

## POULTRY

### Poultry Clips.

Tag every carcass; adopt a trademark.

Always ship the day you kill.

Medium sized roosters are most in demand.

Satisfactory broilers are never made from mongrel stock.

Inbred stock do not produce good market poultry.

A poorly dressed good carcass is worse than a neatly-dressed poor carcass.

The chick is no longer a broiler after reaching two pounds in weight.

Tender and sweet meat is made only by quick growth and clean quarters.

Never ship carcasses to market in which there is the least suspicion of animal heat.

The great lesson from the fattening work is the folly of mis-fits, e.g. the egg producers in a fattening crate.

The egg-laying varieties do not stand the close confinement.

Constitution enables the bird to stand the feeding; that is why constitution is so important.

### Fattening Work.

In looking over the work at the poultry fattening station at Wetaskiwin a few days ago the *Advocate* found many points of interest. Somewhere between seven and eight hundred birds are daily feasting on oatmeal and buttermilk and changing these compounds into high grade white colored chicken worth twenty cents a pound. Good well bred birds thrive mightily on this feed; common stock do not do so well; mongrels are the worry of the feeder and the source of trouble to the poultry commissioner and the farmer.

When killing day comes the operator takes the bird from the crate, hangs it head downwards, inserts a small knife through the mouth and upward to the brain, then the pluckers seize it and presto! In a very few minutes it is dressed chicken. The market demand is very heavy. The entire product of the stations could be swallowed up in a few B. C. towns. Offers of twenty-five cents a pound have been received from outside the province, but it is probable that local demand will take all the supply. What Alberta needs now is breeding stations to develop the different breeds of poultry to the highest standard and to work out the various problems in connection with the poultry work in the province.

## Horticulture and Forestry

### Leaf Miners in Alberta.

A correspondent W. J. Farley of Calgary, recently sent us samples of leaves, Aspen and Balsam poplars, which had been attacked by some pest. The leaves were quite black in patches and on the under side were full of minute holes. The leaves were submitted to Prof. Jarvis of the Ontario Agricultural College, who replies concerning them as follows:

The enclosed leaves of Aspen (*Populus tremuloides*) and Balsam poplar (*Populus balsamifera*) from Calgary bear the work of leaf miners, the species of which I have not yet determined. The leaf miners belong to the family, *Tineina*, the adults of which are minute moths with narrow wings fringed with long hairs. The larvae live between the upper and lower surfaces of the leaf, feeding upon the soft food until the leaf gradually dies. The different species form various characteristics markings which can be seen on the leaves of almost any tree in the late summer and fall.

No satisfactory remedy has yet been devised on account of the difficulty of reaching the larvae, but by raking it, and burning the fallen leaves, its ravages may be somewhat checked, as the insect passes the winter as a larva inside the dry leaf.

### Walnuts on the Pacific Coast.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Within the last year very much interest has been taken in the growing of walnuts in the states of Oregon and Washington, especially in the former. Some experiments have been made covering a number of years which have proved beyond doubt that this industry can be conducted profitably and successfully. Formerly it was thought that the winters in this region were too severe, the late frosts always cutting off the blooms. This actually happened for a number of years with trees imported from California. These were trees of an early variety, well suited to that sunny state, but much too early for growing in the colder districts to the north. The trees are tender and the shell of the nut soft.



WALNUTS GROWN AT ROCKSIDE ORCHARD, VICTORIA, B. C.

It occurred to someone in later years to try some of the hardier varieties. These were imported from France and three of them have proved eminently satisfactory. These three varieties are the Franquette, Mayette, and Proeparturiens. They are a late blooming variety and very hardy, the blossoms not opening until all injurious frosts have long passed. Besides this they are free growers and good bearers. The farmers of Oregon are now planting very extensively. They are a shrewd yet progressive people, those Western Americans, and they usually look well ahead when entering upon some new enterprise.

But what has this to do with British Columbia? We are much farther north than the state of Oregon and consequently one would expect a much colder climate. As a matter of fact however, there is very little difference between the climate on Vancouver Island and that of Oregon, except perhaps that the former has less precipitation and more sunshine. Even this might not be very reassuring were it not for the fact that while the people of Oregon have been experimenting in a large way, a Victorian of repute, Mr. R. M. Palmer, of Rockside Orchard, has been also experimenting along similar lines in a smaller way. The experiment is, however, ample proof that the nuts can be grown here equally as well as to the south when the proper varieties are chosen. Oddly enough, the three varieties that have been chosen by the horticulturists in Oregon as the best for their purposes, are the three that have been tried at Rockside Orchard. Nine years ago a few trees of the Franquette, Mayette and Proeparturiens varieties were imported from France and planted. Since that time nothing has been done to them except cultivating between the trees as with the other fruit in the orchard. They have grown so well that they are larger than any of the apple, pear or plum trees which surround them and for the past four years they have been bearing. The crop has not, of course, been large, but it has been large enough for a number of nuts to be obtained for seed purposes. Several rows of young trees of varying ages are now growing in the nursery department of the orchard, and they are looking extremely vigorous.

The next question that arises is: Will these young seedling trees be of the same variety as the parent stock? For our answer to this we must turn again to the state of Oregon. Experiments covering a number of years, have been tried and

it has been proved beyond dispute that first generation seedlings are always as good, if not even better, than the original stock but that after the first generation there is a marked deterioration, the trees being practically useless. This discovery has proved a great boon to the walnut grower, because the budding and grafting operations do not succeed well. The percentage of successful scions is very small, the majority failing to assimilate with the stock. The fact that first generation trees are of the same variety as the parent tree seems to be one of the wise provisions of nature offsetting the difficulty in grafting and budding.

Almost any rich, well-drained soil is suitable for walnuts, but there is one essential: The soil must be deep. Where there is an under layer of hardpan or solid rock the walnut will never thrive. One orchard is reported in Oregon where the soil is shallow. Although the trees have been planted about forty years there has been little result in the way of crop and the trees are small and stunted. The grower, however, recognizes what is wrong with his grove and he is one of the most enthusiastic advocates of walnut culture in that state.

Many walnut trees are on the market that are absolutely valueless for planting in any part of Western Canada. The trees usually thrive well but the expected fruit never comes. They bloom too early and the spring frosts destroy the vitality of the blossoms. Planting these varieties is not only a loss to the individual grower but it also gives the whole business a black eye. In the city or Victoria there are a number of large trees that were planted by the early settlers. Whether or not any of them bear I cannot say, but I do know that a number of them seldom bear, and then they bring only a new stray nuts. Experience has shown that there is no variety equal to the Franquette for crop and the nut is a good one for commercial purposes.

The walnut when full grown is a large tree, much larger than apple or other fruit trees. Hence it is necessary when planting to allow plenty of room for them to grow. Sixty feet apart each way is not too much space, unless it is the intention to cut down every other tree when they get too large. The space between can always be utilized for small fruits so that there is no loss by giving plenty of room.

As a steady cropper the walnut is unequalled. The market is always brisk and there is a growing demand for nuts of all kinds, especially of this king of the nut tribe. No dinner is complete in these days of wealth and leisure, without the cracking of an English walnut. The growth of the vegetarian movement of late years has also added to the demand for nuts. Today they are used for purposes never before imagined, and it is quite certain that the future will see even greater demand for this fruit.

Plant walnuts then if you would be wealthy. The return begins within four or five years from the date of planting and steadily increases for several generations. Leave off cracking chestnuts, face the stern realities of life, and plant walnuts for tomorrow. Such action will make your old age a pleasure, your children will bless you, your grandchildren will worship you, and posterity will enroll your name among the sacred canon of saints, the honor roll of the race.

H. F. PULLEN.

## FIELD NOTES

### The Victoria (B.C.) Agricultural Fair.

The beautiful city on Vancouver Island held its usual agricultural show the last week in September. The fair was successful but not as large as it deserved to be, the effect of refraining from holding a show last year on account of the Dominion fair had undoubtedly had the effect of causing some falling off in interest. The inside exhibits were very good, but before this fair can attain much further improvement, it is essential that a manager should be appointed and given power to run the show; shows of the class Victoria is in have passed the day of being carried on without a head, undoubtedly the success of the big fair on the mainland is due largely to the fact that a first class manager has control of the reins.

The district exhibit feature was a lone one this year, although the quality was quite up to the standard the noted Chilliwack district being the exhibitor. In live stock many of the exhibits went to New Westminster, in the report of which mention in detail is given. The judges were, in horses, George Heggie,