

History Of The Poultry Industry In Wilkes County

Pioneer Dealer Cites Progress In Poultry Flock

By E. E. ELLER

To one who has been actively connected with the poultry industry during and since the horse and buggy days of the Gey Nineties and the beginning of the present century and has watched the growth and spectacular development of the industry in Wilkes and adjoining counties, one has to pluck one's self to realize it isn't all a dream. The writer remembers when each farmer raised a few hens and chickens for his own use—furnishing his table with eggs and chickens and if perchance there was a surplus the country merchant or town dealer took them off his hands in exchange for goods or cash at a price that would seem amusing in these days of high prices. With these

small beginnings gradually there came a time when the markets of the big cities of the East were attracted to the possibilities of this section as a suitable location for growing and marketing cattle and poultry products in a large way. Early in the present century a cash market for these products was established in North Wilkesboro. For a time shipments were small. Gradually however as the demand grew the collection and shipments grew until the farmer realized that he would have a cash market for not only his surplus poultry and eggs, but for an unlimited quantity. As a consequence he increased his flocks to where he could depend upon a steady all-the-year-round cash income. Thus poultry raising to many farmers became a profitable side-line. To many others who sensed the possibilities of it went into it in a big way, making it their main business until now some of the largest poultry and egg plants in the south are operating highly successfully in Wilkes county and this section is becoming known far and wide for

Poultry Pioneer



E. E. Eller, for many years head of the E. E. Eller Produce company, in the accompanying article gives much interesting information about the growth and development of the poultry industry in Wilkes.

its wonderful development in poultry and egg production and distribution. It is not surprising then that in our midst the only dehydrating plant for powdering eggs in North Carolina should be installed where many thousands of cases of eggs are being dried and shipped to all parts of the world for our service men, and thousands of coops of poultry are shipped each month to Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York, and other consuming centers, and the end is not yet. The poultry industry in Wilkes is in this writer's opinion only in its infancy. It offers flattering inducements to the forward looking youth of the county. We predict for it continued and increasingly rapid growth in the years following the end of the world conflict in which we are now engaged.

We are proud to be citizens of the great and historic county of Wilkes and to have had a small part in the development of the poultry industry and look with confidence to the continued growth and development in the future.

Navy's First Sub Had No Periscope

Washington.—Present reliance on the submarine as a "first line weapon" recalls its invention less than 45 years ago by John P. Holland of New York, whose 74-ton vessel with no periscope was delivered to the U. S. Navy in April, 1900.

Named after its inventor, the Holland became the first of seven craft which terrorized fishermen on its test runs, and caused bills for damage to be presented to Holland because it had passed beneath other vessels at sea.

SIGHTS BY "PORPOISING"—The submarine was 53 feet long, and at its widest section only 10 1-4 feet in diameter. The invention of the periscope was still to be discovered by the ingenious French, and sights were taken by porpoising, which means that the boat ran for a short distance submerged, then came to the surface for a sight to be taken out of little plate-glass windows 3 inches long and an inch wide.

Her armament consisted of an 18-inch torpedo tube and two 8-inch dynamite guns. The generator for an electric light plant, made to supply electricity for a country home, became the power plant of the submarine after Holland saw it in operation at an electrical show in Madison Square Garden.

Other power came from a gasoline motor, which operated only when the boat was on the surface. It had a surface speed of 7 knots and a speed of 5 knots when submerged.

It could dive to a depth of 20 feet in eight seconds.

TWO-INCH COMPASS—The amazing craft's compass, most important of its instruments, was a card of less than 2 inches in diameter. Its haphazard operation in close proximity to the hull necessitated the installation of permanent compensating magnets, and it remained a faulty instrument.

Initial tests for the Holland demanded only that she run under water for two miles, fire a torpedo from its only tube, and a dummy projectile from its gun. The tests were held in Prince's Bay, St. John's Island, before a special board appointed by the Secretary of the Navy.

Large quantities of timber are awaiting shipments in Sweden because motor vessels on the Dalsland canal cannot get fuel to operate.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

QUESTION: Do dairy cows need bulky feeds?

ANSWER: Yes. According to J. A. Aray, dairy extension specialist at N. C. State College, flocks, bulky grain mixture is more easily digested by the digestive juices than is a heavy mixture, unless the latter is fed in silage. Bulky grain mixtures are especially desirable for heavy producing cows since they, of necessity, consume large quantities of grain. A grain mixture containing bulky feeds such as corn and cob meal, wheat bran, ground oats, ground barley or beet pulp and weighing about one pound per quart, has sufficient bulk.

QUESTION: Should feeder pigs be placed in a floored pen?

ANSWER: No. Feeder pigs in a floored pen or a small wood-lot often fail to show proper gains because of a lack of green feed, minerals and sanitation. A simple type of shelter should be provided to protect them from cold rains in winter and the hot weather during summer. Pigs should be given plenty of clean drinking water at all times. An eight-inch, flat-bottom trough, with inch-wide strips across the top at 12-inch intervals will hold more water than a "V" type trough and will prevent the wasting of water.

Used cylinder oil is suggested for the control of lice and mange.

Women of South Africa have organized to entertain and care for all men and women serving with the forces.

Grows Beef Cattle On Practical Basis

Many North Carolina growers of beef cattle are doing a thoroughly practical job in livestock production, says L. I. Case, extension animal husbandman of N. C. State College. C. W. Mayo, of Tarboro is a good example.

Mayo has always kept his production of feed ahead of his number of cattle, Case said. The Edgecombe farmer has one old permanent pasture and two new ones, all of which have received limestone and phosphate. In addition to his permanent pastures, he uses lespedeza as a supplementary grazing crop, when needed. Otherwise, the lespedeza is cut for hay or allowed to produce seed.

He also has a silo, and a part of the silage is reserved for the spring, after his grazing crops are eaten down and before the permanent pastures are ready. This fills a gap in the feeding program which many livestock growers fear.

Mayo started in the beef cattle business through the use of a registered Hereford bull on cows of dairy breeding. He still has some of these grade dairy cows and last year steer calves from them, born from January to April, sold in October for an average of \$84 per head.

At present, he has nine registered Hereford cows and heifers of serviceable age and three yearling heifers, in addition to the calves at foot. He has sixty head of grade cattle of other kinds, all in all in good flesh.

He has practiced controlled breeding and all of his calves are dropped in early spring. In this way, they can be weaned at the same time.

In commenting on the excellent record of Mayo, specialist Case also called attention to the third annual association sale of Herefords at Wilson on April 16, when about 20 bulls and 40 females of excellent quality will be offered.

Alaska Fur Trade Hits 7-Year Low

Kodiak, Alaska.—War in the Aleutians has not knocked out Alaska's fur trade, but shipments during 1942 were the lowest in seven years, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service reported.

Total value of the 371,476 pelts shipped in 1942 was \$1,697,471 as compared to 608,419 pelts valued at \$2,280,583 shipped in 1941.

Let's accept restrictions cheerfully and talk about the blessings we retain.

Attorney Refuses 'Place In Heaven'

Holy City, Cal.—When attorney Melvin Bell presented a bill for legal fees of \$7,500 to "Father" William E. Riker, founder of Holy City, the latter paid \$2,500 and offered to reserve him a place in heaven for the other \$5,000.

Bell refused, declared an attorney could not get into heaven for that price. The courts will settle the matter.

Ecuador is selling more coffee than ever to Chile.

Neglect Shortens The Life Of The Spraying Outfit

Neglect in cleaning, lubricating, adjusting and storing sprayers shortens the life of a machine more than the actual work done says W. R. Garriss, Extension plant pathologist of N. C. State College. He urges every grower to take such good care of his sprayer that it will last for the duration of the war.

He pointed out that sprayers are attacked by corrosive materials in the spray when they are idle, and, for this reason, they should be thoroughly cleaned after using. Since this corrosion goes on each hour the machine stands neglected, Garriss suggested that during the active season growers wash out the sprayer each night with clear water.

When not in actual use, the sprayer should be kept under a good shelter. If stored for any length of time, it should have those parts subject to rust covered with a coat of ordinary motor oil.

Garriss said that if simple adjustments are made as soon as the need develops, many breakdowns can be avoided. Growers, already handicapped by a lack of help, cannot afford to have sprayers stand idle with so much work to be done. Although the implement dealers and manufacturers are doing everything possible to keep all machines in operation, repair parts will be hard to get when breakdowns occur.

Auckland, New Zealand, momentarily forgot the war when an opossum rode on a dog's back down the main street.



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