

abundance through open windows, gives them outdoor facilities for health and stimulates them to exercise. Light produced by the direct rays of the southern sun enables them to scratch successfully for the grain hidden in the litter. Cleanliness in the house makes the birds healthy and free from the annoying pests that sap their vigor and laying activity. A clean, ventilated house, free from draughts, but full of fresh air, and lighted from the south is an ideal home.

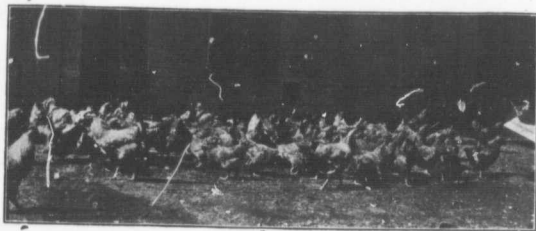
SUPPLY PROPER RAW MATERIAL

In a workshop of this type, supply the necessary materials, and the hens will turn out the eggs. Lime is required to make the brittle shell that encloses the food. Into the egg the hen puts much water, some protein, fat, carbohydrates, etc. These she puts in, according to proper proportions; so her food must be a suitable ration. Give, then, lots of fresh, clean water, 10 parts of wheat, three of oats, two of bran, and one of meat. These the hen will grind

with sharp gravel or grit, which should always be before the fowl. With such supplies and some charcoal and green food to keep the machines in order, the 10 hens will fatigue your packing

A flock of 100 hens is a good investment. They require some care, but this is only a pleasure to the person really interested. Not all can be successful, for not all are sufficiently accurate to do the simple but regular work of raising fowl. He makes best success who, liking the employment, starts with a few fowl or a setting hen, and gradually grows into the knowledge of this instructive and profitable way of spending some hours of recreation.

Don't forget that plenty of exercise for the breeding stock during the winter is essential if you want strong husky chicks, and none other than husky ones should satisfy the breeder. Compel the birds to exercise by feeding whole grains in a deep litter, especially the morning feed. If using roots, cabbage or such material for green food, raise it off the floor sufficiently to make the birds jump six or eight inches to get at it. Make them work. It pays.



These Fowls are not "A Neglected Sideline" but Add a Nice Little Sum to the Annual Income
"How much profit should a hen make in a year?" The poultry expert scratched his head for a minute and then replied to an editor of Farm and Dairy, "From \$3.50 to \$4 each. I have known farmers to make as high as \$5.50 a hen. It all depends on how much intelligent attention you give them." How much do you make from your flock? How much care do you give the flock?
—Out courtesy M. A. Jull.

crates. By actual trial on a farm in Asphodel, 25 pullets, of Guelph origin and properly cared for, laid $7\frac{1}{2}$ times as many eggs as 25 ordinary birds lazily tended.

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The Colonization of Growing Stock

A STUNTED, weak breeding flock and unthrifty chickens is the fate of the poultry farmer who attempts to raise a large number of chickens on the same land year after year. This necessity of rotating the land on which the chickens are kept is one of the biggest factors in causing extensive poultry farming to almost always end in failure. All good poultry men testify to the fact that continually breeding on the same land is followed by reduced vitality and increased mortality. "Backyard fanciers," who are common in almost every town in Canada, have discovered this fact to their sorrow and have adopted the plan of distributing eggs among the farmers throughout the surrounding country with the option of choosing the two best chickens from a setting when the chickens are mature.

It is right here that the farmer poultryman has his greatest advantage. He can colonize his growing stock, spread them out over the whole farm if need be, taking two crops from one piece of land,—corn and chickens, for instance. The farmer with a cultivated orchard has a special advantage in poultry husbandry as chickens thrive better on cultivated land than they do on sod. Likewise their droppings are an advantage to the orchard. Where the orchard is missing the next best place is the corn field. Do not worry about the chickens destroying the crop. Well fed fowl do not destroy crops, particularly so vigorous a crop as corn.

"But I cannot travel all over the farm feeding my poultry each day," objects the man whose fowl are housed and yarded in a 10 by 20 foot space. The colonization man answers that it is not necessary. He will claim that colonization reduces labor, and well deserves the name of "simplified poultry culture." Here is a brief outline of a plan that is being followed successfully in the poultry department of the Ontario Agricultural College and by hundreds of practical poultrymen throughout the province. This plan, of

course, only applies after the weather is warm enough to allow of free range.

Any style of house that will keep out the rain and let in the sunlight and air will do. It is preferable to have the house mounted on skids, so that a horse may be attached to draw it from one field to another. A rolling stone gathers no moss, but a rolling house of this type gathers in lots of cash. The main point is to have enough houses so that the birds are not crowded, and so

the feeding. The general plan is to mount a barrel on a stoneboat, fill with water, add a little potassium permanganate to prevent the water becoming slimy and draw to the field, leaving barrel, stoneboat and all handy to the colony house. Drive a nail at the lower end of the barrel, then draw out until water trickles out slowly. Leave a drinking pan under the trickle and the chickens have a supply that will last them for weeks, and with no further effort on part of the owner.

Only where skunks or other vermin are plentiful will it be necessary to visit the chickens more than once a week. Where vermin abounds, however it would be well to shut the colony houses each night. The colonization of growing stock opens a way to more poultry, healthier poultry and reduced labor expenditure, to say nothing about greater profits.

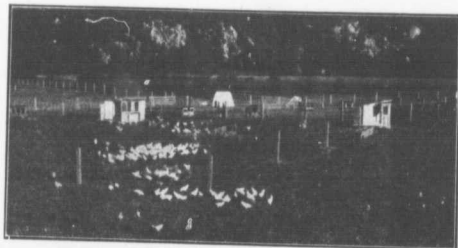
Early Chickens Best

Jas. Armstrong, Wellington Co., Ont.

A pullet hatched in May will lay two months earlier than a chicken hatched in June, though there may be but one month's difference in their age. Similarly, an April chicken will lay earlier than one hatched in May, even when the difference of age is taken into consideration. Chickens hatched in the latter part of March are in my opinion the prime pullets for winter egg production. They start to lay early and keep it up all winter.

There are many reasons why the early chickens should prove the best layers. The hot weather of summer is very hard on the growing chickens and the early hatched chicken having attained greater maturity is in a better position to withstand the hot weather. For the same reason the early chick is not so affected by the advent of cold weather in the fall. I believe too that the eggs produced early in the breeding season are more vigorous, even if such a large percentage of them are not fertile.

Early settings of eggs are the most profitable, both to seller and purchaser.



Colonizing the Growing Stock on an Experimental Farm

Poultry experts are all aware of the unsatisfactory results that follow continuous chicken rearing on the same land year after year. They are spreading out their poultry departments, as may be seen by this illustration of colony houses on the Experimental Farm at Agassiz, B.C.

that breeds of different age and size may be quartered in separate houses and far enough apart on the farm that the broods will not mix.

The feeding plan is simplicity itself. Instead of visiting the chickens every day as does the farmer who keeps them in the barnyard to save labor, the colonization poultryman does not need to go near his chickens more than once a week. The hopper system of feeding is followed. The style of hopper is not important so as it feeds continuously and will hold enough of the dry mash to last the colony for a week. The following mixture has been proved a satisfactory one: Cracked wheat three parts, granulated oatmeal three parts, cracked corn three parts, and grit, chicken size, one part.

The watering of the poultry is as simple as