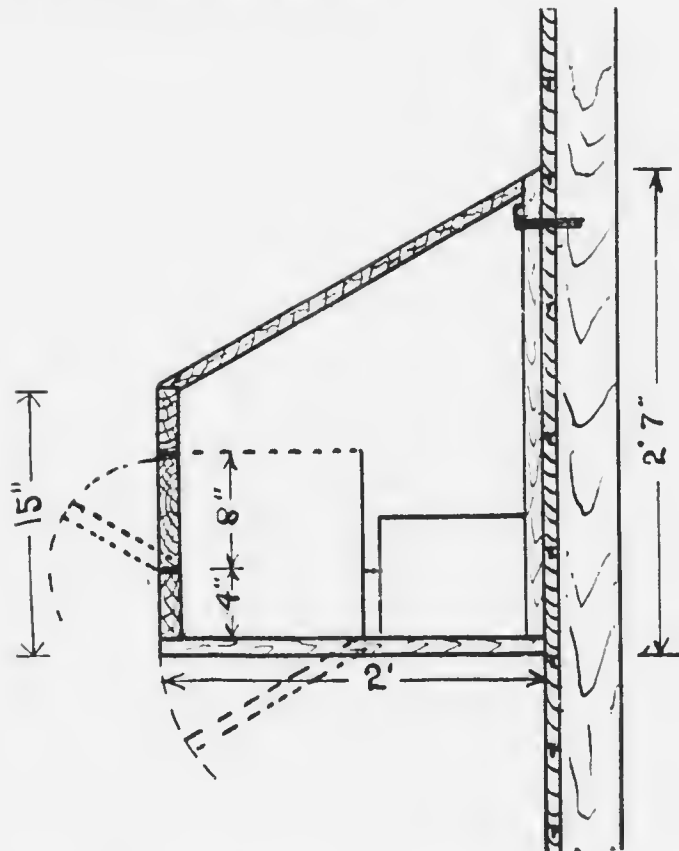


When the hen about to lay steps up on the door and walks in towards the dark at the back of the nest, she passes the point where the door is hinged to the treadle, and her weight on the treadle causes it to drop. This at the same time pulls the door up behind her. It is then impossible for the hen to get out of the nest till the attendant lifts door and treadle and resets it.

The nest is very simple. It has no locks or triggers to get out of order. Yet by proper balancing of door and treadle it can be so delicately adjusted that a weight of less than half a pound on the treadle will spring the trap. All bearing surfaces are made of beech because of the well-known property of this wood to take on a highly polished surface with wear. The nests in use at the Maine Station have the doors of hardwood in order to get greater durability. Where trap-nests are constantly in use poor construction is not economical in the long run. For temporary use the door could be constructed of soft wood.



An excellent type of nest. These nests are hung on the wall and may be removed for cleaning. This type of nest is dark, the bird entering from the rear and the door in front being opened to remove the eggs.

The trap-nests are not made with covers because they are used in fliers and slide in and out like drawers. Four nests in a pen accommodate fifteen hens by attendant going through the pens once an hour, or a little oftener, during that part of the day when the hens are busiest. The hens must all have leg-bands in order to identify them; a number of different kinds can be purchased in the larger towns of the Province. The double box with the nest in the rear is an advantage. When a hen