

It must be remembered that each mature fowl has a coat of feathers sufficient to protect it from any temperature that will be encountered from now forward, through the season, and that all that is required in the way of a house is a shelter from rains and protection from drafts. To shut them up in a tight house at night is to make conditions unnatural and force them to breathe foul air, which is detrimental to their health.

It is seldom best to set eggs from the heavier breeds after the month of May, for chicks hatched later do not begin to lay in the fall or early winter when eggs are high. The lighter breeds, like Leghorns, may be hatched to advantage as late as June. Some of the heavier breeds which are needed for exhibition at the late winter shows are sometimes hatched as late as July, but those are not profitable for practical purposes.

Inexpensive Brood Coop.

The average farmer's wife does not wish to spend much money for the coops and other small utensils which she uses in rearing chicks, for such things are used only during a very short season. A good brood coop, however, is very necessary. It must be water proof and wind proof, yet must permit of sufficient ventilation. Where there is no danger of foxes, skunks and other animals which dig under the coops, a coop without a floor is to be preferred because then all that is necessary to clean it every morning is to move it onto fresh ground. It must also be roomy so that the hen will have plenty of chance to move around, for she will then be less likely to step on the chicks. It must also be well ventilated so that it will be cool and otherwise comfortable.

All of these requirements may be met by an ordinary drygoods box which may be obtained for five, ten or fifteen cents from the store. The box should not be smaller than two feet square and at least two feet high. If it is larger so much the better. One side should be taken off and slats nailed on, up and down. A part of the boards taken off this side should be used to form a protection at the top, extending over the open side to keep out the sun and rain. If no floor is needed for the coop all that is necessary to make it ready for use is to cover the top with tar paper of some water proof fabric and arrange one of the slats under a cleat so that it can be readily removed for putting in or taking out the hen.

It is a good plan to take the boards off the bottom of the coop and put cleats across beneath them, so they can be used as a removable floor. The coop can then be set off the floor and the latter cleaned, disinfected by being exposed to the sun during the day, and placed again under the coop at night. It is perfectly safe to leave the coop without a floor in day time in most places for it is very seldom that hostile animals will attack the brood during daylight.

The Care of Chicks in Brooders.

The idea that seems to be prevalent in some quarters that it requires special, scientific knowledge to successfully rear chicks in brooders, is entirely wrong. If the brooder is a good one, and plenty of satisfactory ones are on the market, all that is required is plenty of air, plenty of exercise, a correct degree of heat and intelligent feeding to make the chicks grow faster than they usually do with hens and with less cost, especially for labor. This applies, of course, to chicks that are raised in considerable numbers, say from one hundred up. The labor saving item is not so considerable, if it indeed exists at all, where but few chicks are reared at one time.

The chicks should remain in the incubator forty-eight to sixty hours after the hatch is complete and then should be transferred to brooders in which a temperature of about ninety-

five degrees is maintained under the hover. The floor of the hover should be covered with sand, wheat bran or chaff from the hay mow. It is best to keep the little fellows under the hover for the first few hours and then to give the first feed, which should consist of stale bread moistened with milk, or of a Johnny-cake made of one part corn meal and one part wheat bran mixed with sour milk, baked hard, crumbled and fed dry. Water should also be given and the chicks should be taught to drink if they do not take to it naturally. This food is the best for the first two or three days but after that any well-known brand of prepared chick feed is not only cheaper to feed on account of economy and labor, but also because of results obtained.

The temperature of the brooder (under the hover) should be reduced to about ninety degrees at the end of the first week. After that the degree of heat should be governed by the way the chicks act at night. If they huddle together it is evidence that they are too cold. If they appear too warm and are panting or lie near the edge of the hover, the heat should be reduced a little. If they are spread out evenly over the floor and appear content the heat is all right.

The brooders should by all means be operated where there is plenty of fresh air, for lack of good air to breathe has caused the death of more chicks than almost anything else. Exercise in the open air is one of the best life givers and strength makers that the poultryman can lay hold of and on all bright days the chicks should be encouraged to get outdoors onto the ground and run about. When winds are blowing some sort of a wind break should be set up to protect them, especially when they are small.

Setting a Hen.

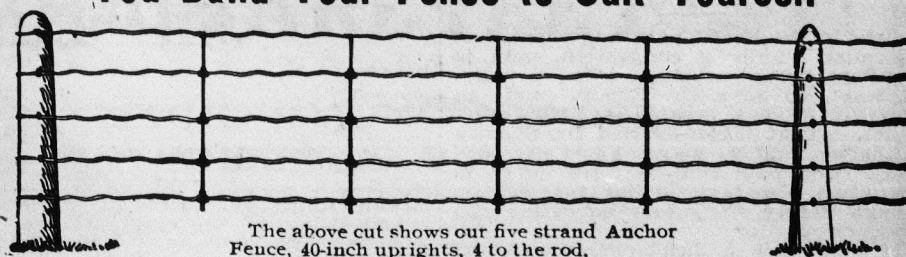
A correspondent writes: "I always set hens in pairs in order that when they hatch one hen can take all the chickens. I make a coop 18 inches wide, 18 inches high and 36 inches long, with a tight partition in the centre. The top is on hinges so that the interior will be readily accessible for cleaning and for placing eggs. I make two openings in the front of the coop and in the dark corner of each compartment I place a nest and fill it with planer shavings or straw. I make a yard in front of the coop of one inch mesh poultry netting, 18 inches high and the width of the coop, running it about five feet out in front. This is covered with two-inch mesh poultry netting, in order to confine the hens to this small yard. Two persons can pick up one of these coops with its yard and with little effort move both to another place, thus insuring clean quarters for the chicks.

After the nests are fixed, I put a few China nest eggs in each one and take a couple of "broodies" and give them the nests. I supply them with feed and wafer in the yard in front of the coop and in a couple of days they will have settled down on the eggs, or have shown that they won't. If they won't sit I take them off and try other hens on the China eggs. When they have taken the nests, I gently remove the China eggs at night and replace them with hen's eggs. I keep feed and water at all times in the little yard and as it is covered with poultry netting and the hens cannot get out and run around, I have no trouble with chilled eggs. When they hatch I give all the chicks to one hen.

Now one word as to eggs. I gather them often and give preference to the morning laid eggs for hatching. I keep eggs at between 60 and 70 degrees until ready to set them, and turn them once a day. I do not know it all about hatching chicks, but I know enough to get a large per cent of chicks from the number of eggs set.

Gourlay, Winter & Leeming have issued a catalogue telling just how the Gourlay piano is made. It gives a clear understanding of the care exercised in the construction of the piano of highest merit made in Canada. It will be mailed to your address free on application.

You Build Your Fence to Suit Yourself



The above cut shows our five strand Anchor Fence, 40-inch uprights, 4 to the rod.

You require no complicated fence machine; no expert labor.

Anchor Fence is made of No. 9 Coiled Spring Steel Wire, with No. 9 or No. 7 uprights. The Anchor Clamp, at the crossing of the wires, holds them absolutely rigid. No other fence made has a device of this kind.

If You Want a Woven Fence

you find it in our Majestic Woven Wire Fence, the most elastic and durable of woven wire fences. Made exclusively of best imported galvanized steel wire.

Notice the reverse twist; this gives you the desired elasticity, and locks the running cables firmly to the deeply crimped uprights. The heaviest and strongest woven fencing on the market.

Write for our new Catalogue H, which gives much valuable information regarding fencing.



Low Hog Fence.—Notice the heavy, rigid, and yet elastic construction.

THE MANITOBA ANCHOR WIRE FENCE CO., Ltd.

92 Princess St., WINNIPEG.

The Provincial Mutual Hail Insurance Company of Manitoba

Is the Original Hail Insurance Company of Manitoba

ESTABLISHED 1891

BY PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT CHARTER

THE OLD RELIABLE: Managed by Farmers Only

Has done business for seventeen years, and in thirteen of those years has paid all losses in full. The other four years it paid Three Dollars per acre twice, Four Dollars and fifty cents per acre once, and Five Dollars per acre once. No other Mutual Hail Insurance Company doing business by the premium note method, and paying for losses to the extent of six dollars per acre has ever been able to show such a splendid record.

The yearly average cost has been 22 cents per acre to insure to the extent of six dollars per acre. No Liabilities.

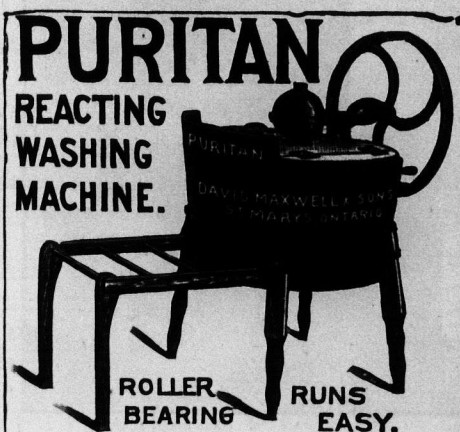
C. J. THOMSON, Farmer, Virden, Manager-Sec.-Treas.
Head Office: 291 1/2 PORTAGE AVE., WINNIPEG.

TWO HOUSEHOLD "FAVORITES"

FAVORITE



In eight sizes, churns 1/2 to 30 gallons cream. Patent foot and lever drive. Roller bearings. Steel frame. Easy to operate. Superior in workmanship and finish. Sold by all leading jobbers. If you cannot procure, write us direct.



Latest and most improved. Tell your jobber you want it. Don't accept any substitute. Beautifully finished in Grained Oak, Royal Blue or wine color and silver aluminum. Write direct to us.

DAVID MAXWELL & SONS, St. Mary's, Ont.

Cancer Cure

Internal Cancer. Write, R. D. EVANS, BRANDON, MANITOBA.

R. D. EVANS, Discoverer of the famous EVANS' CANCER CURE, desires all who suffer with Cancer to write to him. Two days' treatment will cure external or