

it for them to dust in. Lime made into mortar and then broken into small pieces after it becomes hard, is good for making shell. Grit is also requisite. I consider charcoal also a grand thing. I do not wonder why some people never get eggs in winter, after seeing the filthy quarters their pullets have to live in.

(2) Good, well developed pullets are by far the best winter layers. Yearling hens are very fat, but will not produce the eggs that pullets will. Two-year-old hens are not nearly as good layers as yearlings. Do not keep hens after they are two years old, as they are not profitable unless they are exceptionally fine breeders.

(3) The ration which is most profitable for winter egg production will depend somewhat on the price of grain. I find wheat is the best whole grain food for laying hens, but as the price is now so high I use oats and barley mixed, two parts barley to three of oats. My method of feeding is as follows: In the morning I feed a small quantity of whole grain scattered in the litter. At noon I feed them a small quantity of ground bone each day in troughs, and after this is eaten they get their main, which is composed of cut clover hay, mixed ground grain, a little bran and any table scraps. These are all steamed and fed while warm. They relish this very much. They are also fed whole mangolds each day. These are hung on nails, so as to keep them clean. A cabbage hung up is also good. Keep your hens working, do not have any idlers. I also believe in regularity in feeding.

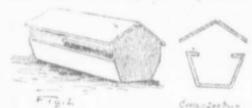
(4) Some hindrances I have found to successful winter egg production are in not having your pullets well developed by October at latest, and also in not getting your hens through the moult early. These things can be easily overcome.

(5) The difference in cost of producing eggs in winter and in summer is chiefly in the rough feed, such as mangolds, cabbage, etc., and the green bones. These are not very expensive. They also want a little extra care.

(6) There is nothing to prevent any farmer from producing winter eggs, provided he has the proper equipment, and understands something about the management of poultry.

Feeding Meal to Fowls

A great many people desire to feed mixed meals to their fowls and do so in the form of a "mash"—which the fowls "bolt" in short order. Better make a mixture of the meals and feed it dry; it will save lots of work, stirring up the "mash" and will be much better for the fowls, for they cannot



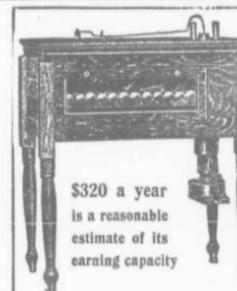
overeat if the feed is dry, and so, after picking at the dry food for a while, will go to scratching in the litter, returning again and again to the dry feed. The trough shown herewith was designed for feeding dry meals, either indoors for chickens or for hens. The flat edge pieces (shown clearly in the cross-section) prevent the meal from being thrown out of the trough, while the roof prevents rain wetting the meal or fowls getting into the trough.



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I wish to let you know of my success with your incubator. Out of 124 eggs I got 74 chicks, and out of my second batch I got 94 from 191 eggs. I find the machine a pure success, if run according to directions. The brooder is a wonder, and I have not lost a chick yet, and they are almost feathered.

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