

Agricultural News

P. E. I. Department of Agriculture

LIGHTING FOR PRODUCTION

Within the past 15 years, artificial lighting of laying flocks has been accepted as one of the primary requirements of a good laying operation. Poultry authorities agree that along with good feed and good housing as being one of the most important factors in getting year-around profits from laying flocks.

As long ago as 1900, poultry authorities began to investigate the possibility of providing laying flocks with artificial lighting during the winter months. Their thinking was that the flock should be lighted at all times, for no other reason than that the birds could eat more and be more active, and consequently produce more eggs.

While watching the development and observing the results of artificially lighting laying flocks, various poultry raisers began to get interested as to exactly why the amazing results were produced. The natural assumption was that the birds were active longer and had more opportunity to lay eggs when they were lighted. Also, it was well-known that the birds must eat more feed if they were to produce more eggs and tests were instituted to determine exactly how much more feed they consumed.

Out of this research, developed an entirely new idea as to why artificial lighting produced such good results. It was found that the birds ate very little more feed when they were lighted than when they were not. Also, they still kept a good portion of the time. Consequently something else must be causing the hens to lay more eggs.

Extensive research found that the light rays had a definite effect on the reproductive organs, through the pituitary glands, of the hens. Either sunlight or light rays from incandescent bulbs produced the same results. It was found that if the birds did not receive these rays for a period of at least 12 to 14 hours a day, their reproductive organs would recede to the point where they would not lay eggs, or their production greatly curtailed. As soon as the lights were again put into effect and the 12 to 14 hour day simulated, the birds' reproductive organs responded accordingly.

Now the researchers had something definite to work on. They continued to observe chickens, both lighted and unlighted, and found that they produced the maximum the year around if they were lighted from 12 to 14 hours a day. Any more lighting than this did not have any further effect on their reproductive organs and consequently was useless.

While all research men agreed as to the benefits of artificial lighting, they did not all agree as to how it should be applied. Some men thought that light should be applied in the morning only permitting the poultry house to darken at night normally and the chickens go to roost normally. Others thought that the day should be extended at both ends.

In order to do this satisfactorily it was necessary to somehow get the chickens on the roost before the light went out entirely. It was found that sudden turning off of lights threw the birds into confusion and worse results were obtained than if no artificial lights were used. Consequently, they asked time control manufacturers to build a time switch which would provide a short period of dim lights at the time it was desired to have the lights go off at night, enough light to permit the birds to find their way to the roost but still dim enough to make them want to go to roost. It was found that this period should be about 20 minutes long. This did not present any particular problem to manufacturers and synchronous-motored controls were developed for this purpose.

It has now been definitely proven that it does not make any difference when the artificial light is applied, so long as 12 to 14 hours a day is provided. However, a number of poultry raisers prefer to use morning and evening lighting, as it is now called, simply because this gives them a regular working day throughout the entire year. Others prefer the morning lighting only since this eliminates the difficulties encountered in providing a dim circuit before lights out.

The amount of light necessary has also been very carefully investigated. It has been found that one 60-watt bulb for approximately 200 sq. ft. of floor space is adequate. Any more than this does not produce any greater results. In most poultry houses, this means that one 60-watt bulb must be put in at 10-foot intervals the length of the building. To produce the required dimming, it was found that one 15-watt bulb for every two 60-watt bulbs produced the desired result. These are now standard recommendations.

It is also possible to make some very definite calculations as to the exact value of a poultry house lighting switch to the poultry producer. By using United States Department of Agriculture records over the past 25 years, it can be shown quite conclusively that artificial lighting laying flocks will increase the gross of a laying flock approximately \$20. per 100 hens per year.

In 1949 Cornell University completed a three year test in which they proved that a laying flock properly lighted, produced \$47. worth of eggs per hundred hens per year, more than an unlighted flock. This was, of course, based on prevailing prices at that time. These results showed that a high producing flock produced an average of ten more eggs per hen when lighted, but the majority of the profit was obtained from producing eggs in the winter when eggs were high priced and producing less in the spring months when eggs are relatively low priced.

What this means to the poultry producer is that he can pay for a poultry house lighting time switch and the complete installation about three times over in one year, from every 100 hens he has.

It can be definitely stated that an artificial lighting control system installed in a poultry house, will produce as many dollars additional profits per dollar invested as any other equipment that can be used on a laying farm.

INFORMATION?

Now that the long winter evenings are here it is a good time to catch up on reading. All those articles in farm magazines which caught our eye last summer but with no time for reading were laid aside, may be taken out and examined more closely. In the last issue of a quarterly farm magazine there are excellent articles on swine feeding, pasture management, machinery, insects, stall construction, etc. Some of the articles may not apply to our type of farming but many are useful and interesting. It is truly amazing the number of farm publications being circulated devoted entirely to Agriculture. Even the ads are often interesting and contain useful ideas.

Another source of information and new ideas on farming is the stock of bulletins and leaflets printed by the various branches of your Department of Agriculture. This material is available, free of cost, just for the asking. The older bulletins were often lengthy and sometimes difficult to understand. The result was that many readers never got beyond the first page. However, this has all been changed. Attractive leaflets, with color pictures, printed in every day language dealing with one topic are available with one phrase of farm, home and garden endeavors. For example, there is a three-page circular (one full sheet, folded in 2 places) dealing with sweet corn. Under the heading of varieties, soils, fertilizer, planting, cultivation and care, harvesting and marketing, yield, preparation for the table and pest control, we find everything we need to know in growing sweet corn. Information of this type has been printed to answer enquiries received by Agricultural Representatives who cannot possibly have all the facts at their fingertips. Write or visit your Department of Agriculture.

"HIGH COST MACHINERY"

Everyone will agree that it costs a lot of money to equip a farm with the necessary machinery. But just what is the necessary machinery for the modern farm? In order to answer that question one would have to first decide in a business-like way just which combination of machines and size of each machine will actually represent an investment in this business called farming. Too many or too few machines will not do the job most efficiently. In the same way a tractor which is too big for the equipment it is expected to pull or for the size of the farm represents a loss on the investment.

The next thing which must be considered is the long-term outlook. Is this combination of machines going to be flexible enough to be adapted to changing farm conditions, crops, etc. In other words it would be unwise to invest in an expensive piece of specialized machinery when the prospects for a strong, steady market for that particular crop is doubtful. Many of the newer machines are designed to do more than one job on the farm. This again will help to reduce overhead costs provided full use is made of the machine.

However, neglect is the most costly item—neglect of high cost machines makes them very expensive machines. Modern power machinery requires more special care due to the fact that there are generally more working parts. This involves regular greasing, oiling, and adjusting.

The most frequent type of neglect is observed after the machine has been used. Too often it is left in the corner of the barnyard to rust and rot until needed again. The plow is a very good example. The hours spent scouring dusty shares and the extra power required to overcome clogging moldboards in one year would easily pay for a bit of grease or rust—preventing compound for the life of the plow—to say nothing of the extra wear and tear caused by rust.

In the same way the useful life of any machine may be greatly prolonged by keeping it lubricated, adjusted, repaired, free from corrosion and rust, and under cover when not in use. This is something we can all do to lower the cost of machinery—this is a good time to do it.

CITY AND CENTRAL

ROY'S TAXI Dial 6560-6568.

CRASWELL for Better Photographs.

COLORED ISLAND VIEWS. — Craswell Studio.

BELANGER RANGES for coal wood or oil. Bryenton & MacKay.

A GROUP OF WINTER COATS clearing at 20% off regular price. The Gloria.

"YOUR DOLLAR BUYS MORE" — at the HUGHES DRUG STORE.

STOCK CLEARANCE SALE, J. P. MacPherson & Son.

MARY BARRON SILK CREPE SLIPS. Sizes 32 to 40. Gift Boxed. Only \$2.98. The Gloria.

"WE TREAT THE SICK WELL" Giggey's Pharmacy, open evenings 'till 8 o'clock.

LITTLE THEATRE Guild presents for its members "The Whitehead Boy" in the Queen Charlotte High School auditorium Thursday, Dec. 9 at 8:15 p.m. Membership tickets available at the door.

SPECIAL — Lace trimmed Nylon SLIPS. Size 32 to 40. Gift Boxed. Only \$2.98. The Gloria.

JOHNSON & JOHNSON Drug Store, will be open all day to-day. Dial 4122. We deliver.

COAL — We are well supplied with American Egg, Old Sydney, Springhill; also American and Walsh Hard Coal. W. D. Gillis.

WANTED citizens with experience in model building to assist with construction of Model of Old Charlottetown in 1855. Call Charlottetown Centennial Committee 9121 9 to 5 p.m.

HAVE ONE ONLY Twin Exhaust and Muffler set for late Olds. Reduced price on this item. One only Gyro Stabilizer prevents car skidding. Special price on this item. Tanton's Accessories, Charlottetown. P. E. Island.

Persons

Mrs. Earl Stewart and son, Jackie, Edward Street, are spending two weeks visiting friends and relatives in Boston.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of

W. C. MACLEOD

who passed away December 8, 1945.

Always Remembered by his Wife and Family.

IN MEMORIAM

In loving memory of Father, Pte. Fred Walker, died December 8th, 1944.

Memories are treasures no one can steal.

Death is a heartache no one can heal.

Some may forget you.

Now that you are gone.

But we will remember you

No matter how long.

Always Remembered by Daughter, Margaret Mossman.

NATIONAL C. G. I. T. Christmas Vesper Service, Charlottetown Baptist Church, 7 p. m. Sunday, December 13th.

ELECT OFFICERS — Lorne, L.O.L. DeSable, held their annual meeting, election, and installation of officers on Thursday, December 2. The election was under direction of E. C. Holm, P.T.M. and the officers installed by A. Shaw, Marshal. Lunch was served by the lodge committee. Following officers were elected: Wor. Mas. Clifton Ince; Deputy Mas. Edwin Bell; Chaplain, Vincent MacKenzie; Recording Secretary, B. C. Holm; Financial Secretary, Waldron How-

att; Treasurer, Wilfred Ferguson; Marshal, Manford Beer; 1st Lecturer, James Ferguson; 2nd Lecturer, Seldon MacLean; 1st Com. Man. Alex Ferguson.

ANNUAL MEETING — Hamilton L. O. L. Clyde River held their annual meeting on Thursday evening, December 2 in the Lodge room. After the worship and business period the following officers were appointed by the ensuing year: W. M. Elmer; Friszell; Deputy W. M. Howard Murray; Financial Secretary, Gordon MacKinnon; Recording Secretary, Harold Scott; Treasurer, Colin MacPhail; Chaplain, Colin Murray; First Lecturer, K.

B. Young; Second Lecturer, John Murray; Marshal, Heber MacLean; and Guardian, John A. MacKinnon. The installation service was conducted by Lindsay Coles assisted by Robert Carter of Barton Lodge, Milton.

COLD AFFECTS SUBWAY

TORONTO (CP)—Canada's first subway got its first cold-weather test Monday morning and failed. Temperatures of 12 degrees caused condensation in air brake lines. Toronto Transit Commission officials said. Underground traffic was halted for a quarter of an hour when pressure on one train gave out completely.

HEAR

Marian Year play entitled "OUR LADY OF LOURDES"

Over Radio Station CJRW Summerside

On the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, Dec. 8th Between the hours of 9.05 p.m. and 10.00 p.m.



EVERYTHING FOR THE MERRIEST

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BEAUTIFUL SLIPS

of Nylon tricot and Nylon sheer, Nylon lace yokes and frill of lace or knife pleating at bottom.

Colors: White - Blue - Pink.

Sizes 32 - 44

Prices: \$3.98 to \$7.50

HALF SLIPS

of Nylon, plain or knife pleated with lace frills. Small, medium & large.

Prices:

\$4.95 to \$5.95

GOWNS

in luscious shades of blossom pink, sky blue, daffodil, fuschia, lilac, and sea aqua crepe with fitted bodice and lace trim—Nylon sheer and Nylon tricot lace yokes and lace trim. S, M, and Large.

Prices: \$3.98 to \$11.98

NYLON SLIPS

in white embroidered yoke and trim—skirt with stiffened crenolin frill. Sizes 32, 34 and 36.

Special Price: \$3.98

CRINOLINE HALF SLIPS

of crepe, white only — with crisp net flowers, lace trimmed yoke. S, M, and Large.

Price: \$4.98

QUILTED SATIN HOUSECOATS

FLOWERED NYLON HOUSECOATS

Chenille, floor length, rose, blue, fuschia, mauve, pale pink. S, M & Large.

Prices: \$5.98 to \$22.95

The newest in HOUSECOATS—the popular DUSTER — quilted and flowered Nylon, quilted satin, polished cotton, and seersucker Housecoats.

S, M & Large.

Prices: \$3.98 to \$14.98

Special Attention Calling All Men

On the QT get your wife's dress size and come in — pick out a smart dress for her to wear during the holiday season. Courteous salesladies will assist you and gift-wrap your parcel. All sizes and popular prices.

BLOUSES of Alluracel Nylon, Dacron and Crepe—long and short sleeves, high or low necklines. White, pink, blue, tan, green, yellow, red and grey. Prices: \$2.98 to \$8.25.

PLAID SUITS in Ives authentic Tartans tailed jackets, pleated skirts. Price: \$45.98.



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