

**Oyster Shell.**—The lime of the oyster shell is a necessity in egg production. Some idea of the need of the shell supply can be obtained from the fact that an ordinary flock of 150 hens will produce, annually in egg shell, 137 pounds of clear chalk. The habit of egg eating is the result of a craving for shell forming material and unless it becomes chronic the feeding of oyster shell will at once remedy the evil. Fig. 63 shows a handy self-feeding box for oyster shell, grit, or meat meal which can be attached to the wall of the poultry house.

**Meat Supply.**—When the birds are on range they are usually able to secure for themselves in worms, bugs and grubs the necessary supply of animal food. Under winter conditions the supply is limited and it becomes necessary then to supply the meat ration in some other form. The necessary animal food may be supplied by meat scraps from the table, or beef heads, or liver may be fed either raw or boiled. Green bones also become a highly desirable food when a bone grinder is used to prepare it. Prepared meat rations are manufactured and supplied through poultry supply houses, in the form of meat meal, blood meal and beef scraps. These may be fed dry or mixed with mash.

**Vegetables and Green Food.**—Owing to the confinement of winter quarters, the birds are unable to obtain their supply of green or succulent foods. This may be supplied by mangolds, turnips, cabbage, green clover or alfalfa. The latter is strongly recommended when properly saved and may be fed either whole or cut, raw or boiled.

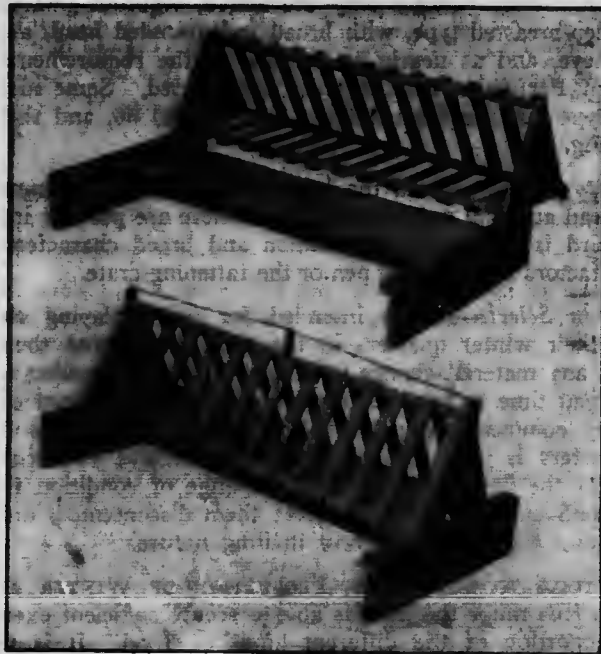


Fig. 64.—PROTECTED FEED TROUGH.