

## DIRECTIONS FOR HANDLING THE TRAINED BROILER ACT

The props for the trained broiler act have been packed in a cylindrical shipping crate around which the fence has been rolled. The fence is to be formed into an oval pen about 7 feet long. The oilcloth will form the floor and may be overlapped and folded to the proper dimensions. The various pieces of apparatus are shown in their proper positions in the diagram below:



DO NOT CHANGE THE LOCATION OF ANY OF THE PROPS.

In this act, one chicken at a time is placed in the fenced enclosure. BUT DO NOT PUT A CHICKEN IN THE PERFORMING PEN UNLESS THE FEEDER IS FULL AND ALL PARTS ARE WORKING PROPERLY. If anything goes wrong with the props, remove the chicken at once, and do not replace her until everything is again working properly.

The chicken has been trained to go over to the corner, tug on the rubber "doughnut" in the center of the Larro bull's-eye. This doughnut is wired to a microswitch behind the bull's-eye, which operates the automatic feeder. The chicken will hear the feeder sound, turn, run across the pen, hop up on the platform to eat from the feeder. When she hops up on the platform the sign above the feeder will light up.

The feed used in the automatic feeder is a mixture of sifted crumble-ized broiler feed and sifted scratch grain (the fine particles are sifted out of the broiler feed with the kitchen strainer enclosed,

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and the coarse particles are sifted out of the scratch with the hardware cloth strainer).

The chickens will perform better if they are not fed too much the day before the show. About 1 scant measuring cup of feed to each 8 birds (that is, 1 cup for each end of the crate) fed about 2 or 3 PM the afternoon before the show, will sustain them until they get started the next day, and the light feeding will help them get used to the strange sounds and surroundings of the show situation.

While the chickens are performing, they will probably get all their feed from the automatic feed hopper.

When your props have been set up and checked over and you are ready to start the show, place a chicken in the performing pen. Allow this bird to perform until she begins to slow down or seem tired or full (30 to 40 minutes generally). Take her out and put in a fresh chicken. The shipping crate has been constructed with a sliding central partition so that you can divide the chickens into those who have had a turn performing and those who have not. After you have run through the whole group once, you may start them over again and give each a second turn if they are not too full.

If at the end of the day there are any birds you have not used or have used only very slightly, they may be fed lightly, say 2 tablespoons of crumbles at the end of the day, after you are sure they will not be needed. It is not necessary, of course, to use the sifted feed for this extra feeding.

KEEP SPILLED FEED SWEEP OFF THE OILCLOTH FLOOR AND FEEDER BASE.