

would be done with the young stock and the skim milk? Unless a farmer is prepared to give his whole attention to dairying it would not pay to knock the calves on the head as soon as they are born or sell them for the price of the skin, as is done in dairy sections of the eastern provinces. Neither would it be profitable to keep the calves until they are mature, because there would be too much stock on hand. And about the last thing that a butcher wants is a wedge-shaped steer of the dairy type. Dairy cows are not so ruggedly constituted as those that carry more flesh on their bones, for this reason they require more attention than can be given by the farmer whose interest is centered among the several branches of farming.

I am not prepared to say which breed of cattle is best suited to produce beef stock as well as milk, but the milking strains of Shorthorns have proved heavy milkers. Breeders of Red Polls say that these are the dual purpose cattle, but I am not sufficiently familiar with the breed to pass judgment upon them. However, there is proof enough in favor of the dual purpose cow when we consider that almost every farmer who keeps cows to supply his household keeps those of the beef type. The calves require whole milk for a few weeks but they are soon able to do with skim milk if they are fed ground flax and other meal in conjunction with it. In this way the cream may be shipped to the factory, and the skim milk will aid in producing beef on the farm. The idea is to make the raising of grain, meat, and dairy products an occupation where the branches all work in harmony and assist each other.

In conclusion I would say that where mixed farming is carried on, and where it is the cream that is shipped to the factory I would prefer dual purpose cows to cows of the dairy type.

Man.

JAS. LAUGHLAND.

## POULTRY

### Feeding for Fall and Early Winter Laying

Discussion this week is on the question of feeding and caring for a flock of hens to induce fall and early winter laying, a subject of first importance to everyone interested in poultry for commercial purposes. It is for egg production that most farmers keep hens, and everyone with a flock is desirous of securing as large a proportion as possible of these eggs in the season when prices are highest. Consequently the methods of a number of poultrykeepers, who are doing this successfully should be of value and interest. First prize is awarded to Rosamond Grabham, Saskatchewan, and second to C. F. Cook, Saskatchewan. The attention of readers of the poultry column is directed to the topic to be discussed in our issue of October 6th, on the marketing of eggs and poultry products through commission merchants.

### Feed the Important Point

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE :

Pullets and young hens need particular attention at this season of the year, that they may fill the egg basket when egg prices begin to soar. I endeavor to have the moulting over by the middle of August. To accomplish this I leave off grain feeding in July and feed only a mash of shorts in addition to the green feed they pick themselves from rape, etc. At the beginning of August I start feeding good wheat, and when cutting grain commences, an oat or barley sheaf scattered around for them to pick at in the middle of the morning and a good wheat feed about four o'clock in the afternoon. But to get the pullets to mature and lay early, in addition to this, give them the house scraps and raw meat, or liver, chopped very small, a good feed of this say about twice a week.

My hen houses (I have two) are kept clean. I am having them moved to a more sheltered location and set partly in the ground. I think this will make them warmer for the cold season coming.

It is a good plan to separate the male birds and old hens, if you have any, from those you expect to be your layers. Do not keep old hens. I find they do not pay after two years of age. My young hens all have their new feathers and

are now commencing to lay well, and I think with good feeding and proper care the early hatched pullets will soon begin to lay as well. I have already sent a consignment of spring cockerels to the fattening station, and the pullets are just as well developed. Of course, constant cleanliness, and freedom from lice are important points, but I think the feeding is very important as well as warm quarters. I find wheat the best of all grain for the layers though oats are very good while they are making their growth. I also find occasional feeds of raw beef very good for the making of eggs. I may say my flock keep very free from disease. I lose more poultry by accidents than any other cause.

Sask.

ROSAMOND GRABHAM.

### Feeding for Fall and Winter Eggs

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE :

The first aim in the production of eggs is to keep the flock in condition. This obtained eggs are sure to be the result. The following method of feeding has given good results : For breakfast, swede turnips pulped and boiled, salt added and bran and shorts mixed in. A good way to mix the mash is to turn the swedes after cooking into a tin or whatever is used for mixing, cover the turnips nicely with bran, then place over the whole lot a bag or anything to keep the steam in. Let the mash steam for about 15 minutes, then stir and add sufficient shorts to make a nice crumbly meal. A good addition, say twice a week, is a handful or two of crushed linseed. Feed the mash warm (not hot) and as much as the birds will readily eat. By way of a change, potatoes or other vegetables may be used instead of turnips. This is a good ration for the winter months when the hens are confined in the house, and not able to find anything in the way of green food.

Previous to feeding the mash, say about one hour earlier, two or three handfuls of wheat thrown in the litter on the floor will keep the hens busy and give them exercise. At noon scraps from the house are sufficient, and for the evening meal a feed of good whole wheat, barley, or oats, a handful for each adult chicken. Always feed the meal in a trough, not in the dirt. See that there is a supply of clean fresh water before the fowls, also grit and shell or lime and sand. For winter laying I prefer young hens. Those that have moulted early being stronger are able to stand the cold weather better than the pullets, and they lay larger eggs.

With a flock of half and half good results should be obtained.

Now a word about the house : This should be warm and comfortable, kept clean, with plenty of light and ventilation, but free from draughts. The perches are best made from poles two inches in diameter, or lumber of that thickness rounded on one edge. The roosts should not be placed too high, as hens may be injured when jumping down, especially if heavy breeds are kept. About two feet is high enough for the first one. A good plan is to occasionally paint the perch ends and other crevices with coal oil to keep down the

insects, providing also a dust bath for the birds to dust in. Should a bird become inactive and appear sick, take it from the flock at once, give it a dose of sweet oil and isolate. Place it in a warm coop and feed on a special food. If no improvement in a few days it would be advisable to have expert advice, lest there should be some infectious complaint. The hay used in the nest boxes should be frequently replaced, the boxes being all the better for lime washing inside and out. Collect the eggs every day to prevent any being broken which is so apt to encourage egg-eating in the flock, a habit incurable if once developed. This method of feeding and caring for hens evolves very little labor and expense if attended to regular every day, pleasure and profit being certain.

Sask.

C. F. COOK.

## HORTICULTURE

### Home Made Attractive

Accompanying illustrations of farm buildings and gateway and drive were taken on the farm of Anthony Sapte of the Tyndall district, Manitoba. This gives some idea of what can be done to make a farm home in the prairie provinces of Western Canada attractive. There always is something about the general appearance of a rural home that pleases or displeases one interested in farming as he drives along the front. Mr. Sapte's place presents such features as cause the interested observer to become more interested and to conclude that the owner is prospering and living under such conditions that all is not drudgery with absence of opportunity for pleasure.

The entrance is guarded by a neat wire gate, 14 feet wide, with an arch 12 feet high, the gate so constructed that it slides open on a track rather than swinging on hinges. Above the arch is a sign bearing Mr. Sapte's name and the location of his farm. This entrance is for light traffic, another being provided for heavy wagons and large loads.

A well constructed gravel drive leads from the gate to the residence, a stretch of 240 yards. On either side is a grass boulevard 16 feet wide and then come the trees carefully planted for protection and ornamentation. Some 4,000 trees have been set out, most of them three years ago, and an enormous growth is shown in that time. They include maple, ash and cottonwood. The cost connected with making this fine approach was approximately \$250. Gravel walks also lead around the house. A tennis court lies in front, a flag pole and well kept flower beds completing the details that make the dwelling attractive. Another house is provided for the foreman, Thos. Cousins, who had charge of the construction of the driveway and the general layout of many of the buildings. Separate quarters also are provided for extra hired help.

Outside farm buildings are very convenient and well-equipped. Horse stable accommodates



FARM BUILDINGS OF ANTHONY SAPTE OF TYNDALL DISTRICT.