

traced right back to the patrons themselves who are the greatest losers from any deterioration in the quality of the product when on the road to the consumer. The price of making has been reduced so much of late years that the maker in order to come out even at the close of the season has been compelled to buy the cheapest kind of supplies. A little increase in the price of making, which patrons could very well afford to make, would enable the maker to do better work, turn out a much better quality of product and put it up in better shape for market.

In addition to complaints about inferior boxes that are too light and not properly nailed, a great many cheeses are not properly boxed. In this the maker is entirely to blame as he, as a rule, does the boxing of the cheese and getting them ready for shipment. Complaints in this particular are chiefly that the boxes are too high for the cheese or the cheese too high for the box. Every maker should make his cheese of a size that will fit for the boxes ordered as snugly as possible. In every case where a box is too high it should be pared down to the level of the cheese and the cover tacked on securely. A good plan is to have the cheese made so that it will be from 1-8 to 1-4 inch above the rim of the box. In New Zealand square boxes are used which are firmer and more secure than the round box but it would perhaps occasion too great a revolution in cheese-factory machinery and equipment to introduce it here. Generally speaking, there are more complaints as to broken and inferior boxes on the cheese coming from western Ontario than from any other section of the Dominion.

“Farming.”

The Poultry-Yard.

THE CAPITAL AND MANAGEMENT.

Too limited an amount of capital will usually lead to failure, because too much is attempted with it. If the poultry house in a cold climate must be complete, it is a

waste of funds to build a cheaper one, yet there are many who economize on the poultry house in trying to make one dollar do the work of two, the consequence being that during the winter, in storms, and when damp weather appears, the house is unfit for the purpose desired.

When building a poultry-house, always consider the climate. If the winters are long and cold, the house should be plastered, if only one coating is applied. No doubt the suggestion will be received as one which causes expense, but it is better to expend the money in that manner, in the first place than to lose more than the amount by sickness in the flock or the hens failing to lay at a time when eggs are the highest. It is also doubtful if even the most experienced poultry-men can go into the poultry business on a large scale as a business and make a profit the first season, as only the preparatory steps can be taken in a year. It takes time to get the right kind of hens, for they must be hatched and raised, and they will cost something while they are growing. The greatest temptation is to try to keep twenty hens in a house that will accommodate only ten, and yet ten hens, properly managed, with plenty of room, will produce more eggs on less food than will twenty that are crowded together. During the winter season, when the snow keeps the hens indoors, they should have plenty of room on the floor, as they will require the greatest possible space for exercise. On the roost in winter they may sit side by side in a somewhat close position, but when they come off the roost then is the time they need the room.

A proper beginning in business is important, and to raise the hens means that they shall be hatched from selected stock, and that as no birds will be brought on the farm from outside, there will be no contagious diseases. Every dollar put into the poultry business and used in a manner to get better results in the future than immediately should bring in a profit, but to hurry at the start and attempt to make the capital go too far will lead to mistakes and disappointment.