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# October 19, 1910

#### **VEGETABLES ON CEMENT**

We have had cement floors in our cellars for two years. Have had old boards laid on top to keep potatoes and vegetables off cement. Some members of the family wish the old boards removed. Would it be advisable, or would the cement taste the potatoes and vegetables in any way?-C. M. T.

Ans.—The cement floor will not flavor the vegetables. The only question is whether it is dry enough to ensure against decay. If the floor is a dry one, laid on a well-drained foundation, it will be all right. Too dry a storage is not desirable.



### SIX ESSENTIALS IN WINTER EGG **PRODUCTION**

1. Early hatched pullets or yearling hens. Early pullets are the most prolific layers. See that the pullets selected for the laying pens come from hens that have a creditable record in winter performance. Like begets like, and pullets from heavy winter layers will lay better in winter than stock indiscriminately selected.

Dry, light, well ventilated houses A house with lots of windows and well ventilated is always dry. As good a way as any to ventilate a poultry house is to use cotton or muslin in one or two of the windows instead of glass. If a straw loft can be put in so much the bet-

ter. Let in the sunlight and fresh air. 3. An egg-producing ration. Give the hens whole grain, mashes, green feed and meat. Whole grain, wheat, feed and meat. oats or barley is the backbone of the ration, mashes of ground oats with the hulls sifted out, shorts and bran give variety, and are easily digested green food keeps the blood cool and gives bulk to the ration; meat supplies protein from which the albuminous portion of the egg is made. Get for the gizzard and oyster shell or lime in some form for egg shells. Supply what else is required to form the egg.

4. Water. Hens will get along without water getting what moisture they need from eating snow, but they do better where a supply of clean water is available most of the time; if possible,

all the time 5. Exercise. Make the hens work for their living. Fat, lazy birds are never record winter layers. Exercise keeps hens warm, in good condition and contented. It is most easily provided for by feeding whole grain in a litter. Short straw, or chaff make the best litter. Have 8 or 10 inches of it on the floor, and make the birds dig their living out of it. Change the litter

frequently 6. Cleanliness. Have a dropping board beneath the roosts, and scrape it clean every day. Have road dust or dry ashes or sand in convenient boxes for the birds to take dust baths in. If dust baths are provided, there is little danger of a flock becoming infested with lice. Occasionally, smear the crevices about the roosts with kerosene and before winter sets in well clean out, whitewash and fumigate the

## **FUMIGATING**

Every fall, if not oftener, the poultry building should be thoroughly fumigated, not only to destroy lice and mites but to kill disease germs which may lurk in the cracks between boards and their strength. and in the dust that collects on the timbers. The easiest method is to use the sulphur candles made for the purpose, and sold by dealers in poultry supplies. If these cannot be obtained



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