



A New Ontario Strawberry Patch that has Yielded Big Returns

From this field of two acres Mr. L. Meredith, of the Algoma District of New Ontario, picked 11,000 quarts of strawberries. The land of the stunted paper is thus proving its possibilities for horticulture as well as other lines of farming. Photo, courtesy Mrs. L. Meredith.

the shipping qualities of our northern grown berries will permit of their being shipped a long distance. And as they mature two or three weeks later than the berries grown to the south and east of us, the market is and will be unlimited.

Pruning Time

The orchard trees should be pruned before the buds begin to swell. The trees can be put into fairly good shape by careful work but this must not be done all at once if it means the removal of a considerable quantity of wood. If properly done there will be no evil results and the work of spraying, thinning and harvesting will be made easier.

Make all cuts close up so that no stubs are left to die and start decay in the heart of the tree. After the wound is made, if it is more than three-quarters of an inch across, be sure to give it a good coat of paint, or of melted grating wax.

Cut all dead or injured wood for a start and then remove some of the tangled crossing branches in the centre. This will open up the centre, and give fruit of better color on the shady side of the tree. Some heading back may be needed, but it will be best to leave that for another year if much wood has been removed. Following this plan will give moderate pruning, which will give the best results.



Remove Male Birds

Eggs which have been fertilized constitute the greatest proportion of the inferior stock which, when examined, prove unfit for use. It is not necessary that these shall have remained for a time under a broody hen, a temperature of seventy degrees being in itself sufficient to cause the germ to commence to grow. If the heat is constant the development of the chick will continue, but if it ceases or is intermittent, putrefaction had. On the other hand, infertile eggs which are free from the active germ cell, do not, under ordinary conditions, deteriorate seriously.

Few farmers seem to realize these facts, and consequently very few make any effort to ensure infertility. The impression prevails among many that the presence of the male bird in the flock is essential to the production of a maximum number of eggs.

This assumption has been shown to be wrong by the experience of Mr. W. H. C. Meredith, of the Algoma District, who has been successful in raising a large number of purebred birds of the following strains—H. C. Runwell, Brighton, Ont.

proved, time and time again, to be absolutely without foundation.

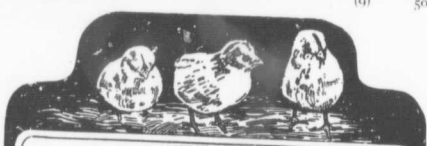
Farmers and others selling eggs for market are recommended to kill off or dispose of the male birds after the breeding season. As a result of their remaining with the flock after June 1st, Canadian farmers lose each year at least a million dollars through the presence of partially incubated eggs in the produce that is marketed. The fact that the best trade in many cities in Canada now offers the prospect of from one to five cents a dozen, for non-fertilized eggs, suggests an additional financial consideration which but few can afford to overlook.

Dairying—Past, Present, Future

(Continued from page 4)
of this paragraph (the Chief of the Markets Division) and all persons occupying similar positions, what are you doing to remedy the matters? While there are cases in which it is better to be than to do, this is a case where it is better to do than to be—simply an adviser.

Third and last point we shall mention for the future, is the need for a great Agricultural Leader—a man of wisdom and courage, an Agricultural Moses, to lead the people out of Egyptian bondage through the wilderness of debt and doubt, into the promised land. Without casting any reflections on our present leaders, it looks as if the farmers' Moses had not yet been born, or if born, that he is still among the bullrushes awaiting some Pharaoh's daughter to find him. In fact if I were to assume the role of a prophet for a moment, I would conjecture that the next great reformation on the farm and elsewhere, will be under the direction of women. Women, as a rule, have more sense and greater courage in times of crises than have men.

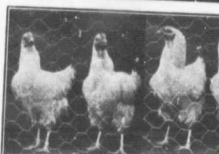
Still, continuing the role of prophet, I would venture to say that this leader will have the following qualifications and no other need apply. He will be born on a Canadian farm, and he will be thoroughly trained in the practice and science of agriculture, but chief of all he must love the farm and understand the farmer's viewpoint. He must also be prepared to sacrifice himself for the good of the cause and work without salary. To such a man farmers will listen, and such a leader farmers will follow. One of the great difficulties at present is the thrusting upon farmers of policies which farmers do not want or do not understand, but they are too polite or too backward to tell these would be leaders of the false position of affairs and most of these men have not sense enough to discern it; hence we have agriculturists, the blind leading the blind, and both falling into the ditch. (In this connection I have no reference to political leaders.)



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