

hens, which are confined, at work. If they do not work, starve them down to it. No work, no eggs. Plenty of work means healthy fowls, little expense and a full egg basket.

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### POULTRY NOTES

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Eggs are the outcome of brain force. The laying hen is the nervous animal always. Heads easily indicate characteristics; select the long head, not too full between the eyes, fairly good in width and carrying a mild yet impressive eye.

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#### *Poultry Hints*

Hatching chicks with incubators is now a success. It is no trouble to hatch chicks by the bushel, but the nice work comes into brood and properly feed and care for them. To make a success of that there is much to be learned.

Experience is a great school in poultry raising and the mistakes are guideposts to keep everyone in line. Get all the experience you can and avoid making the same mistakes twice, and then you will be on the road to a profitable success.

A healthy fowl needs no tonics. The best way to use a tonic, if it must be given, is in the drinking-water. A teaspoonful of red pepper in a peck of food is sufficient, should it be necessary to use a tonic; a better material is a teaspoonful of the muriate tincture of iron in a gallon of water used for drinking.

The chicks of some breeds, such as Games, Leg-horns, Minorcas, Dorkings, etc., feather so rapidly that they often droop from the excessive drain on their vitality. They require in such cases, to be treated nearly the same as young turkeys, as very nourishing food is required.

Denmark's foreign egg trade has grown to enormous size; mainly with England. Twenty years ago, the annual Danish Export of eggs was 600,000, now it is reckoned at 111,000,000.

When a man starts in the poultry business, it may be for pleasure only as he speaks of it, but how long, will he be willing to run it. Just for

the fun of it, if he fails to make both ends meet. He advertises briskly for a while. Just for the fun of it, but soon drops out and all is dark. Constant advertising is an indispensable condition of continuance in this avocation.

Market only eggs that you know to be strictly fresh. High quality of any product increases the consumption. In selecting your breeders look for those which have a bright active look about them, those which work the hardest to get a full crop to go to roost with. Size is also one of the principal features of a profitable flock, for a pound or two counts up considerably when the entire flock is considered and the ultimate end of our feathered friends is either the market, or family table.

The best type of an all-around general purpose fowl is a hen that has fair length of body and deep through from back to keel bone, with broad body, full round breast and legs well set apart and of medium length, not too long. A hen of such a type is almost sure to be a good layer of large sized eggs, and when she is placed upon the scales will weigh nearly one-fourth more than other birds of her size. It is a compact, blocky, hustling hen that the wide awake farmers and market poultry-man are in search of.

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#### *To Distinguish Fresh Eggs*

There is a very easy way of telling whether an egg is fresh that I have not seen published in the JOURNAL, but still it may be well known. It is this: When a fresh egg is placed in water, it will lie flat at the bottom of the vessel, and as it becomes stale the large end will incline upwards.

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#### *Poultry Paragraphs*

The utilization of poultry on unprofitable locations opens an avenue for desiring returns from a source that is within the reach of all. There are farms which will not pay in crops, and there are what are called "abandoned" farms which will serve as well for poultry as the best soils known. One reason why poultry has not been used on such locations is that farmers do not recognize the importance of caring for the fowls. They either try to crowd a large number on a small space or they turn them out to support themselves. The first great difficulty to encounter is to educate