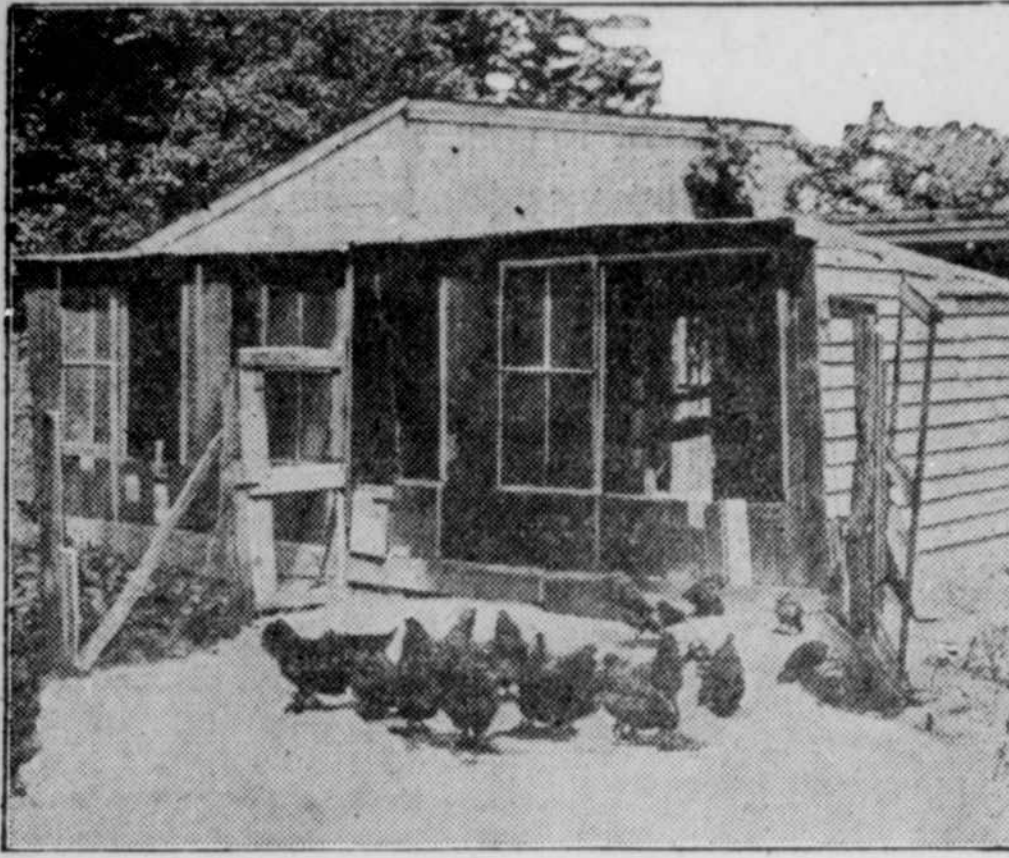


A Bird in the Hand

(Special Information Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture.)

PUTTING A HENNERY IN THE BACK YARD



A Double Yard—Alternating the Flock Allows Green Feed to Grow.

PROCEED WISELY WITH CHICKENS

Suggestions of Specialists of Department of Agriculture.

MAKE START WITH PUREBRED

Householders Usually Desire Not Only Eggs for Table, But Also an Occasional Chicken to Eat—Light Breeds for Eggs.

You want to start a backyard henery or improve the one you have—you have gone that far in your determination to help the meat and egg supply—how shall you begin? What kind of fowls shall you keep, how many and how shall you procure them? These are your next considerations. Here are the suggestions of specialists of the United States department of agriculture on these points. They will help the beginner especially, but should also help the town householder to make his flock more serviceable. First, the kind of breed.

This will depend somewhat on whether you desire eggs, meat or both eggs and meat. Householders usually desire not only eggs for the table and for cooking, but also an occasional chicken to eat. If this is your desire one of the general-purpose breeds, such as Plymouth Rock, Wyandotte, Rhode Island Red or Orpington, is preferable to the smaller egg breeds, such as the Leghorns. Not only do the mature fowls of these breeds, because of their larger size, make better table fowls than the Leghorns, but the young chickens for the same reason make better friers and roasters. Chickens of the egg breeds are suitable only for smaller broilers. Hens of the general-purpose breeds also are more "broody," making good sitters and mothers, which is a decided advantage when it is desired to hatch and raise chicks. Hens of the egg breeds seldom become broody and are in any event rather unreliable sitters and mothers.

Lighter Breeds for Eggs.
If, however, the desire for eggs outweighs that for an occasional table fowl the lighter egg breeds undoubtedly will be more practicable because they lay as many eggs and eat less feed, with the result that they produce the egg more cheaply. It is by all means advisable to keep some pure

BEGIN WISELY WITH CHICKENS—BUT BEGIN.

If you have not kept chickens before ask advice from trustworthy sources before you launch the backyard venture. Get in touch with the local poultry association, the county agent and some successful poultrymen. Write your state agricultural college and the United States department of agriculture for bulletins on poultry raising. Don't be discouraged if the advice is a bit conflicting. There are several ways to succeed with chickens, as with anything else.

This war is a test of nations even more than of their material resources and strength. The issue of it depends on the relative intelligence, moral qualities and attitude of the people engaged.—Secretary Houston.

Chickens never wash, as many other birds do, but cleanse themselves of insects by wallowing in soil. For this reason every poultry house should be provided with a dust box.

Start with pure stock—that will make the increase and eggs for hatching marketable at better prices.

GIVES HUSBAND AND 3 SONS FOR COUNTRY

Lingle, Wyo.—A husband and three sons for Uncle Sam's liberty forces is the contribution of Mrs. John M. Bennett, of this town.

With all the male members of her family preparing in various training camps for the fight for democracy and humanity, Mrs. Bennett and her two young daughters spend a great deal of their leisure doing Red Cross work.

HOLD LIBERTY BONDS

People Urged to Retain Them as Permanent Investment.

Government Discourages Practice of Merchants in Accepting Them in Exchange for Merchandise.

United States treasury officials are seeking to discourage the practice followed by many merchants throughout the country of offering to accept Liberty bonds of the first and second issues at par, and in some cases at a premium, in exchange for merchandise. They hold that such practice defeats the primary object of the sale of the bonds, discouraging the general thrift movement and increasing expenditures, thus depriving the government of labor and material needed for war purposes.

"While I have no doubt that merchants are actuated by patriotic motives," said Secretary of the Treasury McAdoo, in a statement given out through the federal reserve banks, "I am sure that they have failed to consider the effect which the acceptance of their offers have upon the situation. We are making the strongest effort to have these government bonds purchased for permanent investment by the people at large, to be paid for out of the past and future savings of those who buy them. Purchases thus made not only result in providing funds for the uses of the government, but they also effect a conservation of labor and material.

"When the bonds are exchanged for merchandise, the primary object of their sale is defeated, discouraging thrift and increasing expenditure. In addition to this, such bonds, when taken in exchange for merchandise, must in most cases be immediately sold in the open market. This naturally tends to depress the market price of the issue and makes it less easy to sell future issues at the same rate."

Secretary McAdoo believes that the merchants of the country, upon a more careful consideration of the subject, will discontinue their efforts to sell merchandise and take Liberty bonds in payment for it.

CONVICTS KEEP THEIR WORD

Warden Liberates 40 of Them for Holiday, and All Return to the Prison.

Rahway, N. J. — Warden Frank Moore of the state reformatory experimented during the holiday in permitting prisoners, after receiving their word of honor to return, to spend Christmas at home.

He liberated 40 of them and they all returned within the agreed time. "Barry the Buster," who is clever at jail deliveries, was one of the forty. Another was a young man who took a large turkey home to his mother. His friends bade him good-by as he left Christmas night, believing his story of having business elsewhere. They did not know.

CAPT. "ARCHIE" ROOSEVELT



"Archie" Roosevelt, son of Col. Theodore Roosevelt, was recently promoted to captain on the recommendation of General Pershing. He was a second lieutenant.

breed or variety. If this is done sales at a profitable figure often can be made of breeding stock which it is intended to market or of eggs for hatching.

The size of the flock which can be most efficiently kept will depend, first of all, upon the space available and, secondly, upon the amount of table scraps or waste which is available for feed. It is a mistake to try to overstock the available space. Better results will be obtained from a few hens in a small yard than from a larger number. The backyard poultry flock rarely will consist of more than 20 to 25 hens, and in many cases of not more than eight or ten, or occasionally of only three or four. For a flock of 20 to 25 hens a space of not less than 25 feet by 30 feet should be available for a yard. If less space is available the size of the flock should be reduced, allowing, on the average, 20 to 30 square feet for each fowl. A few hens sometimes may be kept successfully with a smaller yard allowance than this, but if the space is available a yard of the size indicated should be used.

Ordinarily, the best way for the city poultry keeper to start a flock is to buy pullets in the fall when they are cheaper. Unless there is a scarcity in the community now, however, there is likely to be little trouble in securing a few hens at this time, although prices probably will be higher. Pullets obtained at this time will give better returns if eggs are desired, while if the intention is to raise chicks older laying hens may be used, or day-old chicks can be purchased and a start made in that way.

How to Buy Hens.

When pullets or hens are to be purchased it is well, if possible, to go to some farmer or poultryman who is known to the prospective buyer. If there is no opportunity to go into the country for pullets, they often can be selected from among the live poultry shipped into the city to be marketed. The advice of some one who knows poultry should be sought in making such a purchase to make sure that pullets or young hens are obtained and that the stock is healthy. Often the local poultry associations are glad to help the prospective poultry keeper to get stock by putting him in communication with some of its members having stock for sale. Sometimes the local board of trade or chamber of commerce is glad to help in bringing together the prospective purchaser and the poultry raiser.

In a later article suggestions as to how an inexpensive poultry house may be built or converted from an unused shed will be given.

Feeding Ducks.

Ducks may be fed on the rations recommended for fowls and chickens, but better results are usually secured by feeding more green and vegetable feeds and a larger proportion of mash. Eggs from Pekin ducks are used largely for hatching, and the profit is secured in producing green ducklings (ducks fattened and marketed at the age of eight or twelve weeks); therefore these ducks are fed a maintenance ration after they stop laying in the summer until about December 1, when a laying ration is given and the amount of mash increased. Indian Runner ducks have been introduced as producers of commercial eggs, so they should be fed laying rations throughout the year if kept for egg production.

Don't keep a male bird unless you want fertile eggs. Hens lay just as well without a male.

Don't overstock your yard. Twenty to thirty square feet for each hen is an average allowance.

If you can get them, purchase well-matured pullets rather than hens.

Keep the hens confined to your own land.

Dry Pen for Sheep.

Sheep want a dry, airy pen with lots of sunshine.

Tobacco Seed

At The
Center Brick Warehouse

If you have not got yours yet, drop us a postal card, stating kind you want and we will mail them to you. If you come to Smithfield come in to see us, we will be glad to serve you in any way we can.

Prospects look good for another crop and we should make an effort to make a better crop than ever.

Yours truly,

Pool & Lassiter

SMITHFIELD, N. C.

FERTILIZERS! Fertilizers!!

The time is here for the farmer to buy his fertilizers for his next crop. We want you to know that we are still selling the Obers, the Fish Brand, The Navassa, The V. C. and others of the very best brands for cotton and tobacco.

And in connection with our cash system of selling supplies, dry goods, etc., we have made a special arrangement to handle the fertilizer part of our business on a plan that will enable us to accommodate and take care of our customers and at the same time save you some good money on your fertilizers this year.

See Us Before Buying

Wholesale Department

We have decided to sell our feedstuffs of all kinds at wholesale prices direct to the consumer and we have a very complete stock on hand.

Come to see us when you need anything in our line, buy it at our prices and put the difference in the bank or use it for something else.

For The Cash Buys It Cheaper.

Roberts, Corbett & Woodard

THE BIG CASH STORE

SELMA, North Carolina