

Agriculture and Colonization.

last December, 80 tons of turkeys went out on one train from that town and district.

By Mr. Rutherford :

Q. I have been greatly troubled with my hens in two ways; in the first place, they do not set steady and then after the setting season is over they are very broody. It may be some error in the diet. I think it is but fair to mention that they are the Black-breasted Red Game?

A. They are sometimes a hard breed to make steady setters; they are an erratic sort of bird under any circumstances. They have a way of following their own sweet will. It is a peculiarity of the game family. But I will tell you what we have found that will apply to other breeds, and that is, if your fowls are steady winter layers they will become broody early in the season. Farmers, as a rule, do not have early setters because their hens do not lay in winter. Under such circumstances fowls do not get broody before they have laid their quota. By the time they have done so, it is perhaps, late in the season. Early chicks should be the aim of the farmers.

Q. I suppose the solution would be a good deal in the line of what you have told us in regard to reduced diet?

A. Reduced diet, more exercise, more vegetables. In other words, making the artificial life as like the natural as possible.

Q. Of course, in Manitoba, where I live, we have artificial life. We have to keep the hens in six or seven months in the year?

A. We have to do much the same thing here.

By Mr. McMillan :

Q. If Mr. Gilbert had time it would be interesting if he could give us the results in regard to the different ages of poultry, because I am convinced a very large number of farmers keep their hens until they are too old. It will be an interesting experiment to try?

A. That is very true, and I will do so with pleasure.

Having examined the preceding transcript of my evidence, I find it correct.

A. G. GILBERT,

Poultry Manager, Central Experimental Farm.