

have one general Superintendent, to be appointed by the buyers, and his decision shall, in regard to the quality of the eggs delivered, be considered final. Anyone may become a member who is interested in the production of poultry products and will conform to the rules and regulations. Clause 7 we quote in full:

7. Rules and regulations pertaining to eggs:
  - (a) Only eggs gathered from regular nests may be delivered.
  - (b) Eggs must be delivered at least twice a week, except in winter months, when they must be delivered at least once a week.
  - (c) Eggs from found nests must not be delivered.
  - (d) Real small eggs or oversized eggs may not be delivered.
  - (e) Rough-shelled or ill-shaped eggs may not be delivered.
  - (f) Stale eggs may not be delivered.
  - (g) That all male birds be killed or removed from the flock as soon as the hatching season is over (June 1st).
  - (h) That all eggs produced by said flock shall be sold through the circle. This applies for one year only.
  - (i) That a member may deliver eggs from only his or her own flock.
  - (j) Notwithstanding anything heretofore set forth, patrons may keep for their own use any eggs required, and must not sell any eggs through the circle that do not comply with these rules and regulations.
  - (k) Eggs as gathered must be kept at an even temperature, as near to 60 degrees as possible, and be kept free from draft and dampness.
  - (l) That any bad eggs in any way delivered and paid for will, upon return of same to producer, be accounted for, if possible, and the loss made good to the buyer.

A Central Board is to be organized, consisting of two officers from each circle, provided for in the constitution. Mr. Duff will, in all probability, be secretary of this board. Every egg is to be stamped on its larger end with the number of the circle and the number of the member supplying it. If anything is found wrong with a single egg, the superintendent will hire a rig, if necessary, at the buyer's expense, and visit the producer from which it came, find out what was the matter, and return the egg, and receive a refund of its price. The idea is to keep everything absolutely straight, and educate the members in the production and marketing of first-class eggs. The collection of the eggs will be arranged by the Central Board, according to the most feasible plan. The one which appears most plausible is to have the eggs brought regularly to certain points, and have wagons call there for them. The wagons will start in some districts probably this week or next. The eggs will not be graded to color or size this year. That will probably come later. The eggs are to be paid for weekly, as soon as they reach the firm, with checks payable at par in Peterborough. Empty cases will be left off when full ones are gathered, and provision is made for collecting part of a case, as well as full ones. Mr. Brown has been cautious in promises as to price, but expects the firm will be able to do better than his promises. A premium of 2 cents a dozen is expected to be paid from the start over the current market price.

#### PICKINGS FROM THE SPEECHES.

H. C. Duff.—The only businesslike way to pay for any article is to pay for it on its merits.

John I. Brown.—We want to make money out of you people, by making money for you. There are plenty of people in the cities who want to buy choice fresh-laid eggs. We want to sell them, and we haven't got enough of them to sell. There are not enough eggs in Peterborough to supply one of our customers, the Allan Line.

T. D. Young.—Our cheese factory pays for milk by the per cent. of fat plus two, and the quality has greatly improved since we adopted the system. There is more injustice in buying good and bad eggs for the same price than in pooling proceeds from milk. For the last few years farmers have made no money more easily than what has been made out of the eggs.

Prof. E. C. Elford.—No farmer with one hundred acres should be without 100 hens. If properly looked after, they will pay the interest on the farm, say, \$300 a year. The poultry crop, if rightly handled, is pretty nearly independent of the weather.

F. Davey. This co-operative-egg-circle movement has our most enthusiastic support.

W. D. Albright. Unlimited possibilities open out before us, if we will only learn to apply business methods to our work, and market an absolutely dependable product. If you go into this movement, stick to it through thick and thin. In the words of the couplet:

"Stick to it, it will carry you through it,  
Leave it, and you're shaves again."

W. D. Albright. No section was more enthusiastic in its work, and it is not surprising

that this should be the first district in Peterborough to organize a Poultry Circle.

W. L. Smith.—One of Prof. Elford's bulletins on poultry has been translated into Russian. Through co-operation, the Danes, inhabiting a country where one needs to wear an overcoat in the summer time, have become the most uniformly prosperous people in Europe.

#### Rearing Brooder Chicks.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I believe in brooders for chickens. Allow me to give you some of my experience with them.

I put 48 chicks in a brooder this spring, and as the eggs were mostly infertile, or with weak germs, the chicks could hardly be expected to be of the most vigorous description. However, they have now been in the brooder about four or five weeks, and out of the original number I have lost only two, not counting three that were worried by dogs. Of these two, one was a veritable runt, which never grew at all, and the other was "bandy legged" when taken out of the incubator. At another time I gave 75 chicks to about five hens, and the other 75 I put in the brooder. I lost about 20 per cent. of those with the hens, and only about 5 per cent. of the brooder chickens. I take great care not to overfeed the chicks during the first three or four weeks. They are much like little pigs in their gorging propensities.

Of those I lost that ran with the hens, some were trampled by the mother, and some were killed by hens who objected to a chick of another color straying into their coop. I do not put more than 75 into a brooder that is made to accommodate 100. I keep skim milk in a fountain before them all the time. I feed hard-boiled infertile eggs and oatmeal the first two weeks, then quickly substitute a dry mash of corn meal, sifted oatmeal, shorts, bran, or anything else that can be mixed into a balanced ration, giving a fair proportion of protein. A little hard grain is also given every day to keep the gizzards in working order.

I find the brooder saves a great deal of time and trouble. You feed a large number in one coop, instead of the same number in a lot of small flocks. You have not got to feed the brooder. Some hens will try to steal all the chick feed, and others will nearly starve themselves to death.

Then, again, a brooder makes no dirt of its own. It need only be cleaned out once or twice weekly when the chicks are small, if the floor is strewn thickly with dry sand. It will never desert the little chicks at a time when they still need protection from the cold spring nights. It does not care what color the chicks are, and has never been known to trample on them. The cost of coal oil, except in very cold weather, is hardly worth considering. Then you never have to race after the brooder during a thunder storm, in order to keep the chicks out of the rain. Some hens will squat in the middle of a five-acre field when a storm is on. I have no difficulty in getting chickens to weigh 2 lbs. in about two months when reared in a brooder. AMATEUR.

#### "Finishes Off" with Hens.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In reply to your request for incubator users to give their experiences, I give here answers to the questions you ask.

1. I have run an incubator for two seasons, and have certainly had a good two years' experience also.

2. The advantages of the incubator over the hen are many. Some of the main ones are: A larger number of eggs can be set at one time, thus giving you a flock of chicks of a uniform size, that can all be marketed at the same time. The incubator can be started at any time. With hens you have to wait until they take a notion to sit. It is less work to take care of the same number of eggs in an incubator than if they were under hens. It is cheaper to run an incubator than it is to allow the hens to stop laying and sit. Of course, you will have to feed the hens whether they are sitting or not, but the loss of eggs and cost of feed will amount to more than the cost of oil for the incubator.

3. Three gallons of oil, at 20c. per gallon, will easily run my 150-egg hot-water incubator for three weeks. Five minutes night and morning—ten minutes per day in all—will easily cover time required to attend to it. Put it at four hours for the three weeks, at 15c. per hour, making 60 cents. This, with the oil and 5 cents for a lampwick, makes \$1.25 for running a 150-egg machine three weeks.

4. I only allow the eggs to remain in the incubator for 10 to 14 days. I test them about the 10th day, and then put them out under hens to finish hatching. I have never (with my mass of incubators) been able to get a good hatch where the eggs were left in the machine for the full three weeks. There were always a number dead in the shell. This is overcome to a large extent by giving them to hens and moistening

them two or three times in the last ten days if the hen is up off the ground. I may say that I always try to set my hens on the ground so that there will be a certain amount of moisture from the ground. I have also found that by following this plan I have had no trouble with white diarrhea or bowel trouble in the young chicks.

6. As may be inferred from the above, I allow the hens to have the chicks, giving each hen from 15 to 30, according to the time of year. I think that the chicks do better when with the hen. I have found that the chicks that have been hatched under hens or "finished off" under hens are healthier than when they come out of the incubator. Of course, I am not condemning incubators for hatching chicks. I am simply stating my own experience with my particular make of incubator. C. H. R. York Co., Ont.

## THE FARM BULLETIN.

### Improving Country Life.

A movement designed to be of far-reaching benefit was recently launched at Bellefontaine, Ohio, the gathering being designated a Country Life Institute. It was attended by leaders in educational, agricultural and religious affairs in Ohio and other States. The two days' discussion focussed upon the relation of the country church and the country community. With entire unanimity it was concurred that the country church should be for the neighborhood in which it stands a "Community Center," identifying itself with and seeking in a sympathetic spirit to promote every interest of the people morally, socially and economically. The principle of unity or federation among the churches for practical service was commended, and their co-operation with the public school, the Farmers' Institute and other agencies advised. A policy of rural church financial reconstruction was approved, in order that churches and ministers enjoy living conditions on a par with the economic standards of the community. The Institute declared in favor of a regenerated rural school, in order to a higher standard of educational facilities by consolidation and scientific training designed to promote the prosperity of the people. Recreation in the interest of moral training and the extension of the "play-ground movement" was endorsed. The ground was taken that these principles and methods are to be so applied as to advance the moral and spiritual interests of the people.

### The Derby Winner.

The 56th annual Derby race, which was run at Epsom Downs, England, on June 1st, was won by Mr. Fairlie's three-year-old colt, Lemberg, son of Cyrene, ridden by the English jockey Dillon. Lemberg broke all records for the Derby, doing the distance in 2:35. The best previous record was made in 1906 by Major Loder's Spearmint. He went the course in 2:36 4-5, the distance being one mile and a half. Second to Lemberg was Lord Villier's Greenback, by St. Frusquin, and third A. P. Cunliffe's Charles O'Malley, by Desmond.

On account of the working of the Seed Control Act, wholesale dealers in seeds have become much more particular as to the class of seeds they buy, and are making a greater difference in price between ordinary and first-class seed than ever before. Owing to the keen discrimination by such dealers against buckhorn in clover seed, many farmers who had sold to sell the past season have learned what buckhorn seed is like, and will be able to detect it in future. A further move on the part of the Seed Branch towards the production of clean seed is now being made. T. G. Raynor, Ontario representative of the Branch, is at present securing a man from each of the seed-producing counties in Ontario west of Kingston—about twenty-five in all—who shall spend three weeks in a tour among the farmers of his county. His duties will be to visit seed-growers, and in a friendly way to point out the advantage to themselves of producing only clean seed, and make suggestions and give instructions as to how this can best be done. The campaign is to be entirely educational. Attention will be drawn to the presence of any noxious weeds in the crop intended for seed, and the wisdom and economy of destroying these with spade or scythe before the seed begins to ripen will be emphasized. Instruction literature will be distributed also, and it is expected that by these means the purity and value of Canadian-grown will be much improved.

It is necessary to beware of soft drinks as well as of these hard ones. The manufacturers of two of these soft drinks in the United States have been found adulterating them with cocaine and not putting it on the label. The evident purpose of this is to develop an appetite for the drug.