



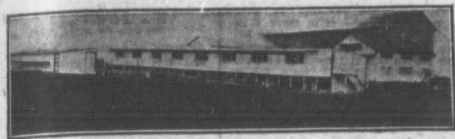
The Crown Egg Farm

A FEW months ago I visited the Crown Egg Farm, near Paris, Ont., and had a chat with its proprietor, Mr. A. E. Millington. It is a generally accepted rule that the best place to make profits with poultry is with a small flock as an adjunct to the general farm, but Mr.

of this mash supplies all the animal food the hens get.

The surplus cockerels are sold as broilers in Toronto when they weigh one and one-half pounds each. "We don't force the Leghorns for broilers," said Mr. Millington. "They are very active and can't stand forced feeding. We bring them naturally up to one and one-half pounds and then get rid of them."

The laying stock are all pullets. Some 300 of the best of these are reserved for breeders, but the breeding flock are the only year-olds around the farm. The pullets are disposed of in August. Ultimately the idea is to have two laying houses. In one of these will be chickens hatched very early which will molt



Business Headquarters at the Crown Egg Farm.

To the left is the brooder house, in the centre the laying house with accommodation for 1,000 laying Leghorns, and to the right the incubator house.

Millington started this enterprise one year ago, last spring, so it cannot yet be said to be past the experimental stage, but progress to date has been most satisfactory.

I first visited the laying house. It is a shanty roof structure, 16 feet wide and 160 feet long and affords accommodation for a laying flock of 1,000 pure bred white Leghorns. There are no cross partitions in this long house, the whole 1,000 birds being in one compartment. The big open front is covered with canvas. There is not a piece of glass in it. This seemed like a cold type of house for White Leghorns, but the proprietor assured me that they came through last winter without a sick hen and were getting a laying average of 60 per cent. of eggs in January and, Mr. Millington added, getting "a sickle a piece for them."

This latter comment indicates the class of trade to which the Crown Egg Farm caters. All eggs are sold to high-class hotels and hospitals. The eggs are guaranteed sanitary and

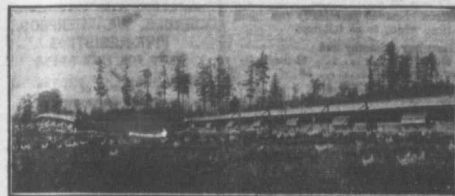
early and then carry the egg supply right through the summer. Chickens hatched later will supply the winter and spring eggs. Last year with only one laying house, there were no eggs to dispose of from August to November.

Charcoal, grit and oyster shells are fed in convenient hoppers. The drinking fountains are cleaned thoroughly every day.

The incubators have a capacity of 8,400 eggs. From these the chickens are removed to Paradise brooders where they are kept six days and thence to the hoover house, equipped with 24 hoovers and individual runs inside and out.

At the time of my visit, 10 colony houses in the orchard housed 300 select pullets. These were to be built up for a month and then forced into an early moult, trap nested all winter and the best ones selected for the breeding flock of the following spring.

Mr. Millington's methods are unusual and we will watch the development of the idea with interest.—F. E. E.



British Columbia is the Home of Many Successful Poultry Ranches.

The illustration is the Wilber Poultry Farm on Vancouver Island. It is one of many extensive poultry farms in the province. But with a climate wonderfully suited to poultry culture, British Columbia still imports a large part of her poultry supplies, both eggs and dressed poultry.

steals. To insure a high quality of eggs, the birds are never allowed outside, as even a small range would rob the eggs of the rich, grain-fed flavor that the high-class market demands.

Feeding Methods

Sprouted oats are fed all winter for green feed. Ordinary mixed grains—corn, wheat and oats—are fed in a litter 18 inches deep. This keeps the hens working all day. The laying mash is fed wet and crumbly, once a day. The ground bone composition

Keep the surroundings free from filth. Clean coops and yards frequently to prevent droppings from contaminating the food.

Exercise aids digestion and assimilation and keeps the chickens contented in confinement.

Give a scratch feed consisting of finely cracked grains, as well-seasoned corn, wheat, steel-cut oats, millet seed, or commercial chick food in a light litter, such as hay chaff.

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