

MAN WHO FAILS SOMETIMES LAZY

Writer in Poultry Journal Tells of Reasons Why Some Men Fail To Make Birds Pay

The man who fails with poultry is sometimes lazy. He would rather lie in bed on a cold morning or swing in a hammock on a hot day than "bother" with the birds. He cannot see the need of "fussing" with the little chicks; nor of fresh water once or more daily; nor of keeping houses and yards "spick and span" clean; nor of always fighting vermin; nor, in brief, of any of the routine duties which successful men insist upon as a matter of course.

The man who fails is sometimes a fool. He reads the glowing fairy tales told by truth-killing grammar-butcher-fakers, of some woman reaching down into her inside pocket and handing out a "five thousand dollar bill and five five hundred dollar bills" for half a dozen birds; or of thousands of gullible people viewing a hen said to be valued at thousands of dollars (the original hen, as the gawks should know, died years ago); or perhaps he has read of three-day-old chicks being sold for \$100; or of some fat old hen laying 263 eggs in 272 days which is at the rate of 352 in a year. If he has read these lies, and is idiotic enough to believe them, he is foolish enough to believe that he, too, can swindle people in the same way. Of course he fails, because every greedy, plundering knave fails sooner or later, as our prison records show.

The man who fails sometimes lacks judgment. He may be honest; he may work hard early and late; but because of poor management he makes no more progress than a whale trying to swim in a foot of water. He puts cheap stock into elaborate houses, he puts good stock into draughty, leaky out-buildings; he overfeeds, underfeeds or fails to give the right sort of feed; he breeds fancy stock and neither exhibits nor advertises; he does not look after little things, forgetting that these very "little things" make up the sum of success; in short, he lacks what is commonly called "horse sense."

The man who fails is often a beginner who has been duped by knaves who should be wearing convict stripes instead of being touted and praised, as some of them are. He reads in supposedly "reliable" poultry papers of a "system" whereby a clear profit of \$2,880 can be made in one year from 24 hens—which is at the rate of \$120 per year from each hen; or of a "strain" of big birds which "lay when two and a half months old"; or of a single bird producing 300 chicks in twelve months; or of anything else equally absurd and criminally false. Being wholly inexperienced he cannot see the absurdity of these lies, and he "bites," as the sordid knaves expect him to do. As a result he loses his money and time; and failure, for which he is not to blame, results.—G. F. Townsend, in American Poultry Advocate.

POULTRY-KEEPING

A Practical Consideration of the Finance of It

Of course, poultry cannot be kept by everyone. Some amount of land is essential, but it is surprising what good results can be obtained by the enthusiast on a very small area. The secret lies in having just as many birds as can be adequately accommodated.

There is a never-falling demand for fresh-laid eggs. Hence the poultry-keeper has no difficulty in finding a market for his produce; while provided the most suitable breeds of fowls are kept and a correct system of feeding is adopted, eggs can be obtained all through the winter months when the market price is high.

A hen of a good laying strain should average 150 eggs per annum. If she produces a less number than this, she is not worth keeping.

Only pure-bred specimens of a good laying strain should be kept, for, contrary to popular belief, "mongrels" and cross-breeds are not the best layers.

Breeding fowls for exhibition is a very different matter, and there are hundreds of men who rely solely upon the profits of this branch of poultry-keeping. Many are making very substantial incomes, and scattered over the country are thousands of "hobbyist" fanciers who obtain for their birds prices of sufficient magnitude to make the utilitarian turn green with envy. Eggs for hatching from such valuable birds naturally command high prices per dozen eggs.

Breeding exhibition birds, when one has become known as a breeder, is much more remunerative and, withal, more interesting than utility breeding. The initial cost of the stock birds, however, far exceeds that of utility specimens.

To be successful as an exhibitor one must specialize in some one particular breed or variety; the most successful fanciers of the day are specialists.

It need not be thought that a large area of ground is necessary for exhibition poultry-keeping. Many of the

leading winners of the year are bred by working men in back-yard runs. Bantams can be kept in very confined quarters.

There is never any difficulty in selling first-class birds. The professional exhibitor will be glad to buy them at a good price. It is the second and third-raters that are so difficult to dispose of at their approximate value.

ONION VS. APPLE

Appropos the fact that an apple a day will keep the doctors away, it is now pointed out that an onion a day will keep everybody away.

ONTARIO PEACHES SENT TO ENGLAND

General Opinion Seems to be That Departure Has Been of a Most Encouraging Nature

The trial shipment of Ontario peaches to the Old Country is a departure into new trade channels worthy of the fullest encouragement. Some have been rather skeptically inclined regarding the advisability of such an adventure, but when it is remembered that, for the best English hot-house peaches the consumers readily pay sixty cents a piece, one must admit, says The Farmers' Advocate, that Canadian shippers can accept prices far below that and still enjoy a profitable trade.

Several shipments have been made from the Niagara Peninsula this season under the direction of the Fruit Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. Up to a fortnight since, 1,500 packages had been shipped from Mr. Dobson's peach ranch at Jordan Harbor and about 1,400 for the St. Catharines Cold Storage Co. in addition to several smaller private shipments.

For this trade the fruit is specially packed in a box about 17 inches long, 11½ wide, and 3½ deep. No blemished, fully ripe or uneven fruit is packed. A layer of wood wool is placed in the bottom of the box, each peach is wrapped in tissue paper, then individually nested in wood wool, and finally a layer of wood wool is placed on top. Thus, about twenty peaches in a single layer is put in one package. As soon as possible after coming from the tree, the fruit is cooled in cold storage, then expressed to Montreal, and shipped in cold storage. The cost of a box is between 4c. and 6c.; wood wool laid down costs about 8½c. per pound, the cost being partly due to the lack of a sufficiently fine grade in Canada. Another method of packing is being tried, wherein the peaches are all nested together in the centre, with wood wool on all six sides of them.

Reports of the marketing had not yet been received, save on Mr. Dobson's first lot. These sold at five shillings per case of Crawford peaches, or about \$1.23, which, after all expenses, would leave a very nice profit.

Regarding this fruit, the London Daily Telegram said:

"Taking into consideration that the shipment under notice is an early one, the quality of the peaches is quite satisfactory. The variety is the Early Crawford, and most of the specimens are good and juicy. To compare the fruit with the finest grown in English hot-houses is not only unfair, but it is absurd. In the first place, there is a vast difference in price, best English peaches being worth 2s. 6d. each, whereas the Canadians can be bought for 6d. Ontario shippers have made a good start by sending "free-stone" fruit, the only kind for which there is a demand in this country. Peaches with stones adhering firmly to the flesh are quite useless on our market. Very soon there will be available the Elberta, which is superior in quality and shape to the Crawford."

COLD STORAGE OF APPLES IN IOWA

Results of Experiments are Made Public—Better to Put Fruit in Storage As Soon as Picked

The result of some investigations in the cold storage of apples in Iowa has recently been made public. The fruit was held in storage at a temperature of 34 degrees during one winter, and 23 degrees the following winter. Firm, hard, well-colored fruit kept best. Northwestern Greenings of this type remained in good condition a month longer than poorly colored, early picked fruit. Fruit stored immediately after picking was in better condition and lasted longer after removal from storage than samples which were harvested at the same time and kept in an open shed for two weeks before being placed in cold storage.

No advantage was found in wrapping the apples in paper, except with the more tender varieties. With some varieties, such as the North-western Greening, no difference was noted between the different ways of packing. Wealthy apples kept best in boxes, bruising was greater in barrels and shrinkage was greater in slat crates than in either boxes or barrels. Practically these same results were obtained some years ago by the federal bureau of plant industry.

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HOW TO TREAT WINTER COUGHS

Aged People and Children are Often Sorely Afflicted During the Cold Weather

Many aged people regularly develop a cough the beginning of every winter, which lasts until the warm season. They often shut themselves in, and do not look out of doors, for fear of taking cold, until May weather comes again.

But they have one cold after another, and when really wintry weather comes they grow thin, become pale, weak, and anaemic, and expect to die each winter. Nevertheless, when the warm weather comes, and a more active out-of-doors life, they pick up again, and pass the summer months with comfort.

Much can be done to lessen the severity of these coughs and improve the general health and prolong life.

The quantity and quality of the food should be strictly regulated, so as to avoid over-eating, thus taxing the liver kidneys, and impeding the action of the heart and lungs. Flesh meats should be only eaten once a day, and in moderate quantity. Good milk, eggs, bread, butter, with ripe fruit, and a moderate amount of fresh vegetables and salads, is the ideal diet for these patients. Alcoholic drinks should be avoided.

Good Ventilation

Well-ventilated sleeping-rooms, and as much out-of-door exercise daily as will make them tired, without extreme fatigue, should be taken summer and winter. Twice a week the patient should have a warm bath to induce free perspiration, and then a cold sponge after.

Anaemic patients need treatment to improve the digestion, and gentle massages, oil rubs, and cold short sponges daily.

They should not shut themselves up in the house, but get out of doors in the sun every clear day in the winter.

A hot fomentation over the chest at bed-time, followed by an oil-rub, will often relieve the cough, and insure a good night's sleep.

There should be free action of the bowels daily. A high dry, bracing place, where the patient can spend a large portion of the daytime in the open air, and inhale outside air at night, will greatly benefit all these patients. Often they will be so much better as to almost forget they were ever sufferers from asthma, chronic cough, shortness of breath, and a weak heart.

Coughs in Children

In children one of the most frequent causes of persistent cough is the stopping up of the nostrils by what is known as adenoid growths. A great many of these children are mouth breathers. The throat becomes dry and irritated, rest is disturbed, and the digestive organs are interfered with. The cough and difficult breathing are often aggravated by errors in diet. We find these little patients often ill after some holiday feast, when the stomach has been upset by too much rich food.

A persistent cough in children is sometimes due to chronic constipation, and ceases as soon as the bowels become regular. Living in rooms with leaking gas, oil lamps, and chimneys with defective flues which do not draw well, cause an irritation.

Find Out the Cause

In a great many cases a doctor will be required to remove the growth in the nostrils and cure the little one of the habit of breathing through the mouth. It often takes a great deal of care and watching to break the habit of mouth-breathing. Such children should not breathe either too hot or dry air, or pass suddenly from an over-heated atmosphere to one cold and damp.

For a child over three years, unless very weak, the neck and chest should be sponged with cold water daily, to accustom the skin to endure sudden changes of weather. The legs and feet should be kept dry, and the habit of changing the footwear should be formed. Sitting round a fire in damp shoes and stockings has caused much ill-health both in adults and children.

A steam inhalation at bedtime, with a warm drink, a thorough oil rubbing both back and front, until the skin is red, will often relieve the tendency to cough.

INDIANS' "HIDDEN RIVER"

Region About Scene of Mayflower Disaster is Very Picturesque

The section of country through which the ill-fated steamer Mayflower for years plied her trips between Combermere and Barry's Bay is probably one of the most picturesque in Ontario. From the shore the banks slope to towering heights along the greater part of the way.

The shores in some places along the route are sandy while in others the rock rises straight out of the water. The country is sparsely settled and the clearings are not large, although it is an old settled district. Only about one-quarter of the land is fit for cultivation, which accounts for the small, irregular fields seen from the river and lake and which resemble tiny patches in the forest. Blueberry patches are seen here and there along the banks in which the Mayflower's passengers, as the boat glided along, were often treated to the sight of bears feeding on the berries during the summer season. The entire district was formerly a pine timber limit and owned by the old Skead Lumber Company, which had its headquarters at Ottawa. Fire swept over a great part of the limit about thirty years ago and the old pine tree trunks are still to be seen standing from Combermere southward.

From Combermere eastward the banks of the Madawaska river are very steep for the greater part, as far as White Lake. Madawaska is in Indian language "hidden river," so called because the valley through which it runs is so deep.

SEEING INTO SPACE

Distance to Which the Modern Telescope can Penetrate

With his forty-foot reflector Sir William Herschel perceived stars whose light, he concluded, had occupied 2,000,000 years in reaching the earth.

His belief that he had seen further into space than any other human being before him is pronounced a just one by that noted astronomer, Dr. T. J. See. The visual power of Herschel's telescope is somewhat surpassed by modern instruments, and much additional power is given to the modern instrument by the use of photography. But on the other hand account has now to be taken of the extinction of light by cosmical dust in space.

Neglecting this, Herschel slightly overestimated the distance to which his telescope could penetrate. With the greatest modern instruments and the use of photography, it is certain, Dr. See says that stars at a distance of over 2,000,000 light years can now be observed. It is very probable that the most up-to-date instruments can penetrate to a depth of about 5,000,000 light years.

Pocket Testament League

The growth of the Pocket Testament League, which has for its object not merely the carrying of the Bible, but a more faithful service, to show to the world that the Bible is the secret of all success in individual and national life, and to increase the effectiveness of church work and develop the spirituality of every member, has been rapid. The work, commenced in Canada in May 1911 but to-day there are 30,000 members while the branches number 600.

Tested in Water

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Wheat, Scotch or Fife, 82c. to 85c.
Wheat, fall, 90 to 92
Wheat, spring, 80 to 82
Barley, per bushel, 50 to 60
Oats, per bushel, 33 to 35
Pease, per bushel, 90 to 100
Buckwheat, 45c. to 50
Potatoes, bush, 40 to 45
Butter, per pound, 26 to 27
Eggs, per dozen, 28 to 30
Hay, per ton, \$8 to \$10
Hides, \$10.00 to 12.00
Hogs, live, \$6.25 to \$7.75
Beef, \$ 8.00 to \$9
Sheepskins, 50 to 80
Wool, 12 to 17
Flour, Samson, \$2.80 to \$3.00
Flour, Winnipeg \$2.70 to \$2.90
Flour, Silver Leaf, \$2.50 to \$2.70
Flour, Victoria, \$2.45 to \$2.65
Flour, new process, \$2.40 to \$2.60
Flour, family, clipper, \$2.35 to \$2.55
Bran, per 100 pounds, \$1.30 to \$1.40
Shorts, do., \$1.40 to \$1.45
Mixed Chop, do., \$1.40 to \$1.50
Corn Chop, do., \$1.00 to \$1.70

STRAY STEER.

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