

# ARIZONA AGRICULTURIST

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## BETTER FOUNDATION STOCK FOR THE POULTRYMAN

By MACK W. GIBBS, '25

The Results of the Arizona Egg Laying Contest, Held at the University for the Past Two Years, Furnish More Proof That Fecundity is Inherited

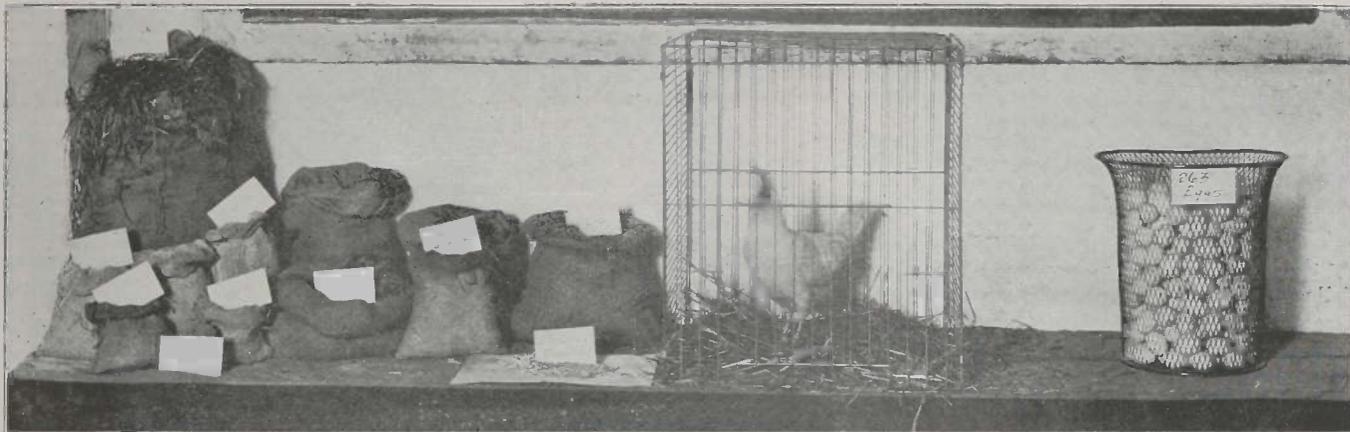
Many poultry keepers are not getting as large returns in the form of eggs as they should obtain from their flocks. This is due, in part, to a lack of good stock. Of course proper blood is not a cure for all ills. Nothing will take the place of proper feeding and care; neither will the best of care make good laying hens of low grade material. What is need-

ed on at the Oregon Agricultural College Experiment Station.

In eight year's time Prof. Dryden improved the Oregon Station's flocks of Barred Rocks and White Leghorns to the extent that they produced nearly one hundred eggs per bird per year more than the fowls he began with. This he did by selecting the best layers and using them for breeding

eral have records ranging from 320 to 330 eggs in a year. The results of Prof. Dryden's breeding work have made Oregon famous for its high producing fowls.

The fact that such striking results were secured by selecting the best birds for breeding purposes shows that high laying quality is inherited. This is further substantiated by the



JUST AN ILLUSTRATION OF THE VALUE OF GOOD-FOUNDATION STOCK. ON THE LEFT IS 78 POUNDS OF RAW MATERIAL, IN THE CENTER IS THE 4-POUND LIVING MACHINE, AND ON THE RIGHT IS THE 33 POUNDS OF MANUFACTURED PRODUCT IN THE FORM OF 263 EGGS.

ed is better foundation stock to produce eggs for hatching.

It is not claimed that all hens hatched from eggs of a poor layer will be scanty producers, nor will all the offsprings of a high producing hen come up to the standard of the parent. However, a flock of hens hatched from eggs of high producing hens will give a much higher average production than a similar flock from poor laying parents.

There is plenty of experimental evidence to substantiate the contention that high fecundity or high egg laying quality is transmitted from parent to offspring. No better evidence could be wished than that contained in the records of experiments car-

ried on at the Oregon Agricultural College Experiment Station.

As a result of his breeding work Prof. Dryden produced, at the Oregon station, the world's first hen to have a trap nest record of over three hundred eggs in a year's time. Another individual was the first hen to have a trap nest record of over one thousand eggs in her lifetime. The former was "Lady MacDuff", one of the station's "Oregons" with a record of 303 eggs in a year, and the latter was a white Leghorn No. A27, which produced 1188 eggs in her life.

These two hens have thousands of descendants throughout the country. A number of the offspring of Lady MacDuff have produced considerably above 300 eggs in a year's time. Sev-

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High records were made each year

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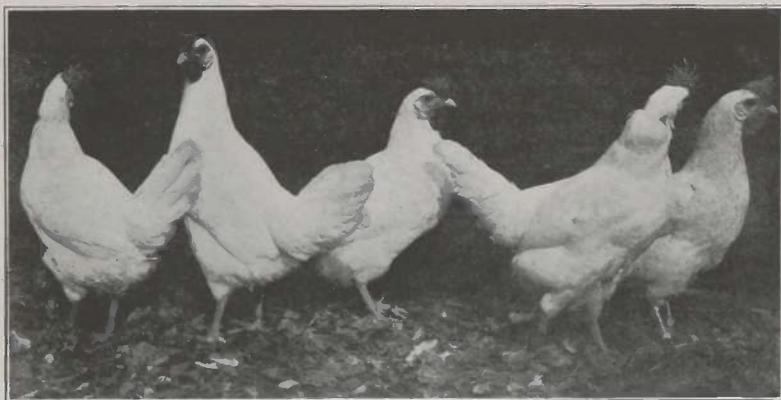
**CENTRAL CREAMERY IS****NEEDED FOR TUCSON**

The fact that Tucson is greatly in need of a centralized creamery that would care for the milk output of the farmers of this district, and that would also encourage the production of milk as a side-line to crop growing, was emphasized by Mr. M. Magenheimer while he was in Tucson. Mr. Magenheimer was one of the chief factors in the organization of the Tucson Farms Company and is still a principal stock holder in the project.

During his brief stay here he brought out many interesting points in regard to the possibility of the farmers increasing their milk output. He says: "Of all the agriculture communities in the country, none enjoy a greater prosperity than those that devote their attention to dairying." "The state of Minnesota is the richest state in the country and its wealth was built on the dairy industry." "Great quantities of butter and other dairy products are shipped into this community from outside, and there is no reason why these products can not be produced here in sufficient quantities to meet the need of this and adjacent communities of Southern Arizona."

"There is a splendid opportunity for a creamery here, and aside from the dairy products such a plant would provide storage facilities for eggs, whose distribution during the summer months had become a serious problem with local poultrymen."

"I know of nothing that would bring additional prosperity to Tucson more surely than would the establishment of a creamery and the development of the dairy industry." "A few cows on any farm will go a long ways toward absorbing the operating expenses and putting cash in the farmer's pocket."



A GROUP OF ARIZONA EGG LAYING CONTEST WINNERS.

(Continued from Page 3.)

by different entries from the same flocks. The average number of eggs produced per hen in the 1924 laying contest was 204.9. The highest record made by a single hen was 274. The highest average for a pen was 252.2 eggs per bird, these birds being the daughters of a single cock. When these figures are compared with the results obtained on many ranches it is obvious that there is need of better foundation stock in many instances.

While large flocks could hardly be expected to make such records as these, some of them should be raised to a higher standard than they maintain at present. It may take a little time to get better stock. If those poultry keepers who buy baby chicks are not getting as good stock as they desire, they should make an effort to locate the best hatcheries and buy from them, or establish a breeding flock of their own.

More attention could be given, by a few people, to breeding high grade fowls to produce eggs for hatching.

People who keep small flocks and do their own breeding can get better results by getting a setting of eggs, or perhaps a male, or a few pullets

and a male, from some reliable breeder who makes a specialty of breeding and who is known to have high quality fowls.

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