

poor, as caterpillars have worked havoc with them. Wealthy and Famous will give the best crops. McIntosh is a favorite. Cherries and plums are a good crop."—Geo. A. Watson, Glenora, Co., Ont.

"The apple crop is variable. Some have good crops, others poor."—M. M. Knowles, Lanark Co., Ont.

"Fall apples set well. Winter apples are not so good. The crop will not set late in the year unless the late caterpillar does further damage. Plums and cherries will be below the average."—W. O. Webster, York Co., Ont.

"The apple bloom set fairly well, but it is too early to estimate what the crop will be. Cherries and pears are light and plums good. Raspberries are injured by crickets; other small fruits are good."—F. W. Fisher, Halton Co., Ont.

"Prospects for apples in orchards that have had good care last year are good, except for Baldwins, which are a little light. Neglected orchards will have a light crop. Greening, King, Russets, and Spys will be a full crop. Cherries, plums, and other fruits give excellent promise."—J. C. Harris, Oxford Co., Ont.

"We will have few apples. Hot dry weather in the blooming season is responsible. Early apples will be better than late. Northern Spys are a failure. Plums and cherries will be medium and grapes good."—Nicholas Steckley, Waterloo Co., Ont.

"Winter apples will be scarce, autumn apples ones a crop, and summer apples a full crop. Plums and peaches are well loaded. Cherries and pears are short; small fruits, fair to good."—W. N. Fisher, Norfolk Co.

"The apple bloom was light. Winter apples are almost a failure; fall and summer varieties good. Cherries will be light, and plums and peaches better than last year. Pears are small fruit in abundance."—B. Lucas, Elgin Co., Ont.

"Prospects for the apple crop are average. Greenings will give the heaviest crop; Baldwins are light. Other fruits are medium. Prospects are for a better crop than last year."—J. A. Webster, Elgin Co., Ont.

"Early and fall apples will be a full crop, but winter varieties only 50 to 60 per cent. of a crop. Greenings set a full crop; Spys will be only 30 per cent. of an average. Pears, peaches and plums look well, but cherries are poor. The small fruit crop is good."—E. J. Borrowman, Lanark Co.

"Prospects for apples are only fair, with the late varieties giving the best crop. Cherries are variable. Small fruits have suffered from lack of rain."—C. S. Burton, Simcoe Co.

"Prospects are for a fair to full crop of early apples. Baldwins and Spys are nearly a failure. Ben Davis and King are the best in winter varieties. Cherries are good; plums and pears, light."—E. T. Caverhill, Middlesex Co.

"Northern Spy and other late varieties are poor; early varieties are fair. Plums will be fair, cherries poor to medium. Excessive heat was injurious to bloom."—Wallace Megraw, Bruce Co.

"There will be half an average crop of apples. Trees blossomed well, but very little set. All varieties are light. Cherries, pears, and plums are well up to an average crop."—Andrew Bruce, Bruce Co., Ont.

"There are very few apples in the Huron district. Where the trees were sprayed the bloom set well. Greening and King were the heaviest croppers. Baldwins and Spys are almost a failure. Cherries are light, plums medium and pears good. Small fruits are medium to light."—R. R. Sloan, Huron Co., Ont.

"The apple crop will be light, not more than half an average. Baldwins and Spys are almost a failure. Greenings are a fine crop. Peaches and plums will be full."—D. Johnson, Lambton Co., Ont.

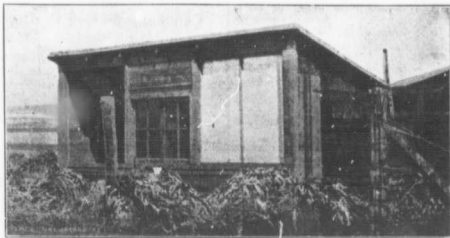
POULTRY YARD

The Candling of Eggs

The best method of ensuring that all eggs marketed are of good quality is to collect them twice a day and market them frequently—at least twice a week in summer. In order to make sure that eggs are fresh they

We generally sell the cockerels for broilers as it pays better than to keep them until they are full grown. We keep R. I. Reds. We like them first-rate for layers, but I think they are a little slower to mature than some of the other breeds. We hardly ever lose a hen as they are very hardy and will stand a lot of cold.

Breeding Counts.—There is a feeling extant that any hen will lay;



Poultry in Houses Such as This are Not Injured by Cold

The curtain front poultry house here illustrated is on the Experimental Farm, Lacombe, Alta. On January 13 the temperature was down to 47 1/2 degrees below zero, but there was not even a comb frozen.

may be candled, and this work can readily be done on the farm. Take a cardboard box large enough to hold a lamp and cut a hole in the side of the box the shape of an egg but somewhat smaller. This outfit makes a cheap and efficient candler.

The candling must be done in a dark room. Place the egg against the opening and its appearance will show whether it is fresh, stale or rotten. Mr. A. G. Phillips, of Purdue University, gives the following indications that point to the condition of the egg:

Fresh.—Opaque, appearing almost entirely free of any contents, sometimes dim outline of yolk visible, air cell very small.

Stale.—Outline of yolk plainly visible, sometimes muddy in appearance, air cell very large.

Developed Germ.—Dark spot visible, from which radiate light colored blood vessels.

Dead Germs.—Dark spot attached to shell, or red ring of blood, visible. Rotten.—Muddy or very dark in appearance, yolk and white mixed, air cell large and sometimes movable.

Cracked.—White lines showing irregularly in shell.

Hatching and Rearing Chicks

H. G. Coates, Compton Co., Que.

An investment of an incubator with us would not be profitable, as like most farmers we raise only a small number of chickens each year. We have always had good success with the natural method of incubation. The hens are set in a rather dark room, separate from the other hens, the eggs being placed in boxes around the side of the room. Corn, water and grit are placed where the hens can get them at all times. Setting hens will come off for feed about every third morning. They are then let out of doors for a short time.

"When the chickens hatch they go for from 24 to 30 hours before feeding. The first few feeds consist of stale bread crumbs either dry or soaked in milk or water, and squeezed dry in the hand. I sometimes mix in a small quantity of dry sand or charcoal with the feed. After a few days I feed them on cornmeal, oatmeal, shorts, boiled potatoes and table scraps. As soon as the wing-feathers come and they begin to feather out on the body, they are past the danger stage. When they are a month old I take the hen away.

upon breeding. There is no best breed. There are good individuals in all breeds, although we must allow that there are more good strains in individuals in some breeds than in others."—Prof. W. R. Graham, O.A.C.

One of my pullets hatched on March 22, laid its first egg on August 15.—G. W. Fortier, Carleton Co., Ont.

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