

der way. It is headed by some 25 well-known poultry scientists with an equal number of sub-committee members and 600 poultrymen from all parts of the United States as advisers. The activities are financed, and awards will be given, by the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company, which has a particular interest because of the tremendous amount of poultry products it handles each year. The undertaking, known as the Chicken-of-Tomorrow program, is a three-year undertaking covering 1948.

There are present indications that many war veterans, taking advantage of the GI Bill of Rights, desire to purchase land suitable for raising poultry and become chicken or turkey raisers. It is a good business for those with proper training. Poultry producing, in cash returns, is America's third largest agricultural industry. It brings in over \$2,650,000,000 a year.

It is now producing considerably over an egg a day for every man, woman and child in the country, and also about 25 pounds of meat per person, but there is still room for expansion. Poultry and eggs are rated among the seven basic foods for the American diet, being rich in proteins, minerals and vitamins.

Double Consumption

Double the present consumption could well take place because, as every housewife knows, eggs are invaluable in many household kitchen dishes. Also there is room for an expansion in the export trade, particularly for dried eggs.

The common idea that anyone can raise poultry may be true, but whether or not they can do so successfully and secure an income is another question. Business men, professional men, sailors and admirals facing retirement, are common among the persons who look forward to a life of ease raising poultry.

As a hobby, a little chicken farm is a good idea. Some will be very successful. To be successful both brains and long hours of hard work are required, but no person seems to love his job more than the poultry lover with poultry instincts.

The veteran considering the poultry business as a means of livelihood needs to know what he is facing. If he likes poultry and long hours of work, and has a degree of training, he will probably succeed. Poultry farming is one of the best paying agricultural enterprises for the man who makes a go of it.

The fact that it is a 365-day-a-year job is an advantage if help is employed. It is year-around employment for the owner and the helper. Another advantage is

that the business, except with turkeys, brings in cash every week. But even the turkey business is no longer just a Thanksgiving-and-Christmas seasonal market; the turkey demand now stretches over many months since Americans have learned to eat the bird at other times.

The job requires training. It is particularly important that diseased birds, and there are about 100 major diseases, be spotted in the daily inspection of the flock so that those with infectious difficulties can be removed before others are contaminated. Training in one of the state agricultural colleges is desirable, but if this can not be had, the next best procedure for the man without poultry experience is to get employment for a year on one of the large modern poultry farms, and supplement the practical experience with reading and perhaps with college correspondence courses.

Science News Letter, April 20, 1946

INVENTION

Rear View Mirror for Day or Night Driving

➤ A REAR view mirror for automobiles that gives clear vision in the daytime and glareless images from the brightest lights at night is the subject of patent 2,397,947, taken out by William

H. Colbert, Brackenridge, Pa. The wedge-shaped mirror has two surfaces, one of relatively low reflectivity and transparent and the other a better reflector but opaque.

The front surface, the poorer reflector, is for night driving, while the back surface is for daylight. The driver can adjust the mirror for night or day driving by slightly tilting the mirror.

The patent has been assigned to Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company, Toledo, Ohio.

Science News Letter, April 20, 1946

CHEMISTRY

Modified Amino Acids Act Like Penicillin

➤ SOME MODIFIED forms of amino acids, instead of nourishing bacteria, check their growth more or less as penicillin does, Dr. Sydney Fox, and associates, of Iowa State College, told the American Chemical Society. One in particular, 3-amino tyrosine, was effective against *Staphylococcus aureus*, the germ of boils and some types of food poisoning, and at the same time was only slightly poisonous to white rats to which it was fed. This, of course, is what biologists seek of an antibiotic: to knock out the germs without making their victim sick.

Science News Letter, April 20, 1946

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