

that breeding pens should count far more in our big shows.

Q.—Cannot a man buy a breeding pen?

A.—Yes. But he is not likely to owing to the great cost.

In order to grow fruit it is necessary to spray thoroughly and that takes about ten days in the Spring. The buyers come along and buy the apples and pick them, and it is like finding money, because you can raise a crop of apples and chickens on the same ground, and I claim that there is no place like an orchard for raising chickens, and by cultivating the orchard you can supply the poultry with green food. I find young grass coming up in my orchard all the time and the chickens pick it up. If I had an orchard in sod the grass would get wirey and hard and would be of little use to the chickens. Shade is also important for chickens in the summer time. This would be a drawback to any person buying a small place if there was no orchard and it would be sometime before they could get trees large enough to furnish shade. On very hot days my chickens will lounge around in the shade of the trees, but they do not have to huddle together as they would in the shade of a building. Of course you can grow artichokes and sunflowers for shade, but you cannot cultivate them as you can an orchard.

I use a colony house for raising my chickens. I claim this is the proper way, and I am sure it is the only way to most successfully raise chickens. I have a dozen colony houses. You can make one very cheaply out of two piano boxes. I am able to buy piano boxes for two dollars a piece, and I can make a house that won't cost over five dollars. I have some built out of matched lumber which cost twelve dollars, and I would just as soon have the piano box colony house. You can make one of these houses in half a day and it does not require a mechanic to put it up. I take out the back of the piano boxes and take off the top, I then

take two 2 x 4 scantlings about eight feet long, (I buy a sixteen foot scantling and cut it in two), and I place them under the boxes. You will find in all piano boxes cleats about a foot from the end; nail on your scantlings and then take the remainder of the lumber that you have taken from the back and put on the top and fill your bottom. Nail a piece on the roof to carry the water away from the sides. I use roofing paper of medium grade and nail over the top, and then I have my colony house built except the door. For the door I take 1 x 2" strips and make a frame, and then nail on muslin or cheap factory cotton and this gives lots of light inside. If you are troubled with skunks or anything of that kind it is better to board or wire the lower half of the door up. But I have never been troubled with anything like that.

Q.—How wide is the door?

A.—About twenty-eight inches. I have wintered the hens in these colony houses and they are apparently as comfortable with that curtain front as they are in the other houses, and they are doing well and lay eggs right along.

Q.—How many birds do you keep in a house like that?

A.—About a dozen. After the birds get large, if you want more air let down the the curtain from the top of the door. These houses are about six by seven or seven and a half inside.

Q.—Do you cover the sides with roofing paper or just merely the roof?

A.—Just the roof. The sides are all matched lumber.

Q.—Do you paint the house?

A.—Yes, I use very cheap paint. I have used it for three years. It is made out of Clinton Red, glue and milk; it makes good cheap paint. You can get Clinton Red for two cents a pound; in fact you can get it for less than that.

Q. What about the glue; how much do you put in?

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