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BRITAIN DEMANDS MORE FALL EGGS, SAYS O A C POULTRY HEAD

Mr. J. A. Peacock, Director of Egg Supplies for the British Ministry of Food, on his recent visit to Canada regarding egg contracts emphasized that a larger proportion of our eggs must be supplied in the Fall season from fresh receipts if further contracts beyond 1948 are to be negotiated. This means higher Fall production by Canada's poultry flocks, otherwise a large part of the present export demand will disappear and the industry will be faced with a twenty-five to thirty-per cent cut in our present poultry population.

This presents a distinct challenge to the Poultry Industry which the producers can meet just as they have met others. During the war years production reached to an unthought-of level in answer to a challenge for more eggs for Britain. This new challenge is not one for further increase in producing population but by a reorganized program to move our present production program forward a month to six weeks, earlier. Immediate action is necessary if the initial part of the challenge is to be met in 1947. We must show some improvement in Fall egg supply next year or otherwise the industry may not be so fortunate as to get a contract with Great Britain for 1948. If the industry wants a renewal of the contract it must be prepared to meet the other party's demands.

The problem is not as great, perhaps, as it may first appear. It simply means that if each purchaser of chicks will take delivery four to six weeks earlier than in the past, sufficient pullets would be fully developed, ready to start laying early in September to supply the 1,000,000 cases called for and possibly an additional 600,000 as well. This idea of earlier chicks is not new, as more and more people have been getting their chicks earlier each year, from April or May to Mar., February or even January.

It is possibly true that a January chick may cost slightly more to rear than a May bird with respect to food, fuel and housing. It is also true that winter-hatched birds develop into better birds than those of late hatches; the pullets lay from one to three dozen more eggs in their first year; mortality in the growing birds will not be over half that common in late May and June-hatched birds. There is also a premium of at least six cents a dozen on all eggs supplied from September first to January thirty-first

under the present contract.

This is not a case of a further increase in population. That is not what is the present critical feed situation will not support a larger population. It is simply a case of everyone possible starting their chicks earlier, so that, allowing six months to grow, the pullets will be ready to lay next September.

It is important to check the brooding pens and equipment to make sure they are adequate in every way for the job. Then secure a supply of fuel and feed a month before they will be needed. If you have not yet done so, make arrangements for your chicks so you can get them started a month earlier than last year. Do so at once. Remember, one February-hatched pullet, properly reared will more than equal three hatched in June receiving equal care in filling the Fall contract for eggs.

This challenge can be met as effectively as those in the past. Continuity of supply will help maintain continuity of demand. The poultry producers of Canada cannot afford to lose the outlet for eggs provided by the present British contract and their renewal. It is of vital importance to every producer of eggs in Canada, so let's prove the job can be done.

HARVEY NURSE OUTSTANDING IN DEWAR SHOOTING MATCH

In the November issue of Rod and Gun, Harvey Nurse of Ashgrove is prominently mentioned as one of the outstanding marksmen at the Lord Dewar match on Labor Day. The Match, held at the Canadian National Vancouver Ranges at Lachine was the first international event since 1941.

Mr. Nurse, with 391-20x was high scorer and won the Macdonald's British Consols trophy which carries the Canadian open outdoor championship. He also received the A. Stuart Bea memorial trophy after defeating some of Canada's finest marksmen. Mr. Nurse was a prominent member of the Norval Rifle Club which until its disbandment a few years ago did much to encourage the art of shooting in this district.

ALL-CANADIAN CONTEST FOR BOY AND GIRL CALF CLUB MEMBERS

Announcement has been made that the Holstein - Friesian Association of Canada will again this year sponsor a special Judging Contest amongst Calf Club members throughout the Dominion in connection with the All-Canadian Selections of Holstein cattle. Prizes amounting to \$100 are being

offered to the winners. The Contest is open to all boys and girls who are this year showing Holstein calves in their clubs.

From amongst the animals nominated for All-Canadian consideration, a committee of judges will select up to six in each class. Photos of these selections will be published in the December issue of the Holstein-Friesian Journal. From these pictures, a committee consisting of the judges at the

major shows throughout the Dominion will choose an All-Canadian and a Reserve All-Canadian in each class.

From the published photographs, the competing boys and girls must designate their choice for All-Canadian and Reserve All-Canadian in each class. Points will be awarded for each decision that agrees with the official version, and the prizes will be awarded on the basis of total points scored.

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