

eggs are now produced on the farms than there were 10 years back, a result obtained not only by the increased quantity of poultry kept on the farms, but also by the more improved methods of housing and feeding, brought about by intelligent application by the farmer himself, of methods proved by experimental work to be the best suited to his conditions.

#### WHERE WE WEAK

Thus, from the producing, end, although there is urgent demand for better development and still improved methods, to a considerable extent satisfactory progress is going on. But from the marketing end direct from the farm, there is sad neglect and deplorable loss continuing in the marketing of poultry products (especially in eggs) long after the marketing of other farm produce have been brought to nearly a perfected condition. There are some who say that poultrymen are less progressive than are those engaged in other branches of farm industry. While this may be the case the reasons are not far to seek. One farmer may be producing and marketing dairy produce to the value of one thousand dollars per annum, another live stock to the same value, another grains, etc., etc., yet each and every one are poultry

producers to the extent in marketing value of from \$100 to \$300; consequently his interest is taken up in perfecting the system for marketing the produce to the value of \$1,000, while the

than the larger branch or branches of farm industry.

This, of course, is a wrong condition, as each branch should receive due recognition by the farmer himself, thus pertaining to his ultimate and advanced prosperity. Take again the recognition given by our various Governments in the way of educational work and funds for the perfecting of the marketing system of farm produce—a fair comparison would be dairy with eggs. We all know what has been done, and wisely done, by the Government to assist in the marketing of dairy produce from factory to consumer. In comparison with this what has been done for the best marketing of eggs?

A product in value now in Canada falling not very far behind the dairy produce, a product in daily use on every consumer's table and sold at a price to the consumer entitling him to have this product delivered on his table as nearly as possible in a fresh and palatable condition, conducive to the best health of their families. The marketing of the Canadian eggs has

been sadly neglected by Government and people. Poultry producers extend over our entire Dominion and will require an extensive system of (Continued on page 13)



The Breeding Flock on a Farm in Western Canada

It does not pay to feed ducks for market purposes until they are the size and age of the ones seen in the illustration. Ducks to be profitable must be marketed at eight to 10 weeks old. If held until fall and the Christmas market they do not bring any more money and all the feed given them in the meantime is lost. The flock here seen are the breeding ducks on a farm in one of the prairie provinces.

few hundreds are neglected, although probably nine times out of 10 the poultry branch is giving a greater profit on amount of capital and time invested (even under adverse circumstances)

## Are Turkeys a Nuisance on the Farm?

"SO many farmers have the idea firmly lodged in their minds that turkeys are an expense and a nuisance on the farm, that I fairly ache to prove the truth to them." These words from a famous United States poultry woman, Hattie Weld Andrews, of Kansas, express her thorough belief in turkeys for profit. She believes that the wife's turkeys have often clothed the children and purchased luxuries for the home. To come to our own side of the line, Mrs. Howard Smithson, of Peterboro, Ont., shares the belief with Mrs. Andrews that turkeys are generally money-makers; and Mrs. Smithson's experience justifies her belief.

"During the past year," said Mrs. Smithson recently to an editor of Farm and Dairy, "I reared and sold 62 young turkeys. These were sent to the dealer alive, thus avoiding all of the worry of plucking and dressing. For them I received \$140, a satisfactory price, I should say."

Mrs. Smithson's feeding methods are simplicity itself. She buys the cheapest grade of flour, makes it into bread, and for the third and fourth day of the poult's life this constitutes its sole ration. Mrs. Smithson does not believe in feeding anything for the first two days. For the next two weeks red clover leaves are fed along with the breadcrumbs, the former being used as a condiment. "I would especially emphasize," said Mrs. Smithson, "the need of good, clean drinking water." From two

weeks old until they go to market the turkeys are fed broken wheat and given the run of the farm.

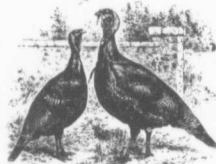
It is to the latter point that Mrs. Smithson attributes her success in bringing turkeys to a marketable age with comparatively little mortality. From the very first day of their lives the young turkeys are allowed their liberty. For the first few weeks the mother is confined in a coop. After that all have the complete range of the farm. It is on this same point that most far-



Mr. and Mrs. Smithson's Turkeys have often clothed the children and purchased luxuries for the home.

mers object to turkeys. They believe that they destroy the crops. Turkey enthusiasts will admit this, but they claim that there are compensating advantages that more than outweigh the damage done.

One poultry woman writes that one season they had two acres of corn attacked by cinch bugs. Her flock of turkeys made that field their home until the bugs were gone. Another year on the same farm when a field of clover was cut it was



alive with grasshoppers. In the fall the turkeys spent hours at a time in that field, and so rid that clover of both the hoppers and their eggs that the field was practically free from these pests the next season.

Do turkeys eat their heads off? Mrs. Andrews, commenting on this, recently wrote as follows: "That false hood stirs me way down deep. From the third day of his life until heavy frosts the turkey is almost self-supporting. He prefers no breakfast, choosing rather the early morn for hunting, as then the insects are more easily surprised than after the sun has limbered their legs. And all during their growing the only reason for feeding them is to make them tame, and to know that they are domestic birds, and have a home. But many evenings I just have to stand right in the gate and keep them from running over their wheat—they have only eaten a bit, so rushed are they to get to roost before dark."

Keep a good watch dog as well.