

He says, "Put four quarts of corn in a dripping pan, put into the oven, and stir with a stick once or twice, so that all will get browned. You can bake two dripping pans full of an evening. I have tried all kinds of feed that hens will eat, and am positive that I can get the most eggs by feeding soft food, and that composed mostly of wheat. I have always recommended soft food, and I put barley sprouts in now to offset any physicing tendency that the soft food might give. I think sprouts soaked over night would be excellent food for ducks and geese in the winter when they cannot get at grass. I feed corn so seldom in the summer that my hens hardly know what it is."

You should be ready to give your fowls their breakfast just as soon as they fly down from their roosts.

The origin of the Black Russian breed is imputed to the Cossacks of central or southeastern Russia. The Russians endure rigorous winter weather as the comb is small and of very tough consistency, being nearly frost proof. The hens are acknowledged to be among the best winter layers by all who know them, and are good sitters the year round, although the same hen is not apt to sit more than once in a season. Some do not sit at all.

The fowls are of medium size, weighing from six to eight pounds at maturity. They are excellent table fowls. Thus they combine the qualities of utility and beauty, being of stylish carriage and appearance. A fence four feet high is sufficient to confine them. The most serious drawback at present is the difficulty of obtaining non-related blood. It would appear, however, that the black Russians should become popular throughout the Northern States.—*Poultry Monthly*.

It is never advisable to pull the wing primaries of the high flyers to keep them from flying over the fences. If pulled, new feathers begin to grow at once, and this causes a drain on the system that will generally stop egg production. By clipping the primaries of one wing the fowls are secured, and the feathers will not be replaced until the next moult. For show birds, it spoils them to clip the wings and a flock looks much better with full plumage. Covering the yard with wire or other netting is the best remedy.

A writer says: "I have always been in favor of white fowls, but where I live, the hawks would get all the white Brahmas, and I had to give up raising white birds, so I got brown Leghorns and Plymouth Rocks, and the hawks would not see them as soon. One day I was complaining to a doctor about my luck, and he asked, "Why don't you poison the hawks with nuxvomica?" I gave some to my small chicks and the hawks got some of them and I found two dead hawks, and I now can raise white chicks again."

Public opinion needs to be cultivated on one point, that poultry is property just as wheat, corn, potatoes, or horses.

SHALL WE SELL EGGS FOR HATCHING?

BY H. S. BABCOCK, PROVIDENCE, R. I.

SHALL we sell eggs for hatching? I presume we will, but I doubt if it be profitable to the breeder to do so. A very successful breeder told me some time ago that he discontinued the sale of eggs and kept a record of the letters he received from would-be purchasers of

eggs. In the fall he sold to two-thirds of those who wrote him for eggs, pairs, trios or pens of fowls. Suppose he had had 100 inquiries for eggs and such inquirer had bought a sitting at \$5.00 per setting. Here would be a snug little income of \$500. But suppose, foregoing this desirable sum, he had sold only one pair of chickens at \$10.00 per pair to 67 of the enquirers, his income would be \$670. But, as a matter of fact, this breeders orders would average as much as a trio and his prices would average more than \$5.00 per specimen. Call it trios at \$15.00 and the \$500 for eggs becomes \$1005, more than double what the eggs would have brought. Nor is this all by any means. How many hens would it take to furnish the eggs necessary to supply 100 sittings during the breeding season. Two sittings per hen is a good record and that would mean 50 choice hens, with 5 mates, to keep and care for. How many hens would it require to raise the 67 trios of chicks. Let us see, 67 multiplied by 3 are 201, and there would probably be a number of culls. Allowing 25 per cent for them it would be necessary to raise 250. This would require say 500 eggs, which would be laid by twenty hens, requiring two males. So here we have the problem,—

55 fowls at \$10 each, \$550, produce \$500
 22 " 10 " 220, " \$1005
 But of course it would cost something more to raise the chickens than to sell the eggs. So we need to do some more figuring before we arrive at the proper result. Let us assume that it costs \$1.00 per year to keep a fowl and 50 cents to raise a chicken ready for sale.

We have then under the heading of EGGS.

55 fowls kept @ \$1.....	\$55 00
Int. on \$550 @ 6%.....	33 00