

The uniformity of produce depends upon breeding, feeding, and marketing. In this article the question of breeding only will be considered. It is a well-known fact that some breeds lay white eggs, others tinted or brown eggs. There is also some relation between breed and size of eggs, and further, most strains of the same breed vary as to size and number of eggs produced.

In order to command the market, the size of eggs is important, especially in England where eggs in a wholesale way are sold by weight. The producer is particularly interested in the numbers, as the profit depends in a measure upon this point. The Danish Government long ago established Breeding Stations. These Stations are located in various parts of the State. They also carry on a systematic record of the work as to eggs produced, feed, labor, eggs sold for hatching, etc. It was the writer's privilege to examine many of the records. The inspection of some of these Breeding Stations was made easy, owing to the fact that the Danish judges of the competitions were at work at the time of the visit, and the writer simply joined the party. It would take the judges forty days to inspect all the Stations, which means that there are no small number. The size of the eggs produced as well as the number were taken into account. Most of the Stations are stocked with such breeds as Leghorns and Minorcas. A few have Plymouth Rocks or Orpingtons, but eggs, and large white eggs, were considered of more importance than meat. This idea was open to debate.

The Stations are carefully inspected, and male birds from the best producers are used in various Stations. It was claimed by the Inspectors that this method had increased the average production and size of eggs over the country to a marked extent. These Breeding Stations supply eggs for hatching to the neighboring farmers at a small price, generally at a rate of about two dozen table eggs for one dozen hatching eggs. The Station received a small grant from the Government, depending upon their care and skill of the management. In only very exceptional cases is more than one breed allowed to be kept.

Ireland has followed the Danish plan not only in Co-operative Associations, but also in Breeding Stations. There are more breeds used in Ireland, as some breeds are claimed to be more adaptable to certain sections of the country, and moreover, the dressed bird is highly valued. Ireland has a large number of Poultry teachers, mostly ladies, and over these are a few Inspectors, a scheme not unlike our Public Schools. The teachers have classes in the evenings, and during the day visit the farmers' poultry-yards and are also responsible for the thorough inspection of the Breeding Stations. The Breeding Stations may have chickens, geese, ducks, or turkeys. Here, as in Denmark, the Stations are allowed to keep but one breed. In a very few instances, where the breeder has good wire fences and is particularly careful, two breeds are kept, but it is not looked upon with favor by the Inspectors. The writer visited a number of Breeding Stations in Ireland.

The farmers secure eggs for hatching from these Stations at a rate of about fifty cents per dozen, or two dozen table eggs for one dozen hatching eggs. A regular book is kept by the Station Manager as to eggs produced and their distribution. The Department of Agriculture in many cases supplied small, portable houses as object lessons as to proper methods of housing, and also to demonstrate the idea of getting the birds on new or untainted ground. The Station Managers receive, if the Station is properly

which are assisted a little by the Government. We have also had Institute speakers, yet we have not had the improvement in stock that we should get. The progressive people have done nobly, but many have not. To a certain extent this has been due to buying on a flat rate. If buyers would take goods only on a quality payment basis, good poultry and eggs would be more plentiful.

The Department of Agriculture has, through its District Representatives, and these in turn through the school teachers and school children, been undertaking a plan for Breeding Stations and general stock improvement. A number of the District Representatives now have Breeding Stations established. The use of the school children for the distribution of eggs and the plan of the rural School Fair assists and creates an interest in well-bred poultry. It is hoped that sometime in the future there will be in every school section in Ontario a Breeding Station where the farmers of the locality may secure male birds or eggs for hatching at a cost not to exceed twice the market value of the bird or eggs for table poultry.

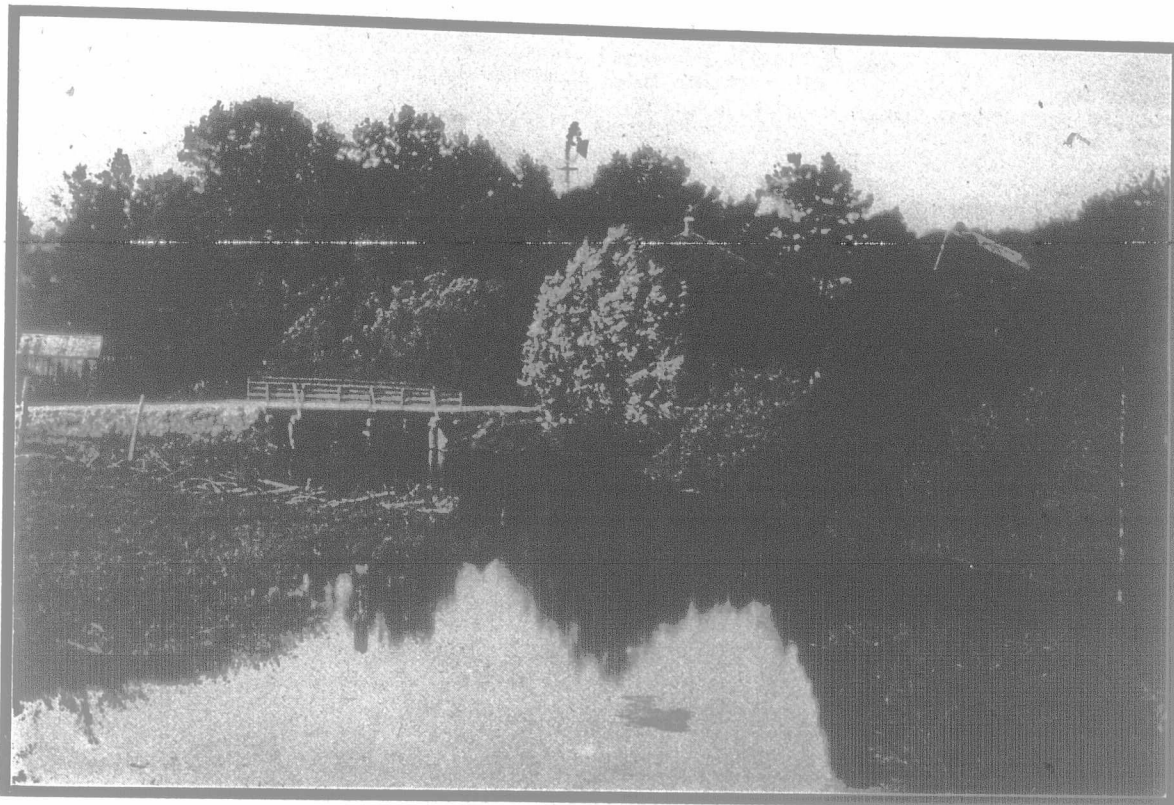
A plan for the supply of males of known ancestry is established in the form of a Central Breeding Station. This should take care of some of the difficulties encountered in other countries.

The general plan will get the school children interested in good live stock; will help towards the production of a uniform quality in eggs and meat as well as quantity. It will not seriously interfere with private enterprise in breeding work, as the results so far have stimulated rather than retarded interest along this line.

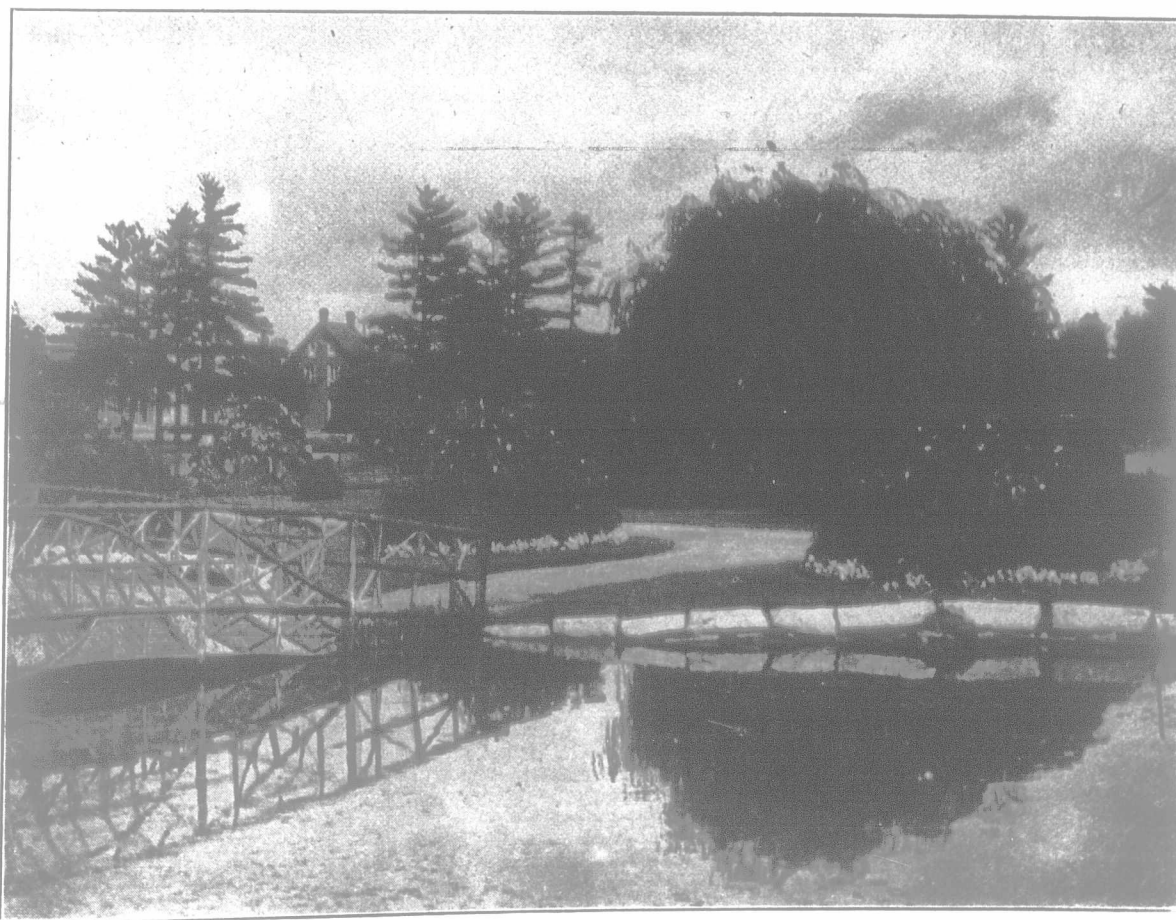
### The Future of the Canadian Apple.

The sight of thousands of bushels of luscious Canadian apples rotting on the trees or on the ground is a touching, silent appeal to our consuming populace to eat more home-grown apples — will they do it? They will if the position of the Canadian fruitman is made known, and he in turn makes known the qualities and good features of what he has produced and offers for sale. Apple growing has arrived at a critical stage in its development here in Canada, and we may as well admit it. The pander about co-operation being all that is necessary to clear away the mist amounts to as much as the smoke of a gun after it has been discharged. What is first required is a vision of the actual conditions thrown upon the brains of our fruitmen as a lantern throws a scene upon a curtain. It should linger there until they appreciate the harmful influence of unripe fruit, of berry boxes only partially filled, or the lack of a desire on the part of members of as-

sociations to pack an "A 1" article. This is not idle talk, and for substantiation readers are directed to wholesalers and retailers in any large center of distribution. Packers' characters are revealed there very unmistakably, and as to grading, an association in one of the best fruit growing districts of Western Ontario is losing members because the standard set by the society is considered too high. Such a feeling seems absurd in a



On the Lynn—One of Ontario's Peaceful and Shady Nooks.



On the Rideau Canal Driveway, near Ottawa, Ont.

and something different would have to be done. The application of Breeding Stations to Ontario is an interesting topic. There are found on our Ontario farms all kinds or classes of poultry, from the meanest scrub to the excellent bird. The large dealers in poultry and eggs have made some loud complaints about the great numbers of inferior stock. The remedy is not so easy. We have had here in Ontario numerous breeders of pure-bred poultry, and many poultry exhibitions