

Climate Right for Chickens.—Mr. W. E. Bayliss, a successful poultry raiser and lecturer, says:—

"On account of its climate Metchosin is particularly well suited for the raising of poultry. In order to get the best results from chickens it is absolutely necessary that they should have plenty of fresh air. It is only in a mild climate that they can be kept under such conditions as to insure this. Anywhere near the coast the hen house can be open night and day during the whole winter, and the laying season may be said to begin with the New Year.

"In the Metchosin district of Vancouver Island the conditions are, if anything, more favourable than anywhere in the West, because of the small rainfall and cool summers. Breeders of pure stock have begun to realize this fact, and a good many are making their headquarters in the district.

"In starting into the poultry business we must first find out what is the best marketable product in the particular locality we are situated in; eggs, table fowl, or both. I would say, in and around Metchosin, it pays to keep utility fowl, such as Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Orpingtons and Rhode Island Reds—for eggs, broilers and table. In the outlying districts, with somewhat uncertain shipping facilities, it pays better to keep egg-producing varieties, such as Leghorn and Minorca class.

"We have heard remarks about the poultry business being overdone in British Columbia on account of such an influx of settlers from Manitoba and the Northwest Territories, who are taking up fruit and poultry culture as a business and pastime; but when we look at the large territory to the North, the lumber, mining camps and canneries in outlying districts, we are not afraid to say that it will be quite a number of years hence before the supply will equal the demand.

"Last year we imported about one million dollars' worth of eggs and poultry, to supply our Northern trade and also our local canneries, mills and camps. The price of eggs for the years 1908-9 averaged the high price of 36 cents per dozen. The lowest market price in Victoria, which is our nearest market, was 25 cents per dozen, and the highest 75 cents.

"The cost of starting into poultry culture as a business is comparatively small compared with other lines of farm produce. Houses are cheaply built, and in the Metchosin district shells and good grit are to be had for the fetching. To start a five-hundred-hen plant would cost about \$2,000 to \$3,000 after you have located your land—five hundred laying hens—with proper care and attention—will make a net profit of \$1,000.00 a year, this is double what can be made in proportion to the outlay with other farm stock, besides the healthy and interesting side of poultry raising."

A Paradise for the Fruit Grower.—There are great possibilities in fruit growing in this end of Vancouver Island, which is, one may say, a paradise for the fruit grower. To give a list of fruits that are grown here with great pleasure and profit is an easy task; one can do so off-hand; apples, pears, plums, cherries, prunes, crabs, quinces, peaches, apricots, nectarines, grapes, mulberries, loganberries, raspberries, blackberries, strawberries, currants, gooseberries; then there are medlars and walnuts and chestnuts. The garden at "Fern-