

A New World's Record Jersey.

In this issue appears an illustration of the Jersey cow Eminent's Bess. She is owned by Walter S. Prickett, Roycroft Farm, Sidnaw, Michigan. At the beginning of her test she was about two months over seven years of age. Her yearly record is 18,782 pounds 15.6 ounces of milk, and 962 pounds 13.6 ounces of butterfat. She lowered the colors of all dairy breeds except Holsteins, and beat Jacoba Irene, the former Jersey champion, by 1,529 pounds 12.4 ounces of milk, and 9 pounds 14.2 ounces of butterfat. Records were kept of her feed. She was at pasture six months, and, besides, had a mixture of feed which cost all told for the year \$116.54.

POULTRY.

The Housing of Poultry.

It would be strange if something had not come out of all the indignities to which innocent and inoffensive generations of fowls have been submitted in the way of dwelling accommodations. It is now clearly recognized, and generally admitted by all competent poultrymen, that certain things are absolutely essential in any poultry house which is to give good results. These are: 1, fresh air; 2, freedom from dampness; 3, freedom from draughts; 4, sunlight, and 5, cleanliness.

If these five things are realized in a poultry-house, the birds will thrive and be productive in it, provided they are well and regularly fed and watered. It makes no difference particularly to the well-being of the birds how these necessary specifications of their dwelling are attained. To the poultryman, however, it is important that they be attained at the smallest expense, having regard to a, initial cost; b, repairs and up-keep, and c, labor necessary to operate the house to get the specified results. The housing problem is to the poultryman, then, both a biological and an economic one. The biological solution is definite. The requisites named above must be met, and there is one additional factor to be taken into account; namely, size of house. Experiments made at various times and places indicate clearly that in northern climates, where birds must be shut up in the house during a part of the year in order to give best results, there should be allowed in the house, at least, three square feet of floor space per bird, and preferably a little more. Four square feet floor space per bird is a liberal allowance.

A factor which it was formerly thought necessary to control in the housing of poultry, was the temperature. It was long held that if fowls were to lay well in the winter it was necessary that they should be in a heated house. Later experience has shown conclusively that this was an utterly fallacious idea. As a matter of fact, even in the coldest climates, fowls will lay better during the winter months in a properly constructed house wide open to the outside air in the day time, so that they are living practically out of doors, than in any heated house which has yet been devised. If a laying house is dry, the temperature factor may be neglected. If a house has a tendency to dampness, it will give poor results regardless of temperature.

From the economic standpoint, there are two systems of housing poultry to be considered. One of these is the system of long continuous houses for the laying birds. The other is the so-called colony house system, in which the birds are housed in small separate houses which may either be set a considerable distance apart over a relatively wide area, or may be placed relatively near one another. Each system has its strenuous advocates. Experience covering a fairly long period of years now has demonstrated that both systems have good points. As to which shall be adopted in a particular instance depends upon a variety of considerations, each in some degree peculiar to the particular case in hand.—Orono, Maine, Bulletin 214.

Sour Milk for Chickens.

During the past few years sour milk has grown rapidly in favor with the poultryman, and is now utilized in one of the best possible ways by feeding chickens. Some American poultrymen believe that cracked corn soaked in sour milk gives higher returns as chicken feed than as hog feed. A. C. Smith, of Minnesota, is one of them. He says:

"Those who think that they get greater returns by feeding it to hogs should remember that the flesh of chickens brings at least twice as much on the market as that of hogs.

"Milk and corn are both liked by chickens, and a proper mixture of the two makes one of the best and most appetizing rations for the season when the days are warm and the nights cool. For the best results the corn should be cracked and soaked several hours in either sweet or sour skimmed milk or in buttermilk. The corn may

be put in pails in the morning and the milk poured on until the top of the corn is submerged two or three inches. When this has been absorbed more should be added at intervals during the day and the mixture will be excellent for feeding by night.

"A liberal supply of this ration will keep the chickens growing rapidly and insure their being constantly plump and in excellent condition for the market. Try it once and the fowls will tell you whether they like it. Try it two weeks or a month and they will show you whether it is a good and economical food."

HORTICULTURE.

Protection for Trees.

An American contemporary gives the following on protecting trees from mice and rabbits in winter, a subject which is most timely:

"Fruit trees must be protected from mice and



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rabbits during the winter, in many sections of the country; otherwise the trees are in danger of being girdled, rodents eating the bark for food.

"As mice work between the snow and the ground, they can be guarded against by mounding the soil about the tree's trunk as high as the usual snow line. Coal ashes can also be used for this, and spread about over the ground the following spring.

"In the case of rabbits, another form of treatment is necessary, for they eat above the snow.



Eunice Calamity Garnet.

A three-year-old in the sale of D. Campbell, Komoka, Ont., Oct. 22.

A tree's trunk can be protected from their depredations by smearing it with some greasy or ill-smelling substance such as blood or fish-oil. Rubbing liver over the trunk is an old and favorite remedy. An old and tried remedy is made as follows: Slake fresh lime in soft water, or soapsuds, made to the thickness of whitewash. To one peck of lime add, when hot, two quarts of gas tar and four pounds of sulphur."

The use of building paper is generally recommended in this country as it stops mice and rabbits if properly applied. It is good practice,

however, to mound the soil around the trees and packing the snow up around them in winter is also to be advised.

Grading and Size in Barrels.

The Fruit Division, Ottawa, offers a timely suggestion about grading and size in barrels. After first emphasizing the conclusion that it would be in no sense wise for any grower to think of including in a No. 1 barrel anything but fruit of the choicest quality, free from blemishes and of good color, the report goes on to say:

"More than that, there are growers—though unfortunately they are few in number—who have gone so far as to split their No. 1 grade into two sizes rather than pack in one barrel apples which, though perfectly uniform in other respects, still show some variation in size.

"This practice of grading to size in barrels is a highly commendable one. In the first place it makes a good impression on the merchant who

receives the fruit. There is more in this statement than appears to the casual reader. To please a merchant, to convince him that you are conscientious in your methods, and through him to give the consumer a perfect article, is to take a long step toward that success to which every fruit grower aspires.

"There are, in the second place, certain markets which demand a fairly large apple, but there are other markets which desire a smaller size, particularly for table use. The grower who grades to size is therefore able to cater to a variety of markets, to suit the taste of fastidious consumers, and, consequently, to obtain not only a monetary reward, but a reputation of a very enviable kind."

Damage to Baskets.

One of the fruit inspectors at Montreal has sent in a report in which he states that between ten and fifteen carloads of eleven-quart baskets have arrived in Montreal, with the baskets so damaged in shipment as to necessitate a sale in barrels at a very low price. The damage he estimates at approximately \$750, or \$50 per car. Similar reports have arrived from Winnipeg. This

is a state of affairs that should not exist and which is entirely within the control of those who ship the fruit. In stacking the baskets it is necessary to leave a passage at the door of the car to allow circulation, and some form of temporary partition should be constructed across the car, on either side of the doorway, which would divide it into two compartments and which would prevent the baskets in either compartment being dislodged during the sudden stops and shunts which take place in transit. If there is no such partition such damage as has been reported cannot fail to take place, and with a small monetary outlay these heavy losses might be prevented. Shipments have arrived in Montreal from California

for many years and in no case have such damages occurred as reported on our own Canadian fruit which has been shipped only a small fraction of the distance.—Dominion Fruit Crop Report.

Now that the harvest is over, we want active agents in every district to canvas for "The Farmer's Advocate." There are many farmers in every district losing money year after year through neglecting to subscribe.

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