

birds and the other had asked the question how they were getting along? "Oh, I haven't any now, they didn't do well with me. Anyway, they don't pay; they cost too much for what returns a man gets from them!" "Why how's that?" "Well you see I didn't take proper care of them and they got mixed up with the common stock, and I came to the conclusion that they were more trouble and bother than they were worth." "How much do you think it costs to keep a bird the year round? Why, to keep it right from \$1.50 to \$2.00, I should say." And it is thus with many. They fancy the cost without keeping an account and condemn old Biddy, without proof. This is not just, for any one to succeed must keep an account of his expenses and returns. Try it all those who do not do so and especially with your hens and you will be surprised at the result. Commence at the beginning of the new year and let us hear from you later as to results.

ONLOOKER.

Our correspondent we know keeps his "hen ledger" religiously and we should be pleased to have a letter from him on "keeping account with poultry."

For the Poultry Weekly.

How to Build a Warm Poultry House.

ON page 866 of the P. W., Mr. C. W. Lawton refers to my plan of heating a poultry house with a common lamp and one or two lengths of stove pipe. Yes friend L. it works nicely and you have given a very good description of it. The lamp should be of such a depth that the flame will come as close to the floor as possible, in other words the lamp should be quite shallow and of sufficient diameter to hold oil for 12 hours, and the burner a large one. The Leader burner throws a strong flame and suits me best. The perforated cover for the top of the stove pipe will answer but a funnel shaped cover with a two inch hole in the top is better.

One of my poultry houses and the one I like best is built so snug that no artificial heat is needed to keep the fowls cosy even in the coldest zero freeze. The roof is of one inch boards which are plowed on the upper side three eighths of an inch from each edge and three-eighths deep. This forms a trough which catches all the water that in a driving storm may be forced under the battens placed over the cracks where the boards come together. The sides and ends are boarded with one inch boards and cracks battened. Before the roof was nailed on I looked the boards carefully over selecting the poorest end for the top, no shakey lumber must be used for the roof but

large or small knots be they loose or fast will do no harm if fixed in the following manner. Cut a piece of tin two or three inches larger each way than the knot you may wish to cover. With a sharp chisel, ground with a long bevel, make a cut along the knot about three eighths of an inch deep and insert the edge of the tin. Bend it over sharply and nail it firmly with 5-8 wire nails down the sides, (don't nail the top) and across the bottom of tin; no danger of a leak there. The inside of house is felted with building paper fastened on with strips; on these strips are again placed three or four thicknesses of old newspapers over which one inch strips are again nailed and then it is lathed and plastered giving two dead air spaces. This house is arranged for two breeding pens and is lighted by a large window having outer and inner sashes with three inches dead air space between. Each pen contains a good dust bath and the board floor is covered a few inches deep with planer shavings which I prefer to anything else for litter. The shavings are renewed as they become soiled. Cleanliness combined with comfortable quarters and proper feeding will not only keep the egg basket full but put the fowls and the fancier in the best of humor.

J. F. DUNN.

Ridgeway, Dec. 2nd, '89.

For the Poultry Weekly.

Hints on Winter Management.

WINTER is upon us with all its rigor and those who have not taken time by the forelock and seen to the cracks in their poultry house being covered, we'll have to hustle pretty lively to save their pets from Jack Frost.

A good plan is to empty all the drinking vessels the last thing at night so that the birds can't get their wattles wet, first thing in the morning. Leave the straw or litter well piled into a heap in the centre of the pen, into which throw a few handfuls of grain. By doing this the birds, as soon as it is light enough, commence to scratch, and exercise themselves which warms them up and helps greatly to keep them in good condition. Make them work for their food and you will get more eggs from them. I guess they are in demand just now at pretty good prices.

To help keep your birds in good health and and free from frost it is a good plan to have inside shutters that close tight at bottom of window, but admits of say four or five inches of light at the top, by these means the birds can see to begin scratching as soon as the first rays of the morning sun appear. Its a fine sight