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and indigestion and had got to where I simply had to drag myself to the railroad yards in the mornings.

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WEEKLY POULTRY LESSON

Under the Authoritative Direction of
Prof. F. C. Eelford
Dominion Poultry Husbandmen

With Specialized Information
Contributed by G. W. Miller
Author of Coldbelt Poultry Course.

A PRACTICAL PLAN TO ELIMI-
NATE THE NON-PRODUC-
ING HEN.

From this time on throughout the summer the egg production of the average flock begins to fall, as a result of certain hens continuing to lay under conditions which are not ideal. It is of utmost importance that these birds be eliminated from the flock as soon as you can tell them from the layers, thereby keeping up the flock average. The total profits which a flock will return above their cost of maintenance for the year depends in a

large way upon the elimination of the non-producer during the summer.

Causes of Non-Production—

If a bird stops laying at this time of year, her failure to produce may be due to one or two reasons. The bird may lack the good health, vigor and stamina to lay heavily over a long period; the bird hasn't the breeding behind it to keep up heavy production, and therefore weakens, grows thin, molts, and stops laying. The other cause which induces poor production is the environment of the birds; in other words—poor management, lack of green feed, not enough roost room, poorly ventilated houses, or some other detail which might have been overlooked, with the result that the flock was thrown out of condition.

Factors Which Identify the Non-Producer—

In culling the flock there are certain factors all of which should be taken into consideration before the bird is taken out of the laying pen to be sold and eaten. A certain order should be followed in studying the birds so that they may be handled quickly and the final decision made correctly.

Health and Vigor—

A sick bird should be immediately disposed of. It is incapable of production and therefore unprofitable. Vigor and condition of flesh are factors which go hand in hand. Vigor is indicated by activity about the pen, the bird being alert, and consuming feed in such a way as to give the impression of having a ravenous appetite. Weight should be kept at normal.

Head Best Indication—

A laying condition in a bird is more quickly told by the quality of the head and adjuncts than in any other way. The head of a layer is fine, broad, stocky and well-proportioned, with a lean face, a full, round, prominent, alert eye, a well curved beak of medium length, with bright red comb and wattles.

Condition of Vent—

The condition of the vent is one of the best bases of calculating whether a bird is producing eggs or not, as this is one of the first parts of the body to change with the condition of the bird. A bird in laying condition will have a broad vent, which is very moist and shows no pigment, while a bird that has stopped laying has a vent that is dry and puckered up and shows some yellow around the edge.

When a bird starts to molt she usually stops laying, because any surplus food she eats over that required for maintenance is required for feather production, rather than egg production. Only late molters should be kept for breeders.

Handling Qualities—

Although body type can be seen as the hen walks around the pen, the finer points which are so essential in selecting the best birds cannot be found until the bird is handled. The skin of a heavy producer still laying is thin and loose, and is soft and pliable to the touch, the keel bone is moder-

ately straight and long, and the space between the rear of the keel bone and the pelvic bones is quite large and free from hard fat. Associated with depth of body should be a moderately long, wide back, which carries well back and does not slope down at the saddle.

The pigmentation test is of little value, except with yellow skinned or shanked varieties. The yellow fades out with production. A bird that retains this pigmentation is an indifferent layer.

Questions on This Week's Lesson—

1. Why should the non-producers be eliminated from the laying flock?
2. What are the chief causes of non-production in the Summer?
3. What are the chief physical indications of a hen's fecundity?
4. Where would you look first to learn whether a hen is laying or not?

Answers to Last Week's Questions—

1. Hens, to lay well in summer, must be kept in good physical condition, and care must be exercised to keep them from becoming overfat.
2. Hens may be prevented from going into an early molt by feeding a greater proportion of mash in the warm months than in the winter. Mash is not so fattening as whole grain.
3. Hens require this large proportion of mash principally in July and August. At this time they should be given the smallest ration of whole grain necessary to keep them in good condition.
4. Green feed must be given layers the year round. After this is neglected in the summer months with serious results so far as egg production is concerned.

JUNETOWN BUDGET.

Miss Orma Fortune Wedded to Ross Steacy, Lansdowne.

Junetown, Sept. 5.—Mrs. Clinton Avery is recovering from an operation in the Brockville General Hospital. Mr. and Mrs. J. Sheridan, Brockville, were here on Sunday to see her aunt, Mrs. A. B. Ferguson, who is ill. Mr. and Mrs. Claud Purvis and children spent Sunday in Lansdowne with her mother, Mrs. W. H. Foley. Francis Fortune, Toronto, spent the week-end with his parents here.

On Monday morning, Sept. 1st, at Gananoque, Miss Orma Fortune was married to Ross Steacy, Lansdowne. Rev. Mr. Kidd officiated.

Miss Belva Purvis leaves to-day for her home in Pasadena, Cal., after spending the summer with relatives here. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Hagerman, Athens, and Andrew Hagerman, Peterboro, were recent visitors at W. H. Ferguson's. Mr. and Mrs. W. Sheffield, Athens, spent Sunday at Arden Warren's.

Mrs. Eliza Franklin spent the week-end with Mrs. M. Kirkwood, Rockport. Mr. and Mrs. Carl Burnham and Doris, Mallorytown, visited on Friday at G. Graham's.

School re-opened on Tuesday with Miss Beatrice Avery as teacher. Several from here attended the English church supper at Ballycanoe on Wednesday evening.

LATE W. J. BUELL.

A Prominent Cheese Manufacturer of Gravel Hill.

Maxville, Sept. 6.—Thers died at his residence at Gravel Hill, Ont., on Thursday, Aug. 28th, William J. Buell, son of the late William J. Buell, of Caintown. The late Mr. Buell was fifty-five years of age, and followed the cheese-manufacturing

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