

The News Poultry Department

CONDUCTED BY FLYNN ELLIOTT

A Billion Dollar Poultry Industry

A billion dollars is set down as the value of the poultry and egg products of the United States for the present year, as estimated by the New York Sun.

The United States census of 1900 gave the value of poultry and eggs at \$250,558,429. In 1905, according to the ninth annual report of Secretary Wilson of the department of agriculture, poultry products had climbed to a place of more than half a billion dollars in value.

Figures supplied by the government show that in 1905, 1906 and 1907 the increase was 50 per cent more rapid than from 1900 to 1904, and if this rate of more rapid increase was kept up for 1908, 1909 and 1910, as no doubt it was, then it is clear that in 1911 we shall have a billion dollar poultry industry and with a good margin to spare.

Regular poultry courses are now taught at more than twenty agricultural colleges of the United States and Canada, and graduates in poultry husbandry are now receiving diplomas at the rate of several thousand each year. These graduates are returning to the farms of the country to raise more and better poultry by improved methods, or they are taking places as professional poultrymen, or starting plants of their own.

Hundreds of carloads of live poultry are shipped east from Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Kansas, Tennessee and other mid-west and southern states. More than eight hundred regular poultry cars are now employed in this service. Ten years ago the number of these cars was less than two hundred.

More than two thousand poultry exhibitions are now held each year in the United States, including fall

and winter poultry shows. The different branches of poultry raising as a business include the operation of broiler and roaster plants, egg farms, duck ranches, the sale of day-old chicks and ducks, custom hatching, the work of fanciers and so on. The successful fancier being unknown generally as a poultry breeder, because of the increase in the commercial value of his work.

There are now thousands of experienced poultrymen in the United States who make a regular business of breeding standard bred fowls, their annual production varying from small flocks to thousands of birds. Prices obtained for this stock range from \$1 to \$100 a head, with occasional sales reaching such figures as \$200, \$300, \$500, \$800, \$1,000 and even \$1,250 for extra choice breeding stock or exhibition specimens.

Eggs for hatching from standard bred fowls, now sell freely at prices that would have been declared impossible a few years ago. Customary prices range from \$1 for thirteen eggs to as much as \$10 an egg. Some specialists of popular varieties receive from \$1 to \$5 each for hatching eggs from choicest specimens and the demand for them is greater than the supply. Day-old chicks now sell in great numbers at from 10 cents to \$5 each, according to the quality of the parent stock.

But it is still the poultry produced annually on the farms of the United States that form the solid foundation of the country's great poultry business. The poultry fancier, so called, has done and will continue to do a great work, but the farmer is the natural poultryman, and it is one of the farms of America that the thousands of tons of poultry meat are produced and the million of dozens of eggs are laid each year. It is the farmer and his everyday helpers who are sending to market the train loads of poultry and egg products. It is the farm product that must be considered in tabulating the immense figures that pile up into a billion dollar industry.

out the facts that enable him to become more proficient in the art of breeding poultry.

A person to become thoroughly posted about his birds can do far better than enter a few in the poultry show. Although his bird may not win the first time it prepares the breeder to know just wherein he has been deficient and by correcting these mistakes he goes at it again with strong chances of success.

By all means show your birds; don't be disappointed if they do not carry off the blue ribbons, but be game and the next show will bring you better success. You must take a start, so groom up a few of your best specimens and send them to the nearest fall fair show, and you will be surprised at the wonderful amount of good it will do you.

Novel Treatment For Little Girl

London, August 12.—A very rare type of infantile paralysis is a girl patient at the hospital for sick children, Great Ormond street, W. C., is now being subjected to an equally unusual type of treatment.

The disease instead of being confined, as is usual, to the limbs, attacked chiefly the muscles along the spinal column on one side, the results being a pronounced and permanent lateral bowing of the back.

To straighten out this deformity the patient, a girl of nine, has been for the past six weeks suspended from an overhead framework of leather loops under the armpits and under the chin. The whole weight of the lower trunk and legs, falling in this way on the unsupported back, is gradually pulling the spine back into its normal straight position.

The little patient is very cheerful and talkative, despite her strained and apparently very uncomfortable attitude. "I can eat and sleep alright this way," she said "and I feel much stronger than when I came to the hospital."

Every afternoon the suspension harness is removed and the weakened muscles are thoroughly massaged. It is expected that another month of the suspension treatment will have brought the deformed spine sufficiently into line to allow of the fitting of a leather-and-metal jacket, which will have to be worn for some months.

Pipe Maker is a Counterfeiter

London, Aug. 12.—A pipe manufacturer and silversmith named Albert J. Pritchard, and his son, George Pritchard, both of whom live at a tobaccoist's shop in Cheetham Hill-road, Manchester, have, it is alleged, been manufacturing silver coins to make up for bad trade. They were up for examination today.

A silversmith produced the coins to be made of real silver, but said there was a slight defect in the Roman figuring. In his opinion they had not been through the mill.

The elder defendant, according to a detective, made the following statement:

"I manufactured the coins myself owing to bad trade, and I, being a silversmith, thought there was a profit to be made out of it. From what I have read they are real standard coins which I made with a die. Only myself and my son are concerned in making them during the past two years."

The fraud was discovered owing to the large number of fourings and half crowns reaching the Bank of England in Manchester. The bank officials investigated the matter, and a raid on defendant's shop resulted in the discovery of a large number of unfinished coins.

Stories of Great Fire in Stamboul

Vienna, Aug. 12.—Statistics which have been received here with regard to the great fire in Stamboul, (Constantinople) afford graphic evidence of the terrible scenes enacted there during the past few days. It is stated that 100,000 people were rendered homeless, while no fewer than 9,000 houses were destroyed. The damage is estimated at \$8,000,000. It is known that forty persons lost their lives, and that many more are missing. Over 500 policemen were injured, 1,100 people lost their eyesight, and twenty became insane. The catastrophe is one of the biggest of the sort in the history of the world, and the Sultan is greatly distressed.

Ten alleged incendiaries have been arrested. It is asserted that a poisoned lieutenant was discovered in the act of carrying two vessels full of petroleum, which he poured over articles of furniture.

The police have found a quantity of inflammable materials under both the bridges spanning the Golden Horn.

A Quaker Girl's Yes

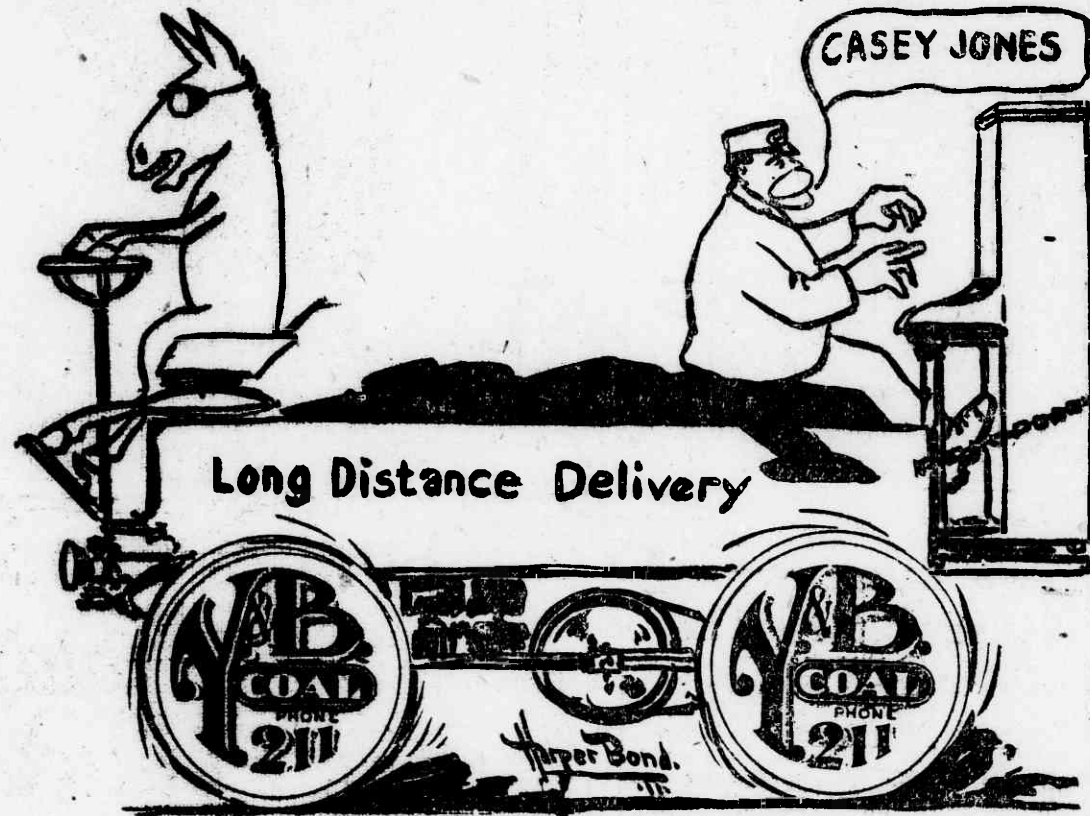
A young Quaker had been for some time casting diffident glances at a maiden of the same persuasion, while she, true to the tenets of her upbringing, had given him mighty little encouragement.

However, one day the opportunity of placing the matter upon a more stable footing presented itself to Seth, and he shyly inquired: "Martha, dost thou love me?" "Why, Seth, we are commanded to love one another," quoth the maiden. "Ah, Martha, but dost thou feel that the world calls love?"

"I hardly know what to tell thee, Seth. I have tried to bestow my love upon all, but I have sometimes thought that thou wast getting more than thy share."

There is only one thing that causes more misery than liquor," remarked the man with the impressive nose, "and that is thirst."

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Queen Victoria Dear to Spanish

Madrid, August 12.—A graceful action of Queen Victoria of Spain has helped to endear that Englishwoman still more to the Spanish people.

At a mass and Night Adoration at Le Gras, the queen was not only present, but followed the ceremony throughout, with such faithfulness that the greatest enthusiasm was awakened in the hearts of those present.

Great enthusiasm, however, followed her gracious behavior after the celebration of Mass, when a venerable Basque peasant advanced and presented a flower to the queen, exclaiming: "The Catholics of Biscay will ever stand up for Christ and for Spain."

Upon this the old man enthusiastically tossed his cap into air. Learning that this aged man of the people— he was nearly a centenarian—had attended all the acts of the congress with exceptional fervor, the queen

called him to her and imprinted a kiss on his forehead.

The old man reciprocated in a fatherly manner, kissing her once for herself, a second time for the King, and again for the children.

He then retired, giving the traditional salutation of Spain, "Ave Maria Purissima," to which the Queen promptly returned the time-honored response, "Sin peccado concebida. The crowd applauded vociferously.

REMEMBERED THE ACCENT.

"Queen Mary," said the teacher to the class in the history lesson, "loved France so much that she declared 'Caisis' would be found written across her heart after she was dead."

Pausing a moment, the teacher looked at a boy steadily.

"Jimmy Smith," she said, "you were not listening."

"Oh, yes I was," Jimmy replied. "Well, what did Queen Mary say would be found written across her heart?"

"Kelly," was little Jimmy's triumphant reply.—From Norman E. Mack's National Monthly.

Ransom Offered To The Brigands

Salonica, Aug. 12.—An offer of a ransom of \$15,000 has been made by friends on behalf of Professor Edouard Richter, the German geologist who was captured by brigands two months ago, while making an ascent of Mount Olympus, near Thessaly.

The brigands have demanded \$250,000 as well as presents of jewels, but the Turkish government has declined to recognize any claims, and has sent two bodies of troops to capture the brigands. In order to obtain information of the brigands whereabouts, the inhabitants of surrounding villages were soundly fogged, although without effect.

Professor Richter has now written a letter beseeching payment of the ransom, to "put an end to his sufferings." Negotiations are proceeding between the brigands and Professor Richter's friends.

The Fire Losses Through London

London, Aug. 12.—In accordance with custom, the chief officer of the London fire brigade (Lieutenant S. Sladen) has submitted to the fire brigade committee of London county council figures of the rough estimates of the momentary losses by fires in London from 1898 to 1911. These estimates do not extend to the expenses incurred by insurance companies and others arising out of claims for damage resulting from fires nor do they take account of any consequential losses which owners of property may sustain. The total estimated loss for the 13 years amounts to \$35,125,665.

A little boy who was very much puzzled over the theory of evolution, questioned his mother thus: "Mamma, am I descended from a monkey?" "I don't know," the mother replied. "I never knew any of your father's people."

Begin The Culling Process Now

With the coming of August most breeders are able to begin culling the young stock hatched as late as the first of April. Some varieties show up in color earlier than others and can be culled when quite young, while with some others it is hit or miss till they are fully matured.

The extreme high price of feed the past season has been quite a hardship to those who have to buy all their feed and will cause earlier and closer culling of the young and very old birds. There is no denying the fact that thousands of birds are sold each year for breeders that should be killed or sold on the market. If an average farm flock for laying and market purposes is all that is wanted, when extreme culling is not necessary, but if fancy specimens for show purposes are wanted, the culling can hardly be too severe. Especially is this true in all of the colored varieties.

In the fancy too many breeders are content to raise about the same grade of stock each year, without making any advancement whatever. The more breeders who are producing the finest specimens are not satisfied unless they can see some improvement each year, and this can only be done, by careful selection of breeding stock and culling closely. The close culling is one reason why the fancier has to charge high prices for his choice specimens. If the culls are sold on the market at and below cost, it is reasonable that the best must bring enough to give profit for all. If you have all hens in your yards that are too old to use for breeders next season, now is a good time to fatten them and place them on the market. In buying fancy poultry, few buyers, who ask for prices, appear to take into consideration the fact that the best flocks produce only a limited number of what are called good specimens.

Most buyers will write you, describing a perfect bird and stating that if the price is reasonable they will buy. Will say that in very few instances have I been able to make the price right, although have made some very attractive prices just to see if sales could be made from such inquiries.

Not long ago I received an inquiry from a novice in an adjoining state asking for a Black Langshan cockerel, scoring not less than 98 points. Now what do you think of that? If I had such a bird I would certainly show him at Madison Square Garden, Chicago, the "International" and every other big show I could hear of and win first every time. No such Langshans cockerel has ever been produced and I so informed by inquiry, also told him that he could no doubt, find some breeder who would sell him such a bird for five or six dollars.

Buy you a Standard of Perfection and study your birds. Place them on exhibition at some of the local fairs this season.

My advice to any one who is a little disheartened is to cull closely and give those that are left the same care and feed you did formerly; exhibit your birds in the best possible condition; ask and insist on good prices, on good birds; treat all customers on the square and success is sure to come.

to realize their true value. They are considered the Leghorn of the duck family, and as egg producers I don't believe they can be beat.

The ducklings are easily raised, needing plenty of warmth and sunlight, yet access to shade also. Bread crumbs and oatmeal slightly moistened with water or milk, is fine for the first week. Then two parts bran, one part corn meal, one part shorts or middlings and about 5 per cent, beef scraps. Keep water always before them and sharp sand or grit. If not on free range give green food of some kind. Lettuce and young cabbage are good. When three or four weeks old feed cracked corn and wheat at night.

They are the fowl for the south as they eat so many insects that destroy the crops and to those who haven't any Indian Runner ducks I say, "By all means buy eggs or stock and raise a flock and you will never be without them, as they are egg producers nearly the year round and money bringers."—Exchange.

Show Your Birds

Were it not for something like 500 poultry shows held annually in various parts of the country, there would be little interest manifested in poultry. The poultry show room is the place to educate the people to the advantages of keeping pure bred poultry, and it is here that thousands of people from over the entire United States are introduced with the spirit, and become poultry fanciers.

The educational feature of the poultry show room is inestimable, besides teaching the novice the various breeds and their particular merits it teaches the breeder the various good and bad qualities of his bird and points