

STOP LAYING AS MILD DAYS NEAR

Pullets Forced To Lay by Electric Light During Winter Now Discontinue.

PROTEST OF NATURE

Authorities Agree That Such Birds Are No Good in Breeding Pen.

PULLETS that have been laying heavily all winter under electric lights, forced feeding, or both, are now beginning to drop off. Whole flocks that have been yielding their spring production in December, January and February, instead of at the natural time will often stop laying entirely as the mild days approach. It is the protest of Nature against the high pressure that has been upon them at a time when they would ordinarily be gathering strength for the season of mating. It is agreed by practically all that such pullets are unfit for the breeding pen after such a winter. Indeed, there have been cases in which pullets that have laid heavily during the winter without any special feeding whatever have been unable to lay fertile eggs when hatching time came around.

For the egg flock that begins to slow down in March it is best to try and prolong production. If they stop laying entirely it will take too long to bring them up again, and they must be marketed at the best price they will bring, whatever it is, else they will consume feed and lower the profit they will realize. It is better to market them earlier while they are still laying than later when they are no longer laying. Therefore on the first indication that they are falling off with their laying they must be induced to eat more mash, and less grain. Experienced commercial poultry breeders and fanciers agree pretty well that to prolong the laying period it is necessary to keep the birds from losing weight, and yet prevent them from putting on an excess of fat. The flock that has been laying well will stand in greater danger of losing flesh and condition than of becoming obese.

Feeding More Mash. Where the dry mash has been before them at all times, and grain has been fed by hand, one wet mash a day, and a lessening of the supply of grain, if brought about gradually, a little less grain and a little wet mash, increasing the one and lessening the other until a full meal of wet mash is being fed, will result in a steady laying of eggs. In cases where wet mash has been fed once a day all winter, two wet feeds a day can be brought about. In this way hens that have fourteen pounds of grain a day to the hundred may have their ration lessened to ten pounds a day of grain, and the balance made up of extra mash. Some feeders just reduce the grain, and allow the birds to make up the difference out of the hoppers. Wet mash, especially if wet with buttermilk, will be found to be more forcing.

Of course, a flock of females thus treated must not be used as brooders. If it is desired to reproduce a family of high record layers, select those that have made the best track record and put them off by themselves at this season, and allow them to loaf and recuperate until next winter, giving them plenty of range and enough good food to keep them in good health without forcing them. They can then go into next year's breeding pens and be fed for natural egg production, and good chicks should be forthcoming.

Next Year's Breeders. There is a very successful breeder of a highly productive strain of fowls who says that he has never got good chicks from hens that were forced for a twelve-month egg record, and that layers of 200 eggs or over under such conditions on this farm have never given him rugged chicks. It is thus that many flocks that have been building up a reputation for egg production begin to deteriorate, eventually losing every breed character, even the character of egg production itself. The greatest so-called utility flocks have been kept up by reasonable precaution in this regard, egg production itself. The greatest so-called utility flocks have been kept up by reasonable precaution in this regard, egg production itself. The greatest so-called utility flocks have been kept up by reasonable precaution in this regard, egg production itself.

The pullets to keep for next year's breeders will be those that started at maturity to lay, whose records have been consistent rather than extraordinary, whose eggs are of the desired size and color, and which have come through the season without losing their sturdiness of body. Such birds will be found to have good frames, for the breed, well balanced on strong shanks. In colored varieties and yellow-legged breeds, it has been found that those which fade out slowest, while giving good egg yield, are the birds of best vitality.

Car load shipments of motor cars show a 150 per cent gain over a year ago. Roads for motor traffic should be waterproof to endure, say highway experts.



BEAUTY OF THE SKIN

is the natural desire of every woman, and is obtainable by the use of Dr. Chase's Ointment. Pimples, blackheads, roughness and redness of the skin, irritation and eczema disappear, and the skin is left soft, smooth and velvety. All dealers, or Edmondson, Bates & Co., Limited, Toronto. Sample free if you mention this paper.

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for BURNS

FOR SCALDS, CUTS AND BRUISES, FOR COLDS, COUGHS AND BRONCHIAL AFFECTIONS, FOR STIFF MUSCLES, SPRAINS AND STIFF JOINTS AND NUMEROUS OTHER AILMENTS COMMON TO MAN AND BEAST. THERE IS NOTHING SUPERIOR TO THAT OLD TRIED AND RELIABLE REMEDY.

DR. THOMAS' ECLECTRIC OIL

Cleanliness and Proper Heat Must Be Applied To Chickens

Experts Point Out That Contact With Mother Earth Has Exceedingly Beneficial Effect on Health and Growth of Young Poultry.

While flocks of chicks grown under brooders vary in size and the artificial mothers differ in type and capacity, the general principles of successful management apply in all cases. One has merely to know, to fully understand the various factors which favorably influence chick health and chick growth and then supply these conditions. The minor details of the daily routine of management differ according to the conditions surrounding each brood, so the caretaker must exercise judgment. The main thing is to know what to do and what not to do, then put this knowledge into practical effect.

At the first, it must be realized that a certain amount of loss is almost inevitable. Scarcely does anyone carry the whole brood to weaning age. The results of improper methods of brooding and of faulty incubation appear during the brooding period. And above causes are unfairly charged against the brooder or the food used. At the same time, heavy mortality in the flock is commonly due to mismanagement. The earnest, intelligent poultryman will keep such losses reduced to the lowest point by anticipating possible dangers and avoiding them.

Temperature Vital. The first thing to be considered is the matter of brooder temperature. In the case of colony brooders, which because of their large size and construction permit each individual chick to choose his own temperature by moving toward or away from the source of heat, close regulation of temperature is not as necessary as where small hovers are used and the brood has no choice between the heated chamber and the outside. The main reason for this is that the young chicks are comfortable and their actions are often a surer guide than the thermometer. If they crowd together or pile up for warmth, increase the temperature. If they scatter at a considerable distance outside the hover, reduce the temperature. But one may well use the thermometer at first until things get settled down and running smoothly.

As a rule, a hover temperature of 95 to 100 degrees is required for the first few days, reduced to about 90 degrees at the end of the week. Then, and the extent of the feathering, let the temperature down gradually until heat is no longer required. In the case of colony brooders, however, it is not customary to make constant changes in the thermostat which controls the temperature, as the chicks merely move from the stove. It is important that the brooder temperature be registered by a thermometer having its bulb only three or four inches above the floor, or at the chick level. A few inches difference in the temperature, and what we want to know is what the temperature really is where the chicks are. This simple little point is frequently overlooked. It pays to remember it.

The Foster Mother. Place the baby chicks under the hover, so they may at once learn that comfort is to be found there. Presently they will begin to explore, making short journeys away but quickly returning to the machine. If brooder house is large and roomy, ones are best—it is possible for chicks to stray too far from the hover and get chilled. It is wise, therefore, to keep them confined to a comparatively small floor area until they learn the ropes. A temporary partition of boards or wire netting may be used for a short time and then removed. For a week or two it is necessary to watch the brood at bedtime. Too frequently little groups of youngsters will wander off into corners of the building and squat there. Then, as the night chill comes on, they crowd together for warmth. This is the dreaded "piling up," which often causes severe loss. By visiting the brooder house about dusk one can round up the stragglers and herd them back under the hover before any real damage has been done. To prevent corner-crowding, poultrymen commonly throw wire netting across the corners, so no acute angles are left.

While a certain amount of heat is necessary, too much of it is decidedly bad. Permit the surplus heat, the stuffy air to escape, admit an abundance of the fresh, pure air as necessary to health and vitality. But never do this airing in such a way as to create draughts across the floor.

Keep Chickens Contented. Strive to keep the chicks busy and contented. Plenty of fine litter on the floor will hide the fine chick grains scattered in it and make the youngsters hustle to find every last kernel. A piece of sod with grass roots running through it, the moist earth will keep a flock active for hours. A raw onion cut up into rings will cause the brood to play tag until every piece has disappeared. Loafing chicks are quite likely to contract such bad habits as toe-picking; inactive youngsters will not build well-muscled bodies. Keep them busy.

Plan to permit, even induce, the chicks to go out on the ground as soon as this is possible. Contact with Mother Earth seems to have a wonderfully beneficial effect upon health and growth. Growing chicks, confined in a warm house with floor of cement or boards, develop weakness, or at least the feet and shanks dry and shrivel. Get their feet in the mud and such conditions will soon be corrected.

If the weather is favorable, the chicks may well be let out of doors when they are four or five days old. At first a small yard is necessary to prevent straying, but soon they may be given a large yard or permitted to range at will. Fortunately is the poultryman who can give his growing flocks unrestricted range. That usually means less trouble and decidedly better birds.

Make the doors through which the youngsters pass in and out of the building large in size. Not unduly high, of course, but very wide. Flocks of chicks are frequently stampeded. A sudden shower, an alarm caused by the appearance of a hawk or crow, will send them scurrying for cover. If the whole crowd tries to jam its way

PRIZES OFFERED FOR TICKET SALES

\$100 To Be Divided in Three Awards by "Prince of Mythland" Promoters.

CONTEST OPEN TO ALL

London Advertising Club to Help Children's Hospital by Presenting Musical Comedy.

One hundred dollars in cash prizes will be presented to the three persons who sell the largest number of advance tickets for the London Advertising and Sales Club's big musical comedy, "The Prince of Mythland," which will be presented at the Majestic Theatre during the week of April 17 (Easter week).

The money has been divided as follows: \$50, \$30, \$20. In addition, a \$1 advance ticket will be allowed for every \$10 worth of tickets sold by any of the contestants, with the exception of the cash prize winners. Whether a member of the cast or not, anyone is eligible to enter the competition. Those not known to the directors are required to obtain letters of identification. E. Drake is in charge of the ticket issue.

These advance tickets can be secured at the Majestic Theatre box office. The tickets are expected to sell readily as "The Prince of Mythland" will be one of the most elaborate shows of the season. Mr. Drake's "Queen Zephra" is expected to be surpassed by this latest production.

The Advertising Club will donate a large portion of the receipts to the Children's War Memorial Hospital.

Chauffeurs in Missouri must show two photographs of themselves with their driver's application.

INTRODUCE DR. KING TO HOUSE

Ottawa, March 30. — Canadian Press.—Hon. James H. King, the new minister of public works, was introduced in the house of commons at its opening this afternoon. The return of the writ for his election was announced by the speaker, and immediately afterwards the minister was introduced by the premier and Hon. W. S. Fielding. Mr. J. H. King sits with Hon. James Murdock.

Chauffeurs in Missouri must show two photographs of themselves with their driver's application.

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