

## Prospects For Poultry Breeding in Canada

We Are Just Beginning to Realize That Mongrels Do Not Pay as Well as Purebreds

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I HAVE had 17 years experience in breeding pure bred poultry and distributing same throughout the Dominion. When I started in the business eggs were selling at this time of year in our local markets at from 23 cents to 25 cents per dozen. The summer prices ranging from 11 cents to 13 cents per dozen. Ten cents per lb. was a good price for nice, well fattened spring chickens, and still we

Our country is in its infancy as regards production of pure bred poultry. We are just beginning to realize that mongrels do not pay the handsome profits which pure bred birds do. And it is to the very able college and district representative staff that we have to extend our thanks. These men stand at your elbow to impart to you any information that you may require, and there is no class of men more prompt to attend to your claims than are they.

### The Man, the Methods and the Strain.

Some here may ask what is a safe estimate of profits per hen at the present price of grain. Several times I have made this test and can only say that it depends on the man, the methods, and the strain more than it does on the price. I have known some men to go into the poultry business in such a haphazard fashion that there was nothing but failure, but I have never known

a man to enter the business who went at it as if he meant it, but who was to some degree successful. If you enter the poultry business, do not think you are going into some gold brick scheme where you can afford to fold your hands and await returns. You will be entering a business which will demand close attention but will pay you a larger profit for the time spent than any other agricultural pursuit. The work is not laborious, but constant, and most pleasant if you are really interested.

If you are in the poultry business, go home and plan to increase your out-put 100 per cent. If you are not in the business, get in it at once and establish yourself so as to reap your share of the harvest which is surely coming. If you are a farmer with a small flock for home use, increase to 100 or 200 of a good laying strain. There is perhaps no place that poultry is kept at such a low cost as on the average farm. They pick up a great part of their food which would otherwise go to waste. I am not going to tell you that I have made such a wonderful success of the business, for I can look back and see where I could have done much better. I am not dissatisfied, however, and I do not know of any business I would rather be in.

## Cooperative Egg Marketing on "the Island"

A Million Dozen Eggs Worth \$250,000, Were Sold Cooperatively by P.E.I. Farmers in 1916

IN Prince Edward Island the farmers have made a remarkable success of marketing their eggs on a cooperative basis. It is probably safe to say that one-half to two-thirds of the egg trade is now handled through the farmers' egg circles and through their central organization in Charlottetown. During 1916 the farmers did about \$250,000 worth of business, handling about 1,000,000 dozen eggs. A truly creditable record for such a small province as P.E.I. They have generally been able to secure a price in advance of the market price, except during a short period when the dealers were speculating and forced the prices to a point which was believed to be beyond the real value of the eggs. In addition, they have bought and paid for their central plant, including the buildings, land, furniture, cases, etc. Much of the credit for the success of this movement is due to the efforts of T. A. Benson and Wm. Kerr, the Maritime Representative of the Dominion Poultry Farmers at Ottawa, but credit is also due to the farmers, some 3,500 to 4,000 in all, who have stood behind Mr. Benson and Mr. Kerr and helped them to overcome the opposition that at times has been shown to the movement by the dealers who on one occasion made an effort to retain the trade in their own hands.

There are some 55 egg circles in the province with an average membership of about 70. The central organization consists of 10 members, elected at an annual meeting, composed of two delegates from each of the local circles. The locals ship their eggs to the central plant in Charlottetown, where they are candled, graded, stored and sold according to the demands of the market. Each local furnishes collateral to the extent of \$300 in the form of notes signed by their officers. The circles have seven to twelve officers, each of whom give their joint and several notes. This year it is planned that each member shall raise \$10 for the sake of an object lesson to the members and to increase their interest in the organization.

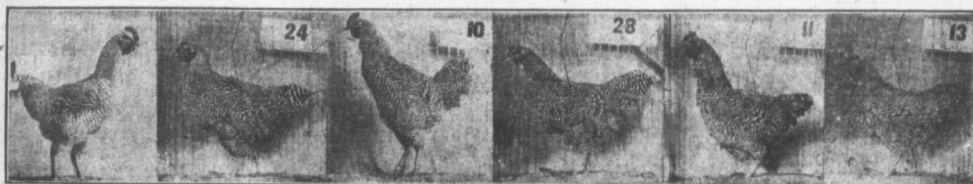
The main building in Charlottetown is 75x30 feet, of solid brick construction and three storeys high. This has been bought and paid for. Since this was purchased it has been found necessary to increase the accommodation and an additional building 80x20 feet, and also three storeys high, has been erected, thus doubling the accommodation. During the rush of the season 20 men are often engaged in the work of handling the eggs. During the winter a much smaller number proves sufficient.

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Maritime Poultry Representative.

\* From a paper read at the Ottawa Winter Fair.



A Study in the Contradictions of Type. All are Sons of Hens That Laid 200 Eggs or More in 365 Days. They are Also Proven Sires. All these birds have been bred and their daughters tested. They are about equal as sires of egg producers. No. 28 is the sire of the 310 egg hen at the O.A.C. No particular excellence in meat qualities have been shown by outward shape in any one bird.