

keeping is one industry that can be carried on without the men who are required for heavier work or at the front. It can be made a success when there are only the older people or the younger members of the family present. Poultry thrive in every climate and under almost any condition; little expense is required to start; the returns come quickly; and every month should see some cash receipts.

To have the increased production we should have, requires the efforts of those already interested and also many who are not now helping. The farm flock always pays when given proper care. Production here might be increased materially without adding much to the expense and labour. Adopt system in the work and put the management of the poultry plant into the hands of a boy or girl.

Town and city back yards should be utilized more for poultry than has been the case. Back-yard poultry-keeping pays next best to farm poultry; in some cases as well or even better. There are many back yards and vacant lots that cannot be used for vegetable growing, upon which poultry might be profitably kept. Many a school teacher, stenographer, or book-keeper might add health and variety to his or her occupation, increase the income, and have the satisfaction of helping to keep the home fires burning by taking up this side-line.

Breeders and specialists can help by breeding from healthy stock mated to give the best fertility, shipping only selected eggs or day-old chicks, and endeavouring to place in good hands the eggs and chicks which they have for sale. Care should be taken that only normal eggs and strong chicks be shipped, and that all shipments be made so that minimum losses occur in transportation.

Those who operate custom hatcheries should take similar care, and in addition should warn shippers of eggs to the hatchery to be more careful that the eggs shipped have every reason to be fertile. Fertility can be ascertained by putting a few under a hen and testing them on the seventh or eighth day.

Every person interested can help by eliminating waste and cutting down the cost of production. Breed from bred-to-lay strains; market the eggs when new laid; distribute the sale of the table poultry over as much of the whole year as possible; cull out the weaklings, and feed intelligently. If all help, increased production will follow; greater exports and more help to the Empire in this time of need will be the result.

POULTRY SUITED TO ALL CONDITIONS.

There are few conditions under which hens cannot thrive. Poultry can be reared in any climate, and under almost any condition. Probably no class of live stock is so widely scattered and universally reared. From the warmest regions of the Tropics to the cold, bleak regions of the North, man demands eggs as one of the staple articles necessary to sustain life. In eggs the first quality is preferred; therefore the hen has been taken along, and we find poultry adapted and acclimated to all regions inhabited by civilized man. There is no country so hot or so cold but that some varieties thrive. Dry weather or wet weather will not kill the poultry crop, and neither the early frost nor the late frost leaves us without a reasonable return. In fact, in every known region where human beings exist there is a place for poultry.

SMALL OUTLAY TO START.

One of the strongest features that commend poultry-keeping to the average person is that it takes so little expenditure to begin with, and if the business is properly handled, it will pay for its own development. A sitting of eggs, a dozen day-old chicks, or a trio of breeders, will form the foundation for an enterprise that is limited only by the will, energy, and ability of the manager.

REGULAR RETURNS.

Almost every month of the year one can depend upon some return from the poultry yard. In a well-managed flock there are always a few new-laid eggs for the family, usually poultry meat of some kind, and, if the flock is large enough, there is hardly a month that there is not something to sell. In many families, especially on the farm, the money from poultry is often, for several months, the only cash that comes in.