

Classified Page for People's Wants

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EDUCATIONAL

J. D. A. EVANS—Teacher of English Composition, etc., Crystal City, Man. T.F.

FOR SALE

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WANTED—Listing of farms or land for sale for U.S.A. agents. Write us asking for listing forms. United Sales Agency, 302 McIntyre Block, Winnipeg. 1-20

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Poultry Chat

By Helen Vialoux, Charleswood

May the New Year hold much good for us, and remove the spirit of bitterness in our midst. May love take the place of hate and every creature be not ashamed "to labor for an honest living," then shall we have "A Happy New Year."

I wonder how the hens will thrive when the much talked of 6 hour day "for work" comes into operation? Me thinks this scheme will not fit in with poultry keeping. During incubation and chick rearing new and up-to-date machinery cannot take the place of the "chief push, the man or woman behind the hen." Prof. Herner once told me that "there was work enough on a successful poultry plant to keep a man going 18 hours out of the 24 in the hatching season." This cold and relentless winter will long be remembered, swooping down upon us on the 10th of October. The hens have had little chance to brace up, after their moult, and lay as usual. The pullets, also, wanted a few weeks to fit them for the egg business. No wonder eggs sold for \$1.25 per dozen in Winnipeg in December, and were scarce at the figure.

Every style of poultry house, and every breed of fowl has been put to a severe test throughout Canada. The reports of the big egg-laying contests will be noted with much interest. Five breeds of hens are entered in the Ottawa competition. Barred Rocks, Rhode Island Reds, Silver and White Wyandottes and White Leghorns, which by the way are in the lead at present. Ontario entered 36 pens of 10 hens each; Quebec, 9 pens; Manitoba 2 and B. C. and Nova Scotia each entered one pen. The contest runs on for the period of one year, 1st prize, \$70; 2nd prize, \$60; 3rd prize, \$50; 4th prize, \$40; 5th prize, \$35; 6th prize, \$30; 7th prize, \$25; 8th prize, \$20; 9th prize, \$15; 10th prize, \$10. Special prize of \$10 to the pen laying greatest number of marketable eggs each month of contest. \$10 to each individual hen laying the greatest number of marketable eggs each month. \$25 prize to pen showing best revenue over cost of feed each month. \$25 to pen with largest number of birds in the record performance class. \$25 to hen showing best record for the year. \$5 to pen laying the largest number of eggs on the last day of February. Surely the hens will all "have a heart," and do their best, when such valuable prizes are given them, providing weather conditions are not ideal.

The actual cost of one dozen eggs produced in winter, at the present high price of grain, is a much discussed question just now when feed is dearer, than any time in our history. The U. S. department of agriculture has sent out a bulletin recently on this subject. The claim is made that 10.9 lbs of grain is required to produce one dozen eggs when laid by pullets, whereas, a yearling hen needs 34.6 lbs of grain to produce her dozen eggs in winter. The ordinary farm flock consists of half pullets and half yearling hens as a rule, which, brings the average cost of pro-

duction of one dozen eggs to at least 84 cents per dozen. That is worked out this way, average amount of grain per head, 28 lbs., a bushel each of wheat, corn and oats, or 140 lbs of mixed grain costs, \$4.35, market price in the States, or in other words, 3 cents per lb. This is not charging up anything for care or housing, etc. This sounds very well and is no doubt correct, as far as the experiment goes, but it is so unnecessary for anybody to feed only sound grain to a flock of hens. What about green feed, often refuse matter, and house scraps, such as peelings, and odd pieces of food? Then the mashies, either moist or dry? They come much cheaper than hard grains and as we know are better, for the hens. Eggs should be produced at 6 cents per dozen in any well managed flock.

The Winnipeg Poultry Association have planned big things for their show this year, which will take place in The Convention Hall, Board of Trade Building. The poultry show will open on January 30th and run until February 5th, both dates inclusive. Entries close on January 20th, J. R. Young, secretary Winnipeg Poultry Association. The judges appointed are L. J. Jarvis, Geo. Woods and Geo. Robertson. The secretary, J. R. Young has sent out a strong appeal to farmers in particular to produce more poultry, and to make an effort to raise a better type of farm bird than the present somewhat nondescript fowl so often seen in the country. Eggs have never been so scarce and high priced the world over as at the present time. The food controller in Great Britain fixed the wholesale price of eggs in England at \$1.25 per dozen. In November, 1919, private advice, at Christmas, told of eggs retailing in London at a shilling each. It is certainly high time western Canada produced more fowls, and it is to be hoped the campaign launched by the Winnipeg poultry Association may bring forth fine results. When the farmer can be induced to specialize a little in chickens then shall we see that talked of average of 100 hens to each farm. They tell us there are 750,000 farmers in Canada. Imagine what a boost poultry raising will get when these farmers all get busy.

Why not join the Winnipeg Association? The membership fee is but one dollar, excellent semi-monthly meetings are held in Winnipeg when many timely topics are lectured upon and discussed.

The "Country Gentleman" of December 20th has a leading article on "The King's Egg Circle, Prince Edward Island," which is full of interest. What team work is doing for the farmers and egg producers on that favored Island is clearly shown. Until the farmers organized themselves into this egg circle of 130 members, eggs were traded for goods at the country stores at such a low figure it did not pay the producer to provide comfortable winter quarters for them. The fowls were scrubs, and shift-

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