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Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

Roads in Winter.

there any law prohibiting people" tearing down your fence in the winter time on a rural mail delivery route and making a public road of your fields with out asking the farmer's permission?

2. Can you collect damages from the Municipal Council for destroying your fences and for noxious weeds, etc.

A SUBSCRIBER. Ans.—1. Yes. It is trespass, and the offenders are answerable in damages. See The Snow Fences Act, Revised Statutes of Ontario, 1914, Chapter 211 (amended by Statutes of 1916), as to powers of Municipal Councils where a fence along a public highway causes snow to accumulate or drift so as to impede or obstruct travel. The Act, as amended, lays down the proper course to be taken in such case.

Damp Henhouse.

I built a henhouse last summer, but there is something about it that is far from being right. It is built facing south, on a cement wall one foot high and the floor is raised about 8 inches with small stone and covered with four inches of sand but it seems to be very The straw on the floor will get real damp in twenty-four hours, and unless it is cleaned out about every third day it gets so heavy that the hens do not move it around. Do you think the dampness is coming up through the stones and sand? Would it be better with a concrete floor? The size of the building is 4 feet high at the back, 7 feet at the front, 22 feet long, and 8½ feet deep. There are two windows, 3 by 5, and a cotton window 5 feet 4 inches by 3 feet 10 inches. We would like to have some idea as to how to remedy the dampness. How many hens would a building of this size accommodate?

Ans.-It is sometimes difficult to say just why a pen so constructed should be damp, especially when there is cotton in the front. It is just possible that the dampness is coming up through the floor, although if the ground was anyway dry around the building, and you have it filled up practically a foot above the surrounding ground, we cannot understand why it should be damp from that cause. Stone and sand should keep the floor dry. Recently we were in a large poultry house where an earth floor was used and there was no trouble from dampness. It was filled up about 12 or 15 inches above the surrounding ground. In one pen on this poultry plant visited there were more birds than is usually recommended, and we noticed that the straw had a tendency to be damp. The proprietor stated that by the end of the week that pen was usually almost muddy, and he believed it was due to the overcrowding, as in the other pens of the same size, but with a smaller number of birds, the straw was quite dry, except when it was necessary to keep the cotton continually closed We doubt whether the dampness would be prevented by putting in a floor. We are rather inclined to think that it is due to overcrowding or lack of ventilation. A pen the size mentioned is only large enough for about 45 birds. If the lighter breeds were kept possibly 50 could be accommodated. You have good light in the pen, but we believe it would be improved by putting in another frame of cotton and leaving them open when the sun is shining but keeping them closed when the wind is in a direction that would blow into the pen. We have noticed that when we keep the cotton of our pen closed for several days, owing to high winds, that the straw gets more or less damp, but this trouble is overcome when the cotton frame is opened up for a few hours each day. With a pen of the dimensions given we would be a little afraid of a draft, and believe that if a solid part tion were extended out 4 feet from the back, and possibly extended 2 feet high all the way across it would be better for the birds. With a pen much longer than it is wide it is almost impossible to prevent the circulation of air, which is detrimental to the health of the birds. With a house almost square this trouble is



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