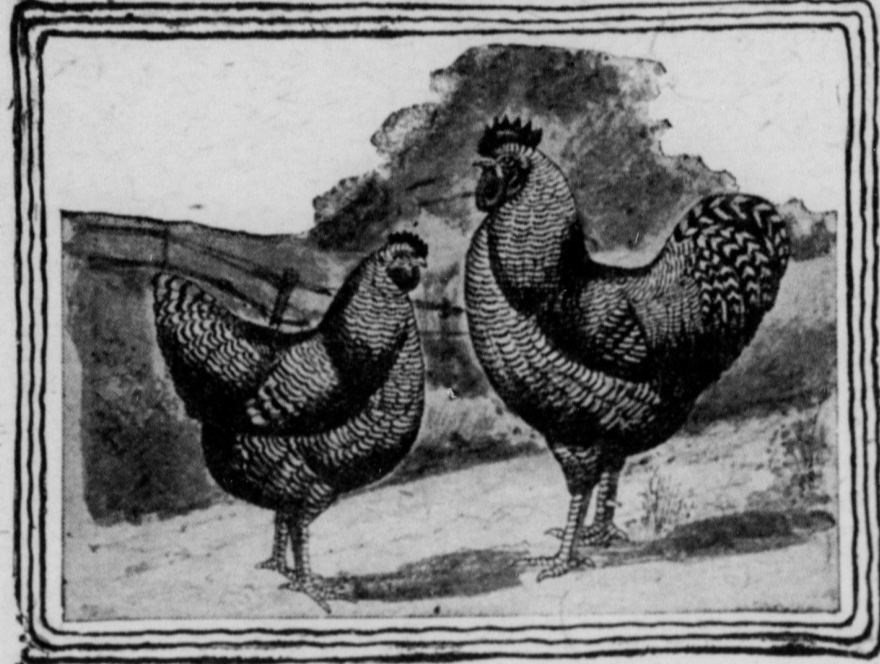




THE STANDARD BIRD.
Greatest Profit in Pure Breeds of Fowls.
GUY ELLIOTT MITCHELL

The Bureau of Animal Industry has just prepared a short bulletin embodying a number of useful hints to poultry raisers. In submitting the text to Secretary Wilson, Chief Melvin of the Bureau stated that the article was prepared with the special end in view of furthering the purpose of his Bureau to give the raisers of poultry, especially the general farmer, the best information possible in a very concise form. The article is written by G. Arthur Bell, Assistant Animal Husbandman of the Bureau of Animal Industry.

Selection of a Variety.
Pure breeds are desirable, says Mr. Bell, as with these one has a flock of



PLYMOUTH ROCKS—A PAIR OF PRIZE WINNERS.

fowls which will produce carcasses and eggs of a much more uniform shape, color, and size than will mongrels, all of which aids in finding a ready sale. If one already has a flock of mongrel fowls and cannot afford to buy pure breeds, he should choose a purebred male bird of the breed preferred and mate him with a few of the best mongrel females. This system, if carefully followed for a few years, will give a high-grade flock that will be practically as good as purebreds, so far as market conditions for dressed fowls and eggs are concerned.

Choice of variety will depend largely on the purpose for which the fowls are kept—whether eggs alone, both eggs and meat, or meat alone is the chief object; whether white-shelled or brown-shelled eggs are desired; and whether sitters or nonsitters are wanted.

Egg Breeds.—Nonsitters and producers of white-shelled eggs—Leghorns and Minorcas.
General purpose breeds.—Sitters and producers of brown-shelled eggs—Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Orpingtons, and Rhode Island Reds.

Meat Breeds.—Sitters and producers of brown-shelled eggs—Light Brahmas, Cochins, and Langshans.

What Kind of Houses.
Location.—Select an elevation having a natural drainage away from the building, a dry, porous soil, such as a sandy or gravelly loam, being preferable to a clay soil.

Exposure.—As sunlight and warmth are essential to the best success with poultry, the buildings should face the south. A southeastern exposure is preferable to a southwestern one, if a direct southern exposure cannot be obtained.

Size of House.—The size of the house will depend almost entirely on the number of birds to be kept. If in flocks of forty to sixty, about 5 square feet of floor space should be allotted to each hen. The building should be high enough for the attendant to avoid bumping his head against the ceiling.

A House for Fifty to Sixty Fowls.
The best house for fifty to sixty fowls is 20 by 14 feet; front elevation 6 1/2 feet, back elevation 5 1/2 feet, with double pitch roof of unequal span. The roof, if shingled, should have not less than one-third pitch. If roofing paper is used, one-quarter pitch will answer. In the front, or south wall there should be placed two windows about 1 foot from the top and 3 feet from the ends; 8 by 10 inches is a good-sized pane to use in a twelve-light sash, making the sash about 3 by 9 inches high, and 2 feet 5 inches wide. A door 2 1/2 by 6 feet may be made in one of the end walls, and also a small door in the front wall, for



SINGLE COMB BUFF LEGHORNS.
Cock was Awarded First Prize, St. Louis Exposition.

the fowls to pass in and out of the building.

Interior Arrangement.
The roost platform should be placed in the rear of the house and extending the whole length. The platform should be about 3 feet wide and 3 feet from the floor, with the perches arranged about 8 or 10 inches higher. The nest

should be placed against the end of the house opposite the door or under the roost platform, and should be darkened. It is well to have several small boxes for shell, grit, beef scraps, etc., along the walls about 16 to 18 inches above the floor. If cement or wood floors are used, a dust bath should be provided for the fowls.

The Feeding of Hens.
In order to obtain eggs, it is necessary to have healthy, vigorous stock, properly fed. To do their best, hens should be fed grain, animal, and green food. They should be fed enough to keep them in good condition but not overfat, and should be induced to take

The Great American Hen.

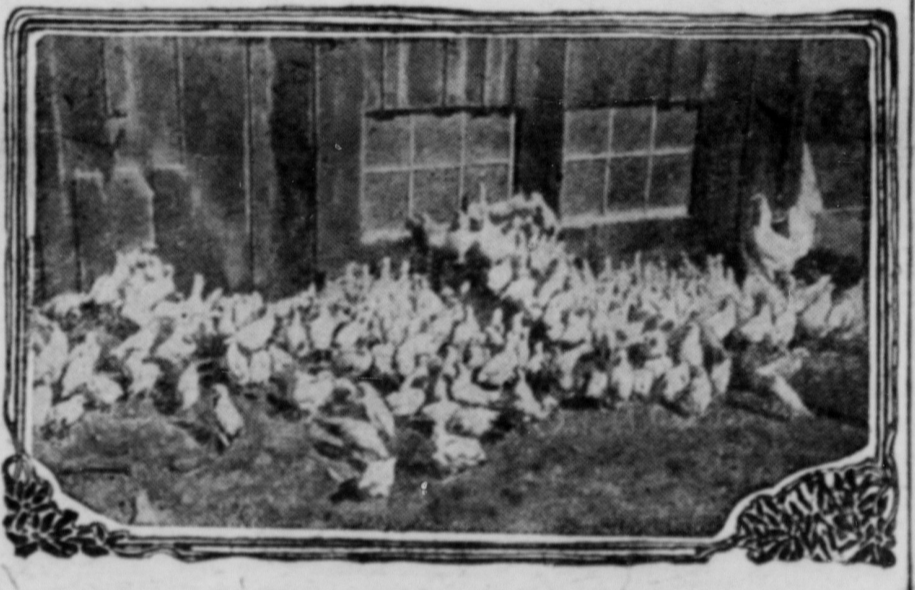
Rightfully comes she by the title, for according to statistics the American hen yields more money annually than any other one farm product. With eggs as low as a cent a piece—a very cheap and nutritious food—a well bred hen laying about two hundred eggs a year has a value of \$2. An estimate is made that \$1 a year will keep her in comfortable if not luxurious quarters. The trouble is that millions of barnyard scrubs do not yield a hundred eggs a year.

According to Government authorities the earnings from the egg and poultry industry amounts to about \$280,000,000. Cotton, the king of crops with a value reaching up to \$259,000,000, is thus dethroned by the magnificent earnings of the fowl.

During 1905 the total value of all the gold, silver, wool and sheep produced in the United States was \$272,000,000. The wheat crop, considered the most valuable of all agricultural products had a value in the same period of \$229,000,000. The great American hog, consumed at home and abroad, was valued at about \$186,529,035. The sugar production of the country was only \$20,000,000. The combined value of the oat and potato crops was only \$160,000,000. The industrious little gallus domesticus produces enough eggs to require a train of refrigerator cars 900 miles long filled with 43,000,000 crates, each of which holds 350 eggs. The value of the egg as a food product is equal to that of any food stuff of its size.

Winter Egg-Laying Contest.

A novel egg-laying competition at the Lady Warwick's Ladies' Agricultural College is reported by Consul Daniels at Sheffield, England. The conclusions reached are that breed does not govern so much as the laying strain or families of a breed highly developed as egg producers. The pen of four Buff Orpingtons led from October 16 to November 16 by producing 49 eggs, and again November 16 to December 16 with 120 eggs. One thing the present competition shows is the little help it is to birds to be what show enthusiasts call "beautifully marked," for as often as not it is the ordinary looking competitors, birds a show judge would laugh at, that have the biggest total of eggs to their credit. In the winter laying competition what stands a bird in good stead is not that its father was the winner of a medal, but that its mother and grandmother were wonderful layers, and that its



GROUP OF YOUNG WHITE LEGHORNS.

Another mash may be mixed as follows, in the proportions indicated:
100 pounds corn meal.
100 pounds wheat middlings.
100 pounds linseed meal.
100 pounds gluten meal.
100 pounds beef scrap.

Young chickens should be fed a little at a time and often. If they are given ground food alone, there is a great danger of overfeeding. Very good results may be obtained by the feeding entirely of cracked grains from the time the chickens are hatched until they reach maturity. There are on the market many prepared chick feeds, consisting of different mixtures of suitable cracked grains. After the chickens are five or six weeks old, the prepared chick feed may be dropped and cracked corn, cracked wheat, hulled oats, etc., fed to them instead.

If the chickens can not get grass, provide green feed such as lettuce and

male parents also come of a good laying strain.

Ducks don't need water to thrive.
There are many farms in this country, where thousands of these fowl are raised each year for market, and where there is not even a puddle for them to flounder in. One of these establishments is said to furnish 20,000 ducks a year.

Not the Laying Kind.
A few days ago a rather bashful young woman went into a Southern grocery store with some chickens to sell. She inquired the price of fowls, and at the same time put hers on the counter. The clerk didn't notice that the chickens' feet were tied, and asked her if they would lay there. She bit her handkerchief, turned her head, and said, "No, sir, they are roosters."

Extending the Weather Service.

In order that the work of the Weather Bureau may be of greatest possible benefit to the people of the United States, and especially to that class which is dependent upon the weather, Prof. Willis L. Moore, the chief, has been making arrangements by which such agriculturists as have telephones and want the service, may obtain weather forecasts within a few minutes after the announcement of telephonic advice as to the state of coming weather. This is operating in New York, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Michigan and other states. Recently the Weather Bureau made arrangements for an extension of this service in Maryland, Virginia and West Virginia.

The bloodhound is generally thought to be very ferocious, while, on the contrary, it is really as gentle as almost any other kind of dog.

The Pennsylvania Railroad is contemplating cutting a tunnel through the Allegheny Mountains, and the Southern Pacific will eventually tunnel the Sierra Nevada range.

Tall persons usually live longer than short ones, while those born in the spring have sounder constitutions than those born during the other seasons.

LONGWORTH GUESSED WRONG.

Missed the Opportunity to Get Famous Horse Named After Him.

When a man becomes famous, all the incidents of his past life are laid bare. There is a great story going around of how Nick Longworth came near to attaining to fame some years ago, in connection with horses.

"The story runs," according to a prominent horseman, "that some years ago H. M. Ziegler, of Cincinnati, the noted owner of thoroughbreds, and an intimate friend of Mr. Longworth, took the latter down to his Kentucky thoroughbred farm to show him his collection of fine yearlings.

"All of these yearlings were as yet unnamed.

"Longworth," said Ziegler, as they strolled about the stalls, "you'd better let me name one of these yearlings after you. They're a swell bunch, and almost all of them are well-nigh bound to do something big in the world."

"I don't mind," was Longworth's reply. "But I'd like to be sure of bestowing my cherished name on a real good one. I'd hate to have a bad one running in my name. My friends of a racing turn would be geying me all the time about my namesake's performances."



WHITE COCKIN COCK.
First Prize Bird at New York Show in 1904.

"Well," said Ziegler, "you're a pretty good judge of a race horse yourself. Now here are two of my cracks in these two stalls. I'll have 'em led out into my paddock by one of the stable hands, and you can look them over and take your pick of them. Whichever one you like the better I'll name after you."

"Done," said Mr. Longworth, and the two yearlings were led into the open.

"They were both fine lookers, but Mr. Longworth liked the appearance of the larger one of the two the better.

"That one," he said, pointing to his pick. "He looks good to me."

"He's christened 'Nick Longworth,'" then, said Mr. Ziegler, and the colt was duly named Nick Longworth and registered with the Jockey Club under that name.

"Now, the other colt of the pair from which Mr. Longworth made his selection was afterward named Hermis. Sounds kind o' familiar to you, eh, that name, Hermis? Well, I should think it would sound familiar, seeing that, in the deliberate belief of many of the most astute horsemen in this country, Hermis was absolutely the finest race horse ever foaled in the United States, a speed and distance marvel, a bulldog who never knew when he was beaten, and an animal worthy to be ranked with the very greatest race horses of all time in this or any other country.

"So much for Hermis, the one that Mr. Longworth didn't pick out. As for the one that he did pick out, and that was named Nick Longworth—well, Nick was worth about \$9.72 as a racing proposition, and that's about all. He could win a selling race once in a while on Thursdays when the wind was sou'-sou'west by nor, but he couldn't get out of his own way in running with even fair handicap horses, and he lost about twenty times to one win, and it really did come to pass that Mr. Longworth's Cincinnati friends geyed him unmercifully about his namesake horse. Mr. Longworth never, of course, told his geying friends that he'd actually had the chance to get so noble an animal as Hermis named after him. He probably felt that the situation was bad enough as it was.

THE NEGRO AS A FARMER.

Booker Washington Says He is at His Worst in Large Cities

Booker T. Washington in an address at Washington, D. C., recently struck a keynote when he stated that, "The negro is at his worst in the crowded life of a large city, and at his best in the rural districts where he owns and cultivates the soil.

The speaker said the demand in the South for negroes trained for teachers and leaders in the class room, and the factory was tremendous; but more pressing yet was the demand from the best white people of that section for negroes to take charge of their farms, dairies and other industries. This demand is shown, he said, by the fact that every one of the 525 students who left Tuskegee last summer had been engaged weeks before the end of the term. Washington is solicited by mail, telegraph, and in person to furnish trained negroes, and could have found places for twice the number had they been forthcoming.

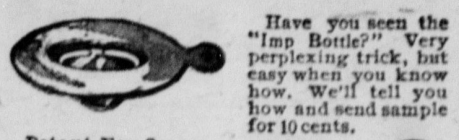
"Association with the white people has given the negro new wants, desires and ambitions," said Mr. Washington; "To these, education is necessary, both to appreciate fully the newly awakened feelings and to provide means for their rational satisfaction. Hence, from the most selfish point of view, the right kind of education is beneficial for the negro."

"That the negro is not naturally an idler is shown, the speaker said, by the trebling of the South's industrial wealth in the last twenty years, without any appreciable increase in immigration. This advance is due, he thought, in great part to the well directed labor of the negro.

Cork, in spite of its buoyancy, will not raise to the surface again from a depth of 200 feet below the ocean's surface, owing to the great pressure of water. At any depth short of that it will gradually work its way back to the surface.

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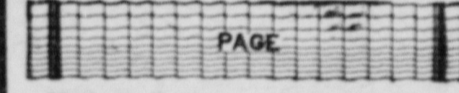
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