

RAISING GUINEA FOWLS

Prices at Eastern Markets Should Increase Popularity of This Fowl Among Farmers.

Guinea fowls, which have suffered unpopularity with farmers because of pronounced propensities for noise making during the sleeping hours of humans, are likely to rise above this objection in view of a steadily increasing demand for their delicious flesh, in the opinion of a poultry specialist of the United States Department of Agriculture. With eastern markets offering 75 cents to \$1.50 a pair for these fowls, guinea-fowl raising now is a profitable side line on eastern farms, and may offer opportunities to the commercial poultryman in a few cases. In Farmers' Bulletin 858, "The Guinea Fowl," the specialist discusses the guinea business from the starting of a flock to marketing the produce, which is largely the meat.

Demand is Increasing.

The increasing demand for guinea fowls, the specialist says, comes from hotels and restaurants in the large cities, which are always eager to buy prime young stock. These they particularly like to use as a delicacy in banquets and club dinners, guineas being a good substitute for game birds such as grouse, partridge, quail, and pheasant. The present supply comes largely from small farm flocks of 10 to 25 fowls. Such flocks require little care and expense to raise; consequently the marketing price is largely profit.

And as for that undesirable cry of the guinea fowl, the department specialist admits that this is a rather objectionable habit, but declares that it might often be listed as an asset. It gives warning of marauders in the poultry yard and also, backed by a pugnacious disposition, constitutes an effective show of fight against hawks and other enemies. In fact, says the poultryman, some farmers raise a few guinea fowls with their turkeys and allow them to roost together so that a warning will be given if any theft is attempted during the night.

Guinea fowl raisers who are near the large eastern markets or who have developed a trade among pri-

vate customers are now receiving prices that make this industry very profitable. One poultryman near a New England summer resort has raised as many as 400 guinea fowls in one season, selling them in August when they weighed about 1 pound each at \$1.25 a pair. Wholesale prices in New York usually range from 75 cents to \$1 a pair for dressed guineas weighing 2 pounds to the pair, and from \$1.25 to \$1.50 a pair for those weighing 3 to 4 pounds to the pair. Old guinea fowls are not wanted and seldom bring more than 50 or 60 cents a pair.

Varieties of Guinea Fowls.

Of the three varieties of guinea fowls—pearl, white, and lavender—pearl is by far the most popular. It has a purplish gray plumage regularly dotted or "pearled" with white and is so handsome that frequently the feathers are used for ornamental purposes. Breeding stock of the various varieties usually sells for \$2 to \$3.50 a pair, or from \$3 to \$5 a trio. Eggs from pure-bred birds for hatching can be obtained for 75 cents to \$1 for 15. During the last few years a limited market for guinea eggs has developed among commercial hatcheries which have an outlet for a few day-old guinea chicks along with their ordinary chicks, ducklings, goslings, and turkey poults. While guineas can be kept in the best condition upon free range, they can be confined if necessary and satisfactory results obtained.

Marketing Guinea Fowls.

The marketing season for guinea fowls is during the latter part of the summer and throughout the fall. At this time the demand in the city market is for young birds weighing from 1 to 2 pounds each. At about 2-1/2 months of age guineas weigh from 1 to 1-1/2 pounds, and at this size they begin reaching the markets in August. As the season advances the demand is for heavier birds.

The usual practice in marketing game birds is to place them on the market unplucked, and in most markets guinea fowls are sold in this way. They are more attractive with the feathers on and sell more readily. When dressed the small size and dark color of the guinea are likely to prejudice the prospective customer,

who may be unfamiliar with the bird's excellent eating qualities. For hotel and restaurant trade, however, guinea fowls should be dressed in the same way as common fowls. Before shipping any birds to a market it is advisable to inquire of the dealer to whom they are to be shipped whether the feathers should be removed.

If the guinea fowls are to be marketed with the feathers on, all that should be done is to bleed them by severing the vein in the roof of the mouth, allowing them to hang head downward until bleeding is complete. If the feathers are to be removed, this should be done by dry picking. The vein in the roof of the mouth is severed first, to insure thorough bleeding, and the knife then thrust through the groove in the roof of the brain is pierced the feathers are loosened by a convulsive movement of the muscles and can be removed easily.

OIL TO BE KING IN FUTURE

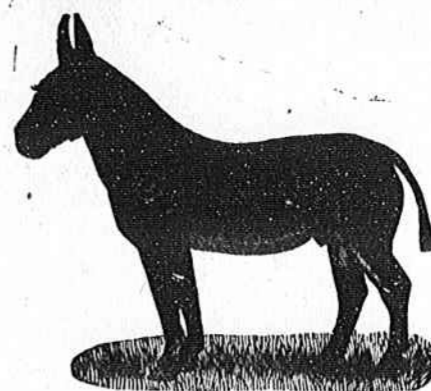
Necessity for Petroleum Products Shown in War as Well as in Industrial and Domestic Life.

The European war is without a doubt doing more to direct general attention to the claims of oil and its multitudinous products than any amount of advertising in normal times could have accomplished, says a writer in the Petroleum Review.

The great clash of arms on the continent has from its commencement shown that the necessity for the products of petroleum in up-to-date warfare is no less than in either the industrial circles or in domestic life. We are today as much dependent upon the refined products of crude oil as we are upon wheat and other necessities of life, and as time goes on, and the uses which are constantly being found for petroleum multiply, our dependency upon oil becomes the greater.

It is no surprise, therefore, to find that not only are petroleum products generally commanding greater attention than they ever before did, but that a particularly healthy atmosphere permeates those enterprises which have laid themselves out—and successfully so—to engage in the production, the refining, the transport or the distribution of petroleum products. There is, in short, no mistaking the fact that in the future oil will be king.

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MANNING, S. C.



QUICK AID GIVEN WOUNDED

Rapid Treatment After Battle and New Cleansing Methods Save Lives of Many Soldiers.

Lieut. Col. Gilbert Barling, C. B., a famous English surgeon who is consulting surgeon to the great base hospitals at Rouen, which accommodate 15,000 patients, says that since the war began immense strides have been made in the surgery of the battlefield. Two improvements that may be noticed as having taken place since the outbreak of hostilities, writes a correspondent of the New York Times, are in connection with the rapid treatment of the wounded after a big battle and the cleansing of wounds.

Five or ten miles behind the fighting sufficient casualty clearing stations—each holding about 1,000 men—have been organized to deal with all the casualties that may reasonably be expected, so that once a man is picked up by the stretcher bearers he receives adequate treatment within a very short time. Here also is a special hospital, perhaps of 50 beds, for abdominal cases, which are the most urgent.

In the old days such wounds, because of the delay before they could be treated and cleaned, were generally considered to be fatal; but under the new conditions, by which a man so hit is placed in an ambulance and sent off immediately, if necessary, without waiting for other wounded to be placed in with him, the dangerous delay is overcome, and the wound kept aseptic and more amenable to treatment.

The World on Wheels.

According to a report by the office of public roads, which takes notice of such matters, there were 3,512,986 automobiles and motor trucks and 250,820 motorcycles registered in the United States in 1916. This is an increase of 43 per cent over the registry of cars and trucks for the previous year. The gain was greatest in the Southern states, where it reached 86 per cent. On the estimate of the present population there is now an automobile for every 29 people in the United States. On the basis of comfortable seating capacity, this makes room for one-sixth of the inhabitants, says Thomas P. Logan in Leslie's. Or, in other words, if properly apportioned, every sixth or seventh family would be found supplied. The total license revenue derived from this source for 1916 was \$25,865,370, which represents an increase of \$7,699,659 over the receipts of the same character for the year before.

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