

## Our Poultry Corner

If you have some things you do not understand in connection with your poultry and want some information, state your case briefly and to the point, writing on one side of paper only, and address it to THE MONITOR PUBLISHING COMPANY LIMITED, we will submit it to Prof. Landry, and when his answers are received we will publish them withholding your name if you so desire it.

### S. C. WHITE LEGHORNS FILL THE BILL

A Large Per Cent. of the Big Egg Farms are Stocked with Leghorns. But no Matter What Object He Has in View, the Producer Must Ever Keep in Mind That the Chick is Hatched Until Matured, is Necessary for the Development of a Good Specimen.

(By Mrs. E. M. Kelley, Mt. Carmel, Ill.)  
Ill. In American Poultry Journal.)

The S. C. White Leghorn needs no introduction for they have long been famous as prolific producers of large white shelled, uniform and fine flavoured eggs, that always find a ready market at highest prices.

No doubt other breeds will make as good layers as the S. C. W. Leghorn if they are bred to lay, but the leg-horns have more than a half century start over the others.

Given proper housing and care they are the hardest fowls, thriving in any climate, a paying proposition to the backyard fancier, as well as the man with unlimited space. They are great foragers and will get most of their food if allowed to range, though they stand confinement well, and we never have any trouble keeping them within a five-foot wire fence. We use open-front houses, covering opening with burlap in severe weather and never have frozen combs.

We can house and keep three Leghorns on same space and food, and get larger individual returns for each bird than two of the American or Asiatic varieties and that is quite an item in these days of high feed bills.

It requires less work to almost double our profit than when raising the so-called general purpose fowl.

We have never had birds respond more quickly to kind and intelligent treatment; ours are the greatest of pets and seem to enjoy our being near them.

A large per cent. of the Big Egg Farms of this country, England, Australia and New Zealand are stocked with S. C. W. Leghorns exclusively. Why? Because they fill the bill. No sentiment there, only a business proposition, and no man or corporation would keep a breed year after year, if he could get better results with some other. The birds are the machines that convert the raw product "food" into the finished product "eggs" and without an efficient, well balanced machine this cannot be accomplished at a profit.

Look up the egg contests and note which breed wins, not only in one year but three-year tests, thus demonstrating that the Leghorn has a longer sphere of usefulness than other breeds.

No wonder the demand for these thrifty little birds increases yearly. Thus there is always a ready sale for hatching eggs and well grown cockerels and a small advertisement in a good poultry magazine usually disposes of surplus stock. The beginner can enter the ranks from the first, and by giving the customers square treatment can build a foundation of future business. The Leghorns' eggs are strongly fertile and hatch strong, easily raised chicks if parent stock is of right kind. We use artificial hatching and brooding; the little fellows being so pert and saucy, quickly learn to take care of themselves. They have nice plump breasts and reach the broiler size more quickly than any other breed and are in demand also as squab broilers. Pullet reach maturity and the laying stage fully two months earlier than their heavier sisters. To get good chicks we must be sure of our breeding stock. Start with the best you can afford. Get your eggs or stock from a reliable breeder, then by selecting only your best for breeding purposes with an occasional purchase of new blood, steadily improve your flock. Remember, when buying stock, it's the breeding back of a bird that counts. It costs time, study and labor to produce choice birds. The man who has been trap-nesting for eggs, carefully mating and breeding each year only from his best, is entitled to better prices than another who is doing haphazard, hit or miss work.

Trap-nesting is a good way to improve your flock, either in fancy or egg production, for here we have positive proof of what each bird is worth, both layer and producer of show specimens. When we first began to breed S. C. W. Leghorns, we were told that the egg and show birds were two distinct types, though the ones conforming most closely to Standard requirements. We had been fortunate in our selection of a breeder. I think that in early years, some of the Leg-

horn specimens, neglected productivity for shape, but I believe that day has passed, for our foremost fanciers of to-day are very particular in building up paying qualities with the fancy. To be successful in breeding, select your best laying females of Standard type. Cull closely, for it is far better to use two good birds than a dozen indifferent ones. Most beginners make the mistake of using all the flock out defects later, but go slow. By trusting to luck or chance to breed breeding only your best at all times you will find a continuous improvement which would be an impossibility were the entire flock used. Select birds of good, vigorous constitution, hens preferred to pullets. Birds of long, rather deep bodies, with abundant room for digestive and productive organs, that eat heartily. The first out and the last on roosts at night are usually heavy producers.

Never use a bird that has ever had any disease. Any bird once affected should be conspicuously marked so that it will never find its way into the breeding pen, for the foundation of a successful poultry plant is health and constitutional vigor. Remember the male is half the pen, and should be selected with greatest care. We find it better to have a good bird sound qualities in all sections, than one phenomally good in one or two sections, and poor in the rest. A good all around specimen insures a general evenness of quality, much to be desired in a flock. We like to select as a male the son of a heavy layer. Well shaped, perfectly developed, bright eye and alert of carriage—a good description in a nutshell of what is essential in the male. Have him strong in sections in which the females are weakest.

When attending the poultry shows note the large classes of S. C. W. Leghorns, usually the largest in the show room. This alone attests their popularity. Then turn the pages of this magazine and count the numbers of S. C. W. Leghorn breeders. Doesn't that tell a tale?

After the chicks are hatched a steady growth should be kept up. Any setback in the development of young chicks is sure to affect the perfection of the adult. Feed only wholesome grains and mash and supply green food liberally throughout the days of the chick's development. It is true that adult fowls can manage to get along and lay a fair percentage of eggs with a very meagre supply of green stuffs, but I do not believe that a good well developed pullet or cockerel has been produced without having green food in plenty during the growing period. See that fresh water is supplied the chicks at all times and if it is a possible thing, provide them with a good range.

In producing good specimens of any variety it is most essential that these things be taken into consideration, for no matter how fine the stock back of the chicks may be, if they are not given a chance to properly develop, their high bred ancestry will avail them naught.

Most of you know well enough how to set a hen with eggs, so we'll not repeat this subject just now and those who have incubators should also have instructions with the same, so that further comment along this line should be unnecessary. However, there are a number of little matters that really hold the key to most successes. Allow us to mention a couple.

**Run no Unnecessary Risk**  
There are some certain risks we must run in every instance, but there are also a number that we like to take, which are not necessary. If we get through alright over these, we are tickled; but when we lose everything at one sweep when such loss could have been avoided by a little precaution we can only blame ourselves when too late.

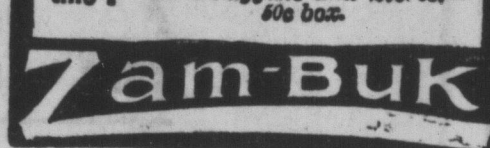
Please remember that hens are like the majority of humans inasmuch that they are liable to alter their minds, frequently for the worse, with every wind that blows. When you can help it, don't give them an opportunity to spoil all your nice plans for the season. Run no risks.

**Don't Waste Time**  
By trying to hatch infertile eggs. Test them out every little while. Time is money these days, so use the hens and incubators on good, strong material, not on dead tissue.

**Guarantee the Eggs**  
It takes just as long to hatch and develop a poor chick as a champion, so let us not also waste time in grow-

## PILES.

You will find relief in Zam-Buk! It eases the burning, stinging pain, stops bleeding and brings ease. Perseverance, with Zam-Buk, means cure. Why not prove this? All Druggists and Stores—see box.



ing stock that is not of first class quality. When grown, the poor fowl eats just as much and requires just as much attention as the good one, so why not have the best in the first place?

**Hatch Chicks to Live**  
By this phrase we mean to use every precaution to save the lives of the chicks in their young and wild days. Don't let them be over-run by insects. Don't water them with cans and dishes that are deep enough for good swimming. Chicks often drown, and it's usually the best ones too. Don't let a chick walk into a cat's mouth, for cats are fond of chicken stew. Rats will also carry off such prizes, and dogs like hunting too.

Contaminated runs, empty or dirty drinking cans, outings in a cold drizzly rain with its attending damp quarters, are not extra good for chicks. Let us save what we have, and build up instead of allowing the opposite.

**A HEN THAT CROWED**  
(Jour Heridity, 6 (1915), No. 11, p. 482, fig. 1.)—A description is given of a Buff Orpington hen hatched in the experimental farm at Beltsville, Md., which laid 110 eggs and in August began to molt. Following the molt she began to develop the secondary sexual characters of the male; the tail feathers changed in appearance, the comb increased in size, the head came to look more like that of a cock and the legs took on the redness characteristic of the male Buff Orpington. She was observed to crow several times; she occasionally visited the nest but never laid an egg. Later she was killed. Dissection showed no evidence of any development of male reproduction organs but disclosed a large tumor of the ovary. It is thought that this growth, by inhibiting the secretions connected with femaleness, had allowed the male characters to become apparent; for there is reason to believe that every fowl has the potential ability to develop the characters of either sex.—E. S. R.

**THE GARDEN AND POULTRY MANURE**  
Poultry manure is one of the best kinds for the garden, but there are some things to bear in mind in order to get the best results from it. In storing it in barrels or under cover during the winter there is less waste to its fertilizing qualities. The manure so stored, however, is too powerful if applied directly after the ground is plowed and may burn the young plants, or if used immediately before plowing it has a tendency to start grass and weed growths.

I have obtained the best results when the manure was applied to the ground in the fall or during the winter and plowed in the following spring. The main trouble I have found with poultry manure is that at times it occasions too much leaf growth.

Poultry manure should not be mixed with coal or wood ashes. I find sand the best to use for this purpose. The dropping boards are covered with a light layer of sand after each cleaning.—H. E. Haydock.

**CHICKEN ON THE HALF SHELL**  
"How's the grub here?" a new boarder asked genially, rubbing his hands at the dinner table of a Rome boarding house.  
"Well, friend, we have chicken every morning," an old boarder grunted.  
"Chicken every morning!" the new boarder positively beamed. "Chicken every morning! And how is it served?"  
"In the shell," grunted the old boarder.

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**Barron's English Leghorns**  
Bred from pedigreed stock imported direct from Mr. Thomas Barron, England, the 200 egg kind. This pen is headed by a Cock bird from a 247 egg hen.  
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Upper Granville

## Horticulture

(By Prof. W. Saxeby Blair)

### FERTILIZERS

We all know the principal fertilizing elements lacking in our soils are nitrogen, phosphates and potash. More of these elements are used by plants than of any other although many other elements enter into the composition of plants.

When we purchase commercial fertilizers we are buying simply these three elements in one combination or another. The higher the grade the greater the percent of these plant food elements. This year, and probably for several years, we cannot hope to get potash at a reasonable rate, in fact this year if it is in the mixed fertilizer bought it is in small amounts not more than 20 pounds of actual potash in a ton and you will likely have to pay at the rate of \$200 a ton for Nitrate of Potash that such a fertilizer may contain.

Our commercial fertilizers therefore, this year contain only two of the three principal elements, nitrogen and phosphorus.

The nitrogen in a fertilizer may be obtained from one of three sources, nitrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, or animal tankage and bonemeal. Many of our mixed fertilizers are composed pretty largely of tankage. Probably tankage and bone gives us our cheapest nitrogen at the present time.

The nitrogen in animal fertilizers such as tankage (tankage is made from the waste materials from slaughter houses) and bone are not so quickly available as is the nitrogen in nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia. The animal fertilizers must be acted upon by the soil organisms causing decay and rot before the plant can make use of it. The nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia are much more quickly available; in fact, the former can be used as soon as it is dissolved by the soil waters.

It should be kept in mind that animal fertilizers such as bone or tankage are not likely to give up all their food constituents the first year, whereas, nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia are likely to be used up during the first crop.

The three principal sources of phosphorus are slag, acid phosphate and bonemeal. These can be divided into two groups the acid phosphate containing phosphorus most quickly available and slag and bone with the phosphorus least available. The most of the plant food in acid phosphate is available the first year, whereas, in bone and slag this may not be the case.

From what has been said it will be seen that if we are fertilizing for the present crop only nitrate of soda and acid phosphate are likely to give the best results, whereas, if we are

fertilizing having in view the following crop it may be more economical to use slag and bone. The more acid the soil as a rule the more phosphorus will be available from slag the first year.

In addition to the elements mentioned above reference should be made to lime which is being used quite extensively at the present time. It should be kept in mind that lime will not make up for a deficiency in the elements already mentioned. Without a doubt lime assists in making available some of the soil potash but to make available the potash with a shortage of the other two elements will not increase our crop yields. We have found little gain from lime on our poor soils but quite marked gain on soils fertilized with the three elements mentioned.

The great gain from lime is that it produces conditions in the soil suitable for plants by correcting soil acidity, and for this reason will pay for its use on many of our soils. Some of our soils are decidedly deficient in lime in which case liming pays from supplying this element which enters into the composition of plants to a considerable degree. We find that our soils are often decidedly acid and lack in lime in which case the lime in addition to other plant food is essential if we hope to get a satisfactory growth, particularly of clover, for clover does not do well on acid soils strikingly deficient in lime.

Basic Slag contains quite a percentage of lime and for this reason for seeding down it has quite an advantage over acid phosphate on many soils. Acid phosphate has a tendency to make acid soils still more acid whereas slag has the opposite effect. Sulphate of ammonia renders the soil more acid and hence it will not give as good results on our acid soils as nitrate of soda and the clover crop is not likely to be as good following its application as it would if nitrate of soda is used unless lime is to be applied.

Nitrate of soda contains about 15 per cent. of nitrogen, a ton would therefore contain 300 pounds of nitrogen which costs \$75.00 or 25 cents per pound. We usually advise 100 pounds of nitrate of soda per acre for grain crops which would cost at present \$37.50, 400 pounds of average bone will give the same amount of nitrogen as 100 pounds of nitrate of soda. Bone contains approximately 3 per cent. of nitrogen, it will be remembered that this nitrogen may not be all available during the first year, the finer the bone the more rapidly does it become available.

We usually advise 300 to 400 pounds of acid phosphate or 400 to 500 pounds of slag per acre for grain crops. The acid phosphate contains 15%

phosphorus and the slag 12%. The former costs \$24.00 and the latter \$16.00 per ton. The reason for the advance in the acid phosphate is that sulphuric acid used for treating the rock has become scarce due to the war and has doubled in price. The phosphorus in the acid phosphate costs 8 cents per pound, while in slag it costs 6.66 cents. It should be kept in mind however, that the phosphorus in the former is more quickly available and may be most profitable due to giving the plant a quick start. The 300 pounds of acid phosphate would cost \$1.20 per hundred or \$3.60. The 400 pounds of slag at 80 cents per hundred, \$3.20.

Bone contains approximately 20% phosphorus and 1 ton would have 400 pounds of phosphorus in addition to the nitrogen which it contains making it worth \$26.66 for its phosphorus plus 3% nitrogen, or 60 pounds in 1 ton at 25 cents, \$15.00, a total value of \$41.66 per ton. Bone, I believe, is offered at \$33.50 or \$1.66 per hundred so that the nitrogen and phosphorus in it is really cheaper than nitrate of soda and slag.

A 4-10 mixture offered by the Fruit Companies for \$3.00 or \$1.65 per hundred would on the basis of nitrogen be worth \$33.33. The 4-10 mixture means 4% nitrogen or 80 pounds in 1 ton and 10% phosphorus or 200 pounds in 1 ton.  
80 lbs. nitrogen @ .25 . . . . \$20.00  
200 lbs. phosphorus acid @ \$6.66 13.33

33.33  
400 pounds of bone per acre would give approximately 12 pounds of nitrogen at 25 cents, \$3.00, and 80 pounds of phosphorus at 6.66 cents, \$5.33. Total \$8.33.  
100 pounds nitrate of soda as contains 15 pounds nitrogen stated above is worth \$3.75 and 300 pounds acid phosphate containing 45 pounds of phosphorus is worth \$3.60. Total \$7.35.  
100 pounds nitrate of soda containing 15 pounds nitrogen . . \$3.75  
400 pounds slag containing 48 pounds phosphorus @ 6.66c . . . . . \$3.20

Total . . . . . \$6.95  
400 pounds of 4-10 Fruit Companies fertilizer would contain 16 pounds nitrogen @ 25 cents, \$4.00 and 40 pounds of phosphorus @ 6.66 cents . . . . . 2.66  
\$6.66

It will be seen therefore, that the 4-10 mixture is as cheap as any, but to offset this you have probably considerable material not quickly available, and in many cases you may have decided advantage from the use of slag that does not result from the 4-10 mixture.

You will also see that in the bone you are getting practically double the phosphorus you have in the other combinations. It is necessary to use 400 pounds to get the required nitrogen however.

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# Production and Thrift

"To win the war with the decisiveness which will ensure lasting peace, the Empire will require to put forth its full collective power in men and in money. From this viewpoint it is our true policy to augment our financial strength by multiplying our productive exertions and by exercising rigid economy, which reduces to the minimum all expenditures upon luxuries and non-essentials. Only in this way shall we be able to make good the loss caused by the withdrawal of so many of our workers from industrial activities, repair the wastage of the war, and find the funds for its continuance. It cannot be too frequently or too earnestly impressed upon our people that the heaviest burdens of the conflict still lie before us, and that industry and thrift are, for those who remain at home, supreme patriotic duties upon whose faithful fulfilment our success, and consequently our national safety, may ultimately depend."  
SIR THOMAS WHITE, Minister of Finance.

PRODUCE MORE, SAVE MORE.  
MAKE LABOUR EFFICIENT.  
SAVE MATERIALS FROM WASTE.  
SPEND MONEY WISELY.

### LET US PRODUCE AND SAVE—

The war is now turning on a contest of all forces and resources—men, munitions, food, money. The call to all is to produce more and more. It may be necessary to work harder. The place of those who enlist must be taken by those at home, men and women, old and young. Produce more on the farms and more we can save. Produce more on the farms and in the gardens. Save more and help to win the war.

### LET US NOT WASTE OUR LABOUR—

In this war-time all labour should be directly productive or should be assisting in production. Make it as efficient as possible. If your labour is on something that can be postponed, put it off till after the war and make your labour tell now. Making war is the first business of all Canadians. Efficiency in labour is as important as efficiency in fighting.

### LET US NOT WASTE MATERIALS—

Begin at home. The larger portion of salaries and wages is spent on the home—food, fuel, light, clothing. Are any of these things being wasted? \$20.00 a year saved from waste in every home in Canada will more than pay the interest on a war debt of \$500,000,000.

### LET US SPEND OUR MONEY WISELY—

Are you spending your money to the best advantage? What do you think of extravagance in war time? Tens of thousands of Canadians are daily risking their lives for us at home. Is it not our duty to be careful and economical? Canadian dollars are an important part of the war equipment. Make them count. Have a War Savings Account. Buy a War Bond.

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