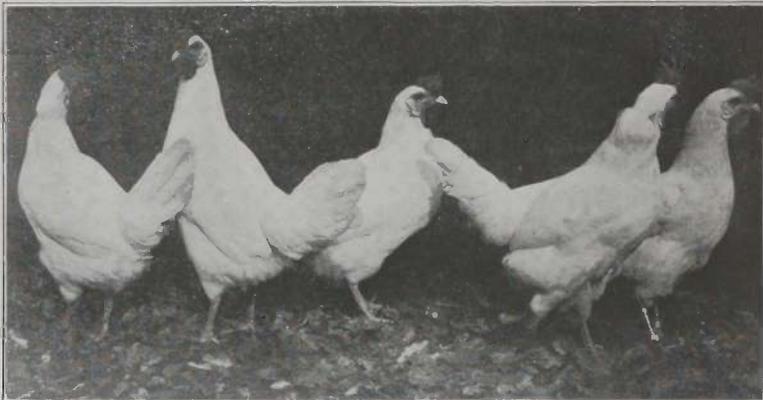


## THE VALUE OF EGG LAYING CONTESTS

By MACK W. GIBBS, '26

Who Has the Best Egg Producers? Arizona's Bid For Honors in this Line Shows Her Among the Best. Annual Egg Laying Contests Show the Possibilities of Egg Production.

**A**S the 1924-25 egg laying contests, held under the direction of the various State Agricultural Colleges, are entering the closing month with the egg records piling high, poultry breeders are taking a keen interest in the results, and are speculating as to what the results will be. Egg laying contests held under the direction of State Agricultural Colleges were begun in one or two states about a decade and a half ago. Connecticut held the first such contest and Missouri soon followed. Since then other states have joined the ranks from time to time until one or more of these contests are now held in nearly every state in the Union. These official egg laying contests serve a number of useful purposes. They not only create interest in poultry breeding, but they show the great possibilities in egg production. The high egg records made by the representatives of good flocks serve as an incentive to all poultrymen to improve their stock and their methods of feeding and caring for their fowls. No poultry



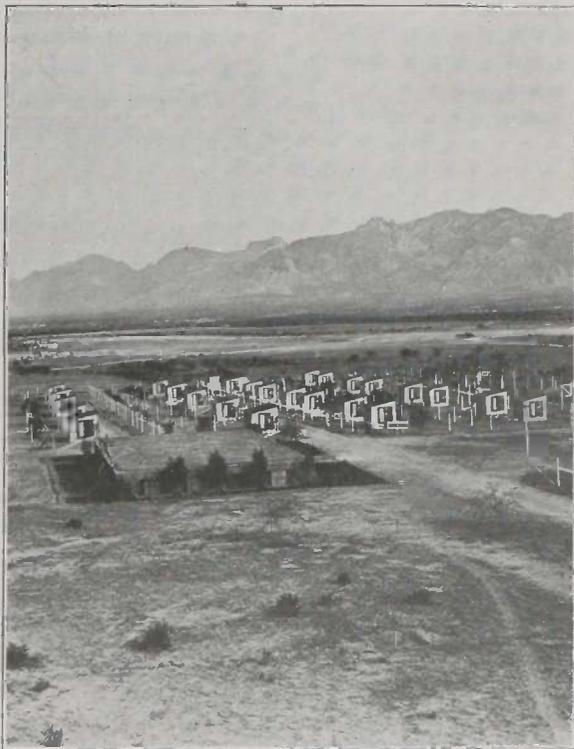
THESE BIRDS WON THE HIGH PEN HONORS IN LAST YEAR'S CONTEST.

keeper should be content to keep low producing flocks and to follow slipshod methods of handling his fowls once he has seen the possibilities of right methods and good birds. The publicity afforded by the laying contests, the results of which are given out each month, keeps the progress of the contests before the public and thus stimulates interest in poultry improvement. These reports, being official, serve as the best and cheap-

est source of advertising that is open to breeders.

Another valuable result of the laying contests is that they furnish a means whereby those wishing good breeding stock may be guided in making their selections. The laying contests also furnish a medium for breeders to have their selecting done by the most accurate methods of trap nesting. Many breeders do not find much time for keeping trap nest records. Birds that make high records during their first year of production can be used as breeding stock the following years.

The contests also give light on the controversy over the question of what is the best breed of fowls for laying purposes. It would be out of place here to attempt to say which is the best breed, or that any one breed is best. A number of different breeds are good producers. However, there are some outstanding indications that certain egg producing breeds, and certain varieties of some breeds, are better producers than others. At the same time the laying contests give some light on the question of feed consumption. Since high producers lay nearly all the year the amount of feed they consume is more or less evenly distributed throughout the year. On the contrary low producers consume considerably more feed in the spring when they are laying than they do in the fall while not laying. Feed records also show the relative amounts of feed consumed by the different breeds and the feed required by each breed to produce a dozen eggs.



POULTRY FARM, UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA—THE HOME OF ARIZONA'S EGG LAYING CONTEST.

The first egg laying contest held under the direction of the Arizona Agricultural College began in November, 1922. It showed that Arizona has fine possibilities in egg production. The second Arizona contest, which closed on October 31, 1924, far surpassed the first in the final egg records obtained. The average production in this contest was 205 eggs each for all hens in the contest, and the highest individual bird record was 274. A number of other hens were very close competition with the high record bird. The third Arizona contest, which will close October 31st of this year, is creating considerable interest among Arizona breeders. The results to date compare favorably with those in other leading contests in the country. Although some of the other contests show somewhat higher records for their highest individual bird, a large percentage of the Arizona entries show high records, and the percentage production for all birds is high in the Arizona contest, only a few states showing higher averages. The figures below show the comparative results in some of the leading contests for which data is available.

**Record of Highest Hen at the End of the First Ten Months of the Contest**

State	No. of eggs
Alabama	250
Arizona	244
Arkansas	250
Calif. (Pomona)	259
Calif. (Santa Cruz)	252
Calif. (Somona County)	250
Missouri	266
Oklahoma	250
Texas	268
Washington	280

**Percentage Production—Average for All Birds for the First Ten Months**

State	Percentage
Alabama	Not given
Arizona	55.5
Arkansas	Not given
Calif. (Pomona)	58.56
Calif. (Santa Cruz)	54.5
Calif. (Somona County)	58.22
Missouri	58.5
Oklahoma	53.1
Texas	Not given
Washington	59.2

The Arizona contest shows that Arizona compares very favorably with any part of the country in poultry possibilities. With good breeding and proper management there is no reason why Arizona should not become one of the leading poultry states.

**DAIRYING SEEMS NOT TO BE OVERDONE**

In the last six years there have only been two years when the cow population has kept up with the human population, according to government figures.

Over 1,000 pounds of milk per head is now consumed in the United States or a total of nearly 115 billion pounds. Last year twenty-six and a quarter million cows produced this milk, or 4,368 pounds per cow.

As we gain about one and a half

million population per year, it will take an annual increase of 375 thousand cows to fill the milk demand, or one cow to each four persons.

But we are not increasing the number of cows, and are only keeping up one-third of the time.

These facts are given that the dairy man who is asking whether there is a tomorrow for him and his business, may have some facts as a basis for the answer, that he will work out for himself. It will also help him in figuring out what kind of cows he had better raise for the future.



**Just A Moment**

**A**UTUMN, to be quickly followed by winter, is upon us. The busy homemaker on the Farm must plan carefully for her family's needs, so that upon her visits to Tucson shopping may be quickly and economically accomplished. To Her we extend our cordial Greetings, and want Her to feel that the STEINFELD STORES are in reality HER STORES for service, and quality merchandise at reasonable prices

**The Best Bargains - - - - -  
Steinfeld's Basement - - - - -**

**I**F YOU have never visited our BASEMENT DEPARTMENT, we want to tell you right now that you are overlooking the biggest opportunity offered you for effecting economy in the purchase of your requirements.

This Department is really a complete Department Store in itself and the values offered in merchandise are the best bargains to be found in Tucson.

The next time you are in Tucson, pay a visit to our Basement Department and convince yourself of the truthfulness of our claims.

Let's get acquainted. We are sure you will find it profitable and you will give us a pleasure in having served you to this end.

**FIVE BASEMENT BARGAINS**

**BLANKETS:** Warm, fleecy cotton quality. In the 81x69-inch size. Pretty, clear, four-inch check-plaid patterns in gold, lavender, brown, and pink. **\$1.95**

**COMFORTS:** Good weight comforts, 60x76-inch size, filled with pure cotton, covered with flowered silkline, and stitched to prevent lumping. Colors are pink, blue and lavender. **\$3.95**

**OVERALLS:** Bib Overalls of blue denim in the famous Little Six Make; double-stitched throughout, insuring splendid wear for sturdy lads. Sizes 6 to 16 years **\$1.00**

**PILLOWS:** Splendid pillows, weight 2 lbs. and 17x24-inch size. Guaranteed to be pure and sanitary, filled with all new materials. Feather-proof ticking in neat patterns. **\$1.00**

**RAG RUGS:** Quaintly old-fashioned are these imported Rag Rugs in hit-and-miss pattern—the sort of rug that makes a room homelike. Size 24x36 inch. **59<sup>C</sup>**

If you cannot shop in person, our Personal Shopper will gladly attend to your wants for you. There is no extra charge for this. Simply address: Mail Order Department.

**ALBERT STEINFELD & CO.**  
Tucson, Arizona