

a paying opportunity to the farmers in developing this poultry branch of their farm work if they choose to take advantage of it.

Q. That would leave a profit of about 10 cents a chicken?

A. Yes, and I dare say that if that chicken was of proper type and good condition and came into the hands of a man who was accustomed to furnishing a select class of customers with a select article, it would bring a larger margin of profit than that mentioned. Mr. R. H. Grant, of Hazeldean, a skilful farmer, well known to the honourable member for Carleton, Ont., received 25 cents a pound for all the poultry he had on exhibition at the Eastern Ontario Poultry and Fat Stock Show last January, and why? Because he was expert in the caring for and fattening of Barred Rock chickens. And more farmers could do the same, I am sure, if they so desired.

By Mr. Marshall.

Q. The average weight of a chicken is about three pounds?

A. Yes, but perhaps that is due to the fact that the chickens of the country are too much of the nondescript character.

Q. There is good money in raising chickens.

A. Certainly, and I am very glad to hear you say so. I think you will agree with me when I say that the great object is to have the farmers of the country adopt a proper type and then to take proper care of the chickens when hatched. A chicken that is allowed to 'pick up its own living' will not make a desirable market specimen.

SOME OTHER METHODS OF DEVELOPMENT.

In connection with what I have said as to co-operation being a likely aid to poultry development in assisting farmers to market their eggs and poultry quickly and with little trouble, I may say that the formation of the Poultry Producers' Association of Canada, with its laudable object of establishing egg circles for the gathering and quick sale of new laid eggs and the better quality of poultry with the proper grading of same, should be a great incentive to poultry keeping among farmers in the different parts of the country. In the language of the constitution, the object of the association and its branches or circles, 'is to encourage a co-operative spirit among poultry producers; to bring producers and consumers closer together; to encourage the adoption of the best breeds and types of utility poultry; to encourage the small producers to form local branches or circles, for mutual assistance and co-operation in selling; to aid in establishing a uniform and recognized standard of dressed poultry and eggs; to keep the producers in touch with those buyers who put a premium on quality; and to advance and dignify the poultry industry.' But the Poultry Producers' Association is cramped for the want of funds, and all the members are not in a position to pay their own expenses to attend a meeting at a central point. I think an association, with such laudable intentions, deserves practical recognition at the hands of the government. Already it has done much to help on poultry development.

Another method practised in some parts of the country might be practicable, viz.:—That of taking eggs to the creamery or the butter factory. The farmers bring in their eggs when they bring in their milk. The farmer in this case need not mind whether he brings in a small quantity of eggs or not, for he has to come with his milk or cream anyway. I have not had opportunity to inquire into this method, but I am told it was or is in successful operation in connection with the Morrisburg factory.

FACTORS IN THE PRODUCTION OF THE BETTER QUALITY OF EGGS AND POULTRY.

The question is frequently asked by correspondents and others, 'How may new-laid eggs and the better quality of poultry be produced and sold to the best advantage?'