

Editorial

Although 1978 is well on its way, may we take this opportunity of wishing all our members a happy and prosperous New Year.

This issue contains an interesting and important Article on the Association by our President. However important our Branches and Federations are, we must remember that we are essentially a World's Association, and avoid the pitfalls of fragmentation into autonomous groups.

We would also draw attention to the article by the late Mr. Syd Fox. This was promised by Mr. Fox a few days before his untimely death, but was in fact presented for publication by his close friend and colleague Dr. Trevor R. Morris.

Finally, it is with pleasure we announce our second Sponsor.

Due to technical production problems at the printers, we must apologise for the late publishing of this edition.

We apologise for the omission of the English Summary of the paper by Foster, W. H. & Weatherup, S.T.C. which was published in the Journal Vol. 33, No. 3 pp 133-139. It should have read:—

AN ESTIMATION OF THE ADVANCES ACHIEVED OVER SEVEN YEARS BY SELECTION WITHIN COMMERCIAL EGG-LAYING BREEDS.

Foster, W. H. and Weatherup, S.T.C., *World's Poultry Science Journal*, August 1977, Vol. 33, No. 3, pp 133-139.

Summary

Data were obtained from the reports of 6th-12th Gosford Random Sample Tests. Performances by commercial breeds were expressed as deviations from a control strain. The deviations were regressed on years. Regression coefficients were corrected for the estimated effects of inbreeding in the Control Strain. Estimates of average annual rates of genetic advance were,

Hen-day egg production: + 1.03 eggs

Egg weight: + 0.21 g

Shell thickness: +0.12 μ m

Age at first egg: + 0.55 d

Daily food consumption: —0.06 g

Laying house mortality: + 0.33%

Margin: + 7.7 p

There was significant heterogeneity among breeds in the first, fourth and sixth of the above regressions.