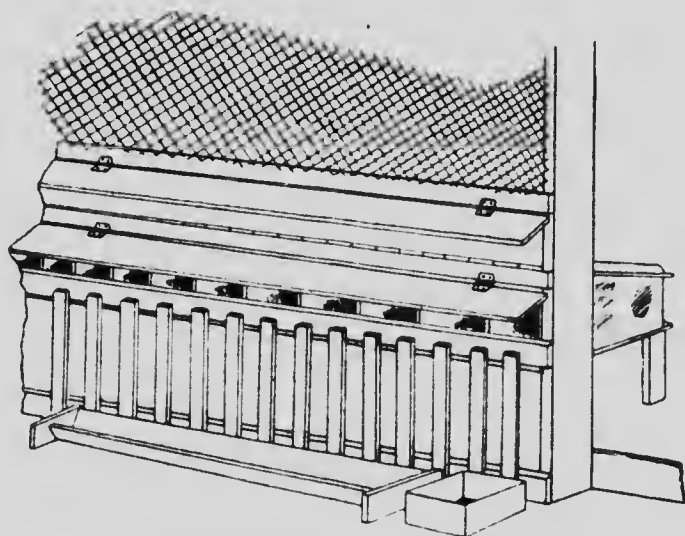


through the other pens. On the other hand, it costs money to build an alleyway, it has to be built at the highest side of the house or at least where the ceiling is sufficiently high to allow one to walk through; whether the house is heated sufficiently or not this space must be warmed the same as the rest of the house, which all takes money and detracts from the comfort of the fowl. It is a question as to whether the alleyway saves the feeder any steps. It is probable that a feeder can feed his fowl just as well going through from pen to pen as he can by means of an alleyway. The contention that one can do most of the work from the alleyway is not practical. Feeders who do best with their poultry want to get right into the flock and are not satisfied unless they see how each pen or each individual is taking the food. The feeder cannot get too well acquainted with his birds, and the best way to get acquainted is to go through the pens frequently. Doors should, however, be wide enough to admit a wheelbarrow and should swing both ways. In extra long houses, feed carriers are sometimes used to advantage.



#### HINTS ON ARRANGING ALLEYWAY.

Where alleyways are used the accompanying illustration will give hints on how the work can be made easier.

*Floor Space for Hens.*—This question, like many other questions connected with poultry house construction, cannot be answered definitely. The floor space which a hen requires depends on several things: (1) The breed of the hen; some hens require more space than others. (2) The nature of the food and how it is fed. Hens that are fed in a heavy litter during the winter where the getting of the food entails considerable effort will obtain all the exercise necessary without too much space. (3) Ventilation.—The house poorly ventilated will not accommodate as many hens as a house properly ventilated. A few years ago when poultry houses were kept warm, instead of being ventilated, it was thought that each hen should have between 8 to 12 square feet of floor, and in all probability she did, but the same breed of hen does better now in the house properly ventilated with 4 square feet than her ancestors did with 12, and where good ventilation is provided 4 to 5 square feet is enough for the average hen.