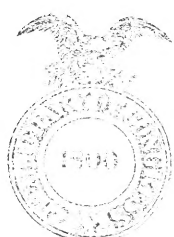


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U.S. Dept. of Ag.

Poultry Exhibit, 1915



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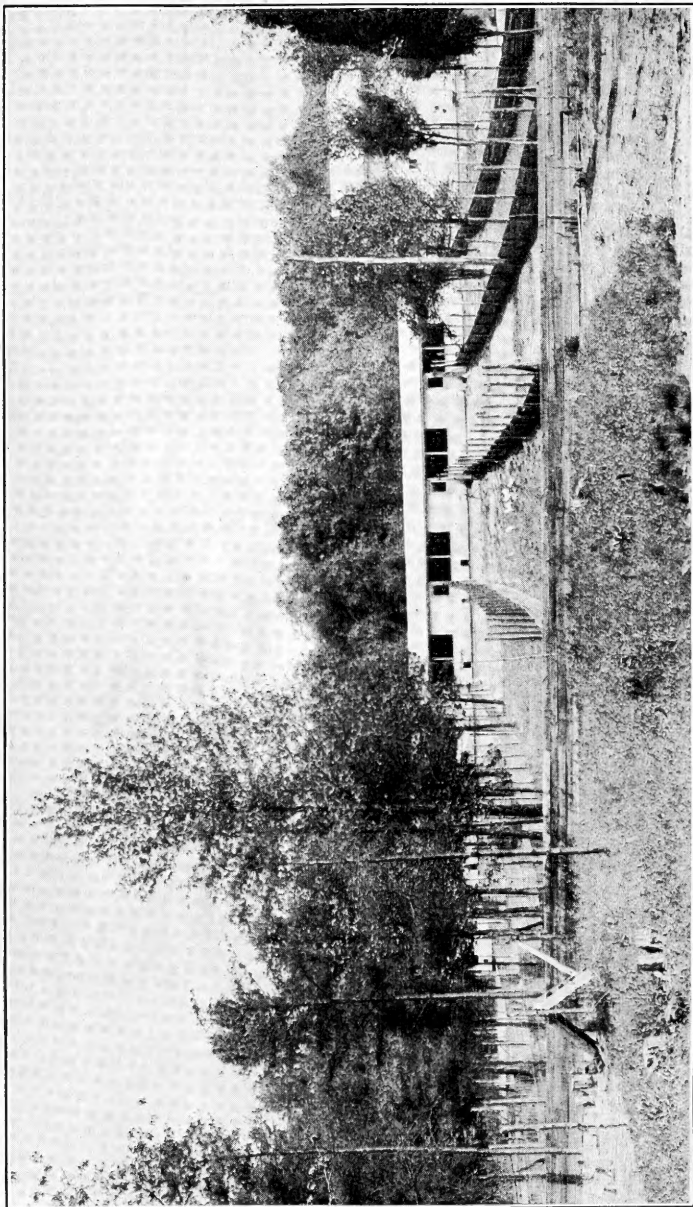


*Poultry Exhibit of the U. S.
Department of Agriculture*

*U. S. BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY.
ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DIVISION.*

*AT THE EXHIBITION OF THE NEW YORK
POULTRY AND PIGEON ASSOCIATION
MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, NEW YORK*

December 31, 1915, to January 5, 1916



Long Poultry House at Government Poultry Farm, Beltsville, Md.

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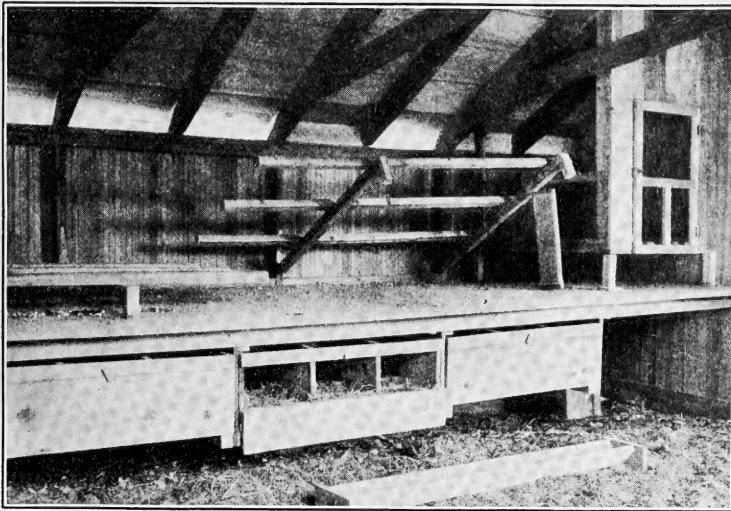
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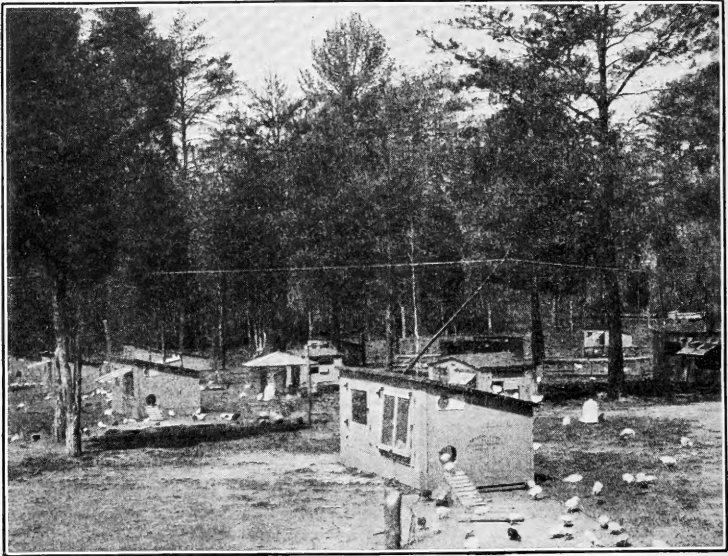
PURPOSE OF THE EXHIBIT.

THE purpose of the Department of Agriculture in exhibiting some of its birds at this show is to bring to the attention of poultry raisers in a concrete way the practical and experimental work being carried on by the Government. Through the exhibit the department wishes to make clear that its poultry specialists stand ready, as far as they can, to aid the individual poultry raiser in his problems, as well as, through publications, to make accessible to everybody the results of various experiments and practical information on poultry subjects.

The birds shown are not competitors for any prizes. Many of the specimens are exhibited not because they are believed



~ Partial Inside View of Long Poultry House.



Brooders In Use.

to be champion birds of their class, but to indicate the quality of the stock which is being used in the experimental work at the Government Farm.

THE GOVERNMENT POULTRY FARM.

The birds come from the department's poultry farm, which is operated in connection with the experimental farm of the Bureau of Animal Industry at Beltsville, Md., 13 miles by trolley from Washington. This poultry plant is equipped with incubators for handling 2,000 eggs, and with model poultry houses for 2,500 birds, providing 90 separate pens and runs for 90 flocks of birds. In addition the plant contains a separate building for the housing of cockerels, with special pens for selective breeding. The entire plant is designed to provide ideal, sanitary equipment for the feeding and handling of birds. The aim, however, has been to use only such equipment as would be practicable in cost and nature for the regular poultry raiser. The farm provides also varied conditions for the unrestrained range of chickens and for their handling and feeding under ordinary conditions.

Poultry Exhibit of the United States Department of Agriculture

From 1,800 to 2,000 chicks are hatched each year. The breeds kept are those which are commonly regarded as the most valuable for the farm, and include Barred and White Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, and Buff Orpingtons. There are also a flock of White Leghorns and one of Buff Leghorns.

EXPERIMENTAL WORK AT THE FARM.

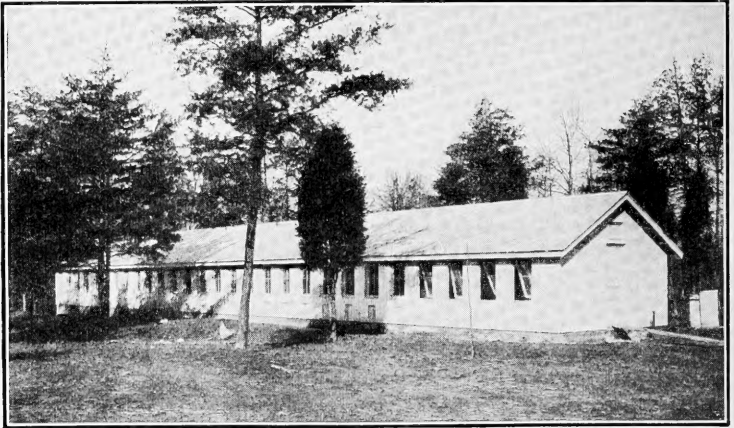
Studies are being made of the feeding of hens on various rations, including those in which the hen balances her own ration, rations in which fish meal forms a part, etc., using only simple rations of widely available feeds. Hens are being trapped, and matings are being made to determine the possibility of inbreeding, and in certain instances to fix types desired in the flock. No birds are retained in the flock which have a disqualification that would bar them under the rules of the American Standard of Perfection.

The results being obtained indicate that it is possible to combine utility and standard breeding to a practical degree. For example, a Rhode Island Red male of good type and color has



Small Colony Growing House and Chicks Inclosed by Portable Fence.

Poultry Exhibit of the United States Department of Agriculture



Cockerel House.

proved to be especially prepotent with respect to producing daughters with an ability to lay well. Last year the daughters of this male were all good winter egg producers, and averaged over 150 eggs for the year. In 1915 all of his daughters proved to be good winter layers, and up to date are ahead of last year's hens in production. Some of the offspring of this high producer are on display.

Specialists are conducting studies in poultry breeding, and for the determination of the relative advantages, as regards egg production, of different methods of handling and different rations. The department also is devoting special attention to improving the conditions of the market egg, these studies covering the production of the market egg from the farm to the country store. In this connection the specialists are giving special attention to the keeping qualities of the infertile egg. (See egg poster on exhibit showing the difference between the keeping qualities of the fertile and infertile egg.)

In Washington and in the field specialists are conducting turkey and guinea-fowl investigations, including incubation, breeding, feeding, housing, and management. Another special study has to do with the management of turkeys, with the object of working out methods for prevention of excessive mortality. The department has charge of the study of the production of ostriches carried on at Glendale, Ariz.

Poultry Exhibit of the United States Department of Agriculture

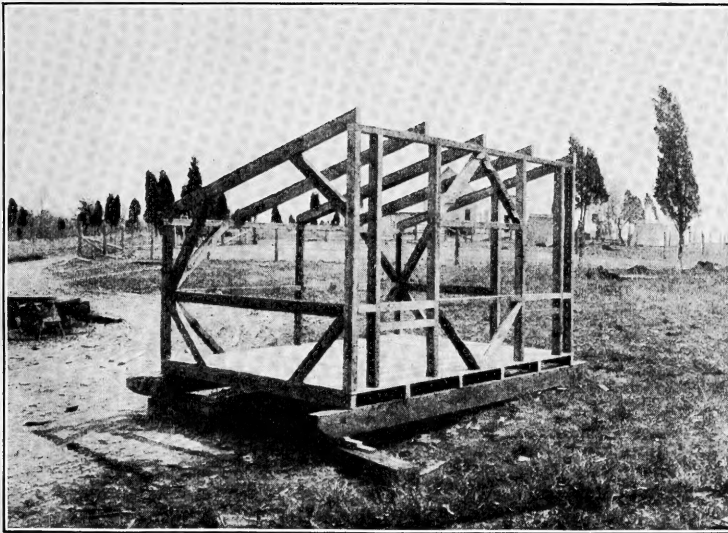
The specialists cooperate with other branches of the department and with the State agricultural colleges in establishing and assisting poultry clubs designed to interest boys and girls in raising chickens, and to teach them the best methods of handling poultry for the production of eggs.

INVITATION TO VISIT THE FARM.

To all poultry raisers the department extends a cordial invitation to visit its poultry plant. Those wishing to visit the farm are invited to call at the Office of Poultry Investigations, Animal Husbandry Division, Bureau of Animal Industry, 1358 B street SW., which is opposite the grounds of the United States Department of Agriculture. Arrangements will there be made for the reception of visitors by those in charge of the work at the farm. As has been said, the specialists of the department will be glad to supply special information in response to individual requests, or to see that poultry raisers interested receive literature of the department.

MOTION PICTURES.

In connection with this show, motion-picture films of the work at the Government Poultry Farm will be exhibited.



Framework of Large Portable Colony House.

Poultry Exhibit of the United States Department of Agriculture

PUBLICATIONS ON POULTRY.

The department has published the following Farmers' Bulletins dealing with various phases of poultry raising, which will be supplied free to applicants on application to the Bureau of Animal Industry or to the Division of Publications, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.:

Standard Varieties of Chickens. No. 51.	Important Poultry Diseases. No. 530.
Turkeys: Standard Varieties and Management. No. 200.	The Organization of Boys' and Girls' Poultry Clubs. No. 562.
Eggs and Their Uses as Food. No. 128.	Poultry House Construction. No. 574.
Poultry as Food. No. 182.	Natural and Artificial Incubation of Hens' Eggs. No. 585.
The Guinea Fowl. No. 234.	Shipping Eggs by Parcel Post. No. 594.
Poultry Management. No. 287.	Natural and Artificial Brooding of Chickens. No. 624.
A Successful Poultry and Dairy Farm. No. 355.	A Simple Trap Nest for Poultry. No. 682.
Marketing Eggs Through the Creamery. No. 445.	Squab Raising. No. 684.
Capons and Caponizing. No. 452.	Duck Raising. No. 697.
Hints to Poultry Raisers. No. 528.	

In addition to these Farmers' Bulletins, a number of technical papers on various phases of the subject have been issued. Some of the more important of these are given in the list below. These publications the department will furnish free as long as the supply for free distribution lasts. They are issued in limited editions, however, and when the department's supply is exhausted copies can be obtained only by purchase from Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., to whom should be sent the price named, in currency or post-office money order (stamps not accepted).

Commercial Fattening of Poultry. 1914. 55 pages, illustrated. (Agri. Bul. 21.) Paper, 10c.
Fattening Poultry. 1911. 60 pages, illustrated. (Animal Ind. Bul. 140.) Paper, 10c.
Improvement of Farm Egg. 1911. 43 pages, illustrated. (Animal Ind. Bul. 141.) Paper, 10c.
Care of Farm Egg. 1913. 52 pages, illustrated. (Animal Ind. Bul. 160.) Paper, 15c.



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