing the producer and consumer into closer touch would eliminate most of this waste and expense, and would furnish the consumer with a cheaper and better product, and would, at the same time, leave more money in the hands of the producer, who deserves a much better lot than is usually his.

Thus, the first matters that should arrest the attention of the farmers who wish to develop the poultry industry should be the rapid improvement of the products they intend to place on the market, and the rapid improvement of methods of marketing.

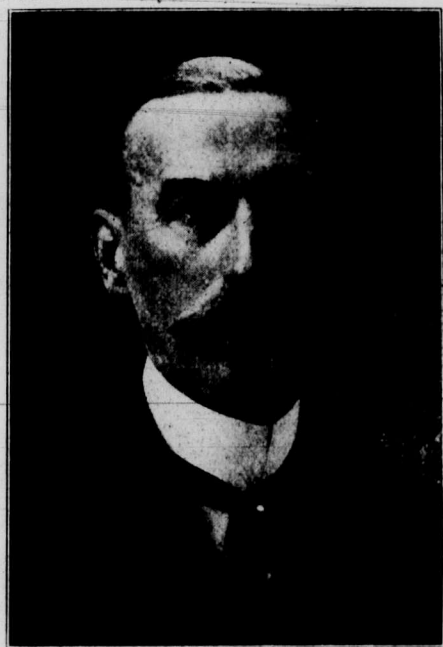
NOTE—The book recommended by Mr. Barker, "Co-operation in Agriculture," may be obtained from the Book Department, Grain Growers' Guide. Price \$1.00, postpaid.

E. N. Barker, the well-known poultry man, has for many years bred and raised poultry, pigeons and pet stock, and has judged and exhibited from Southern Georgia to Montreal, as far west as Victoria, B.C., and as far north as Edmonton. He was born in England in 1853, and when quite a boy started to breed and show poultry. He came to America in 1882, and first lived in Sioux City, Iowa. He went to Montana in 1883, where he worked on a ranch for a year, and in the spring of '84 started from Billings, Mont., for Alberta, and arrived at where Lettbridge now stands in May of that year. From thence he went on to Macleod, eventually settling, after the rebellion of '85, in which he served, on the spot where Cardston now stands, and engaged in the work of raising sheep and horses. He remained in Alberta until 1891 and then went to Southern Georgia, and in 1894 for his health's sake went north, and settled on the Hudson River, remaining there and in New York City until 1895, when he returned to Cardston.

He has witnessed the rise in the poultry business since 1896, when he commenced judging all over Alberta, and last year judged poultry at Calgary, Grand Forks, B.C., and Lettbridge.

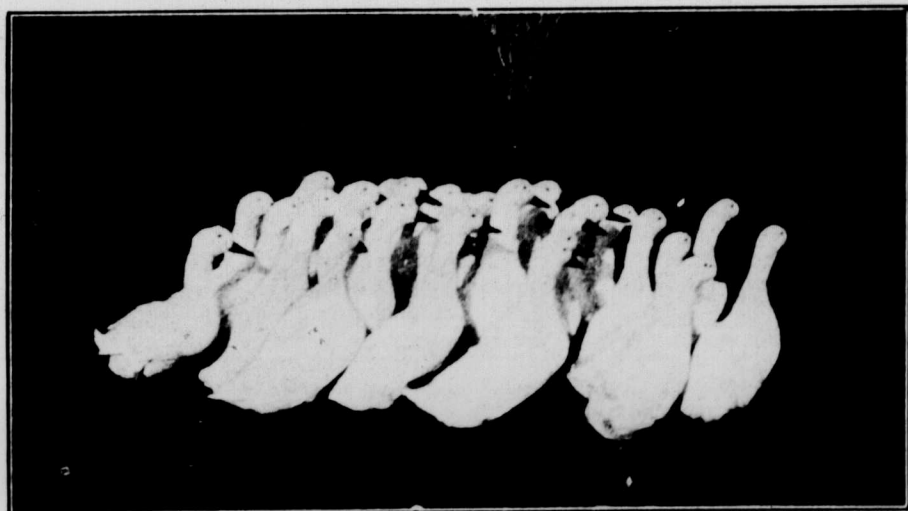
At present Mr. Barker is president of the Associated Boards of Trade of Southern Alberta, vice president of the Alberta Fairs association, church warden of the Anglican Church in Cardston, secretary of Chief Mountain lodge, A. F. & A. M., justice of the peace, and a member of the executive committee of the Diocese of Calgary.

He is engaged in the real estate, loan and insurance business, was a director of the United Farmers of Alberta in its earlier days, and for a number of years was a newspaper man of no mean calibre. The chapter on cats in the Encyclopedia Americana is by Mr. Barker, and he has taken quite an interest in the exhibits of grains, grasses and cultivated forage crops at the farming congresses and at other big gatherings where his exhibits generally stood very high in the prize lists. Gardening is now Mr. Barker's chief hobby.



E. N. BARKER
Of Cardston, Alta.

and benefits no one, is caused by want of system and want of method in marketing; so when some of the products leave the farm to find a market it reminds one more of throwing up in the air a shovelful of light chaff and wondering where the different particles will eventually blow to. If we can only sit down for a few minutes and just quietly size up our present methods of doing business, or not doing it, we shall very soon see the reason for the plans of improvement that are advocated. The high cost of living can be most quickly remedied by preventing the present waste of produce in its journeys from producer to consumer and by the elimination of foolish and extravagant methods of marketing. For this waste there is no excuse and no



THE BREEDING FLOCK ON A FARM IN WESTERN CANADA

It does not pay to feed ducks for market purposes until they are the size and age of the ones seen in the illustration. Ducks, to be profitable, must be marketed at eight to ten weeks old. If held until fall and the Christmas market they do not bring any more money, and all the feed given them in the meantime is lost. The flock here seen are the breeding ducks on a farm in one of the Prairie Provinces.

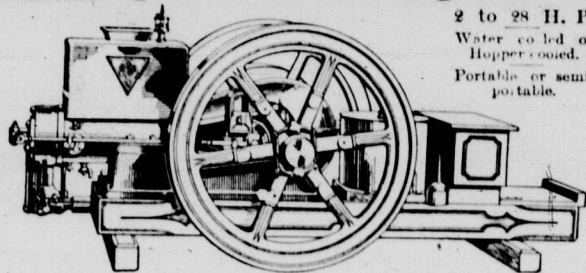
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