

POULTRY RAISING BIG INDUSTRY IN DEL-MAR-VA

EGGS ALSO FIND READY MARKET

Less than three days after a hen cackles on the Eastern Shore her egg is brought to a breakfast table in New York.

This is one of the reasons why more than \$10,000,000 in poultry products were shipped from the peninsula last year and why poultry raising is the most profitable crop in this section.

Huge Industry

Like the dairy industry on the peninsula, the poultry industry on a large scale is a matter of recent date. A few years ago the farmers on the Eastern Shore all raised chickens, but their flocks were of nondescript breed and uncertain egg-laying ability.

Now every county has at least one huge poultry plant and shipments of baby chicks alone mount up to a million chicks a year.

Government statistics show that in 1924 there were 2,195,993 chickens on the Eastern Shore, which were valued at \$1,109,922. In that year 6,553,993 dozens of eggs were shipped, valued at \$2,301,717.

Every county on the Eastern Shore has shown a tremendous increase in poultry raising since 1924. It appears that farmers were suddenly convinced that the Eastern Shore was ideally situated for poultry raising and hundreds of pre-bred flocks were established.

Now there are scores of poultry plants in every county, and by co-operative marketing the output is rising without loss of a minute to the consuming centers.

Rushed By Trains

The Eastern Shore is so situated that fast trains can deposit eggs in New York the second day after they are laid. Distributors put them on the breakfast table on the third morning.

In addition to the strategic position of the Shore regarding transportation, climate and soil make that section ideal for poultry.

The lack of extreme cold or hot weather, sandy soil and inexhaustible supplies of pure water are factors of first importance in poultry raising.

These factors are found in the Del-Mar-Va peninsula.

The value of the strategic position regarding transportation is emphasized when one considers that the largest factor in the New York and Philadelphia egg markets is the California egg, brought 3000 miles across the country by fast express.

Poultry and egg production has jumped to first importance in Delaware. Until a few years ago scrub flocks and unscientific collection and distribution brought the Delaware egg into disrepute in the big markets.

Better methods have now been established and the Delaware eggs are gaining New York dealers' interest.

Gains In Delaware

In 1924 Delaware farmers received approximately \$5,000,000 for their poultry products, and since that year the expansion of the industry has been on a par with its expansion on the Eastern Shore of Maryland.

It now leads the dairy industry in gross returns and its profits are enormously higher.

In the Eastern Shore of Virginia, the tale of Delaware and the Eastern Shore of Maryland is repeated. Last year Virginia farmers averaged 500 cases of eggs a day, for which an average of \$4500 daily was received.

Thousands of broilers are shipped from the Virginia shore daily and score of poultry plants are being established in Northampton and Accomac counties.

In quality the Del-Mar-Va peninsula eggs are on a par with those received in the New York markets from any Eastern or Southern States. They also have the priceless advantage of freshness over California eggs.

If the egg market ever suffers from over-production, the Del-Mar-Va peninsula eggs will be the last to suffer, for the reason they are only three days old when they arrive at the breakfast table.

Day-Old Chicks

In a period of 10 days the peninsula has become veritably a hatchery for day-old chicks. Formerly

proving profitable on the Peninsula.

Proximity to markets makes this business very remunerative. Dressed squabs reach Philadelphia and New York markets in the morning after being shipped from the Peninsula at midday and are bringing remarkably high prices.

With such a rapid growth in the poultry industry the latest marketing methods would not be expected. In spite of this, however, there has been organized the Delaware Poultry Association, which is aiming to market its products co-operatively for the benefit of consumer as well as its members.

The Eastern Shore of Virginia though young in the poultry business, already has projected plans for co-operative marketing of eggs and poultry from the two counties. Co-operatives in Maryland seem to adhere to county lines.

The next step in the development of the poultry industry will doubtless be the organization of all co-operatives into one Del-Mar-Va Co-operation Poultry Association. This will be in line with the recent organization of hatcheries into the Del-Mar-Va Hatchery Association.

Worthy Pardon



Conley Dabney, of Frankfort, Ky., above, said he was innocent, be he was convicted of killing Mary Vickery four years ago. Now Mary Vickery shows up alive—and the Dabney is pardoned.

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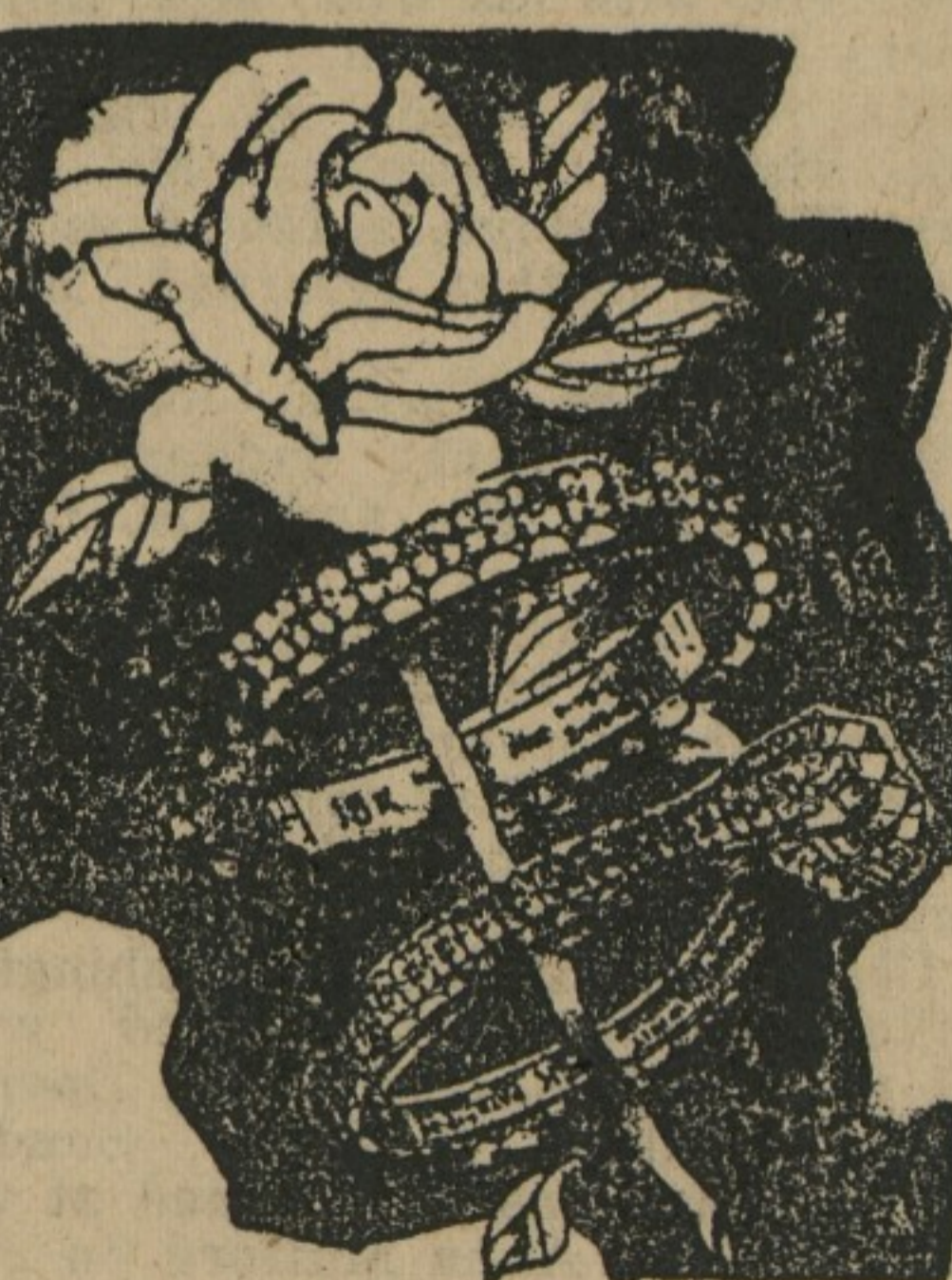


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