

## POULTRY YARD

## Who Pays for Them?

While talking to a wholesale dealer the other day he made the remark that in a 30-dozen case of eggs received at this time of the year there would be an average of over two dozen eggs that were absolutely worthless and had to be thrown on the dump heap. I asked who paid for them, and he said, "We don't. If the buyer does not, who does? The middle man can't or he would not stay in the business; consumer may pay a little of it, but it is quite probable that the bulk of the price has to be paid by the producer, for the same man," said.

"We have to count this loss when we buy our eggs from the farmer? And still some farmers will continue to use market stale eggs."

The worst feature is that the careful man very often loses with the careless one. The remedy is for the man who is honest to cease to sell eggs to the buyer who does not discriminate in price.—F.C.E.

## \$4,500 for Poultry

The exhibit of poultry in connection with the last Winter Fair was one of the largest ever seen on the American continent at an annual show. There were over 4,200 entries. The poultry committee of the Fair are striving to reach the 5,000 mark at the coming Fair.

Conditions are favorable for a large increase in the entries for this department. The new addition which has been made to the Fair building in Guelph gives 10,000 square feet of additional floor space in the poultry department and brings the total up to 25,000 square feet of space. The high prices ruling for both dressed demand for pure bred poultry and breeders will therefore desire to secure the advertising which comes from exhibiting at such a large Fair. The direct financial inducements, of course, are the greatest influence. This has been well provided by regular prizes of \$3,000 in cash and a list of special prizes worth over \$1,500. The classification of the special prizes has just been arranged. Included in the specials will be over \$500 in cash, 43 silver cups, 13 medals, a large number of valuable goods, specials and many valuable ribbons offered by specialty clubs. Poultry entries close on November 22nd and should be sent to the secretary of the Fair before that date.—A.P.W.

## A Short Summer Revue

There are a number of city families who spend their summer in the country, and sometimes buy a flock of hens to supply the eggs for the household during this time. We have sold quite a few of such flocks during the past three years. One man, who, by the way, kept his flock in the city, gives an interesting record of his small pen for two months, showing that besides providing the family with new-laid eggs, there is a little margin on the transaction.

Our correspondent, Mr. G. Edwards, of Gordon avenue, Verdun, states—

"I tie the pen of Barred Rocks I got from you early in June. I thought you might like to hear how they turned out. I give you herewith their egg record from June 9, when I received them up to August 1, 1909. Also the cost of maintenance as near as I can, because a large amount of their rations at this season are kitchen and table scraps.

Leaving this out of the question, the grain, oats, wheat, with some

shorts to thicken up a mash of table scraps, now and then, amounts to \$1.45. Fresh meat once a week added to this is 40 cents more, and if oyster shell and grit are likewise considered, five cents more, bringing the total up to \$1.90.

Now what do I get for this? The pen, as you know, consisted of a cock and seven hens. The 21 days of June gave me 102 eggs, namely, 18, 17, 17, 13, 13, 11, 13, by individual score, as I use trap nets. On June 29 one hen having become broody I gave her a small clutch of eggs and she has now five chicks running yet, so for July's 31 days, we have 109 eggs from six hens, 21, 22, 24, 13, 1, 28.

You will note that for the total we have 211 eggs. Seventeen and a half dozen at summer's low price of 25 cents per dozen, \$4.40; cost of maintaining, \$1.90; profit, \$2.50, besides an increase of five chicks.—F.C.E.

**Dressing Poultry.**—All fowl should be starved at least 24 hours before being killed. Kill by bleeding at the mouth or throat. Dry pick while warm. Leave heads on chickens and turkeys. Hang up till quite cold before packing. If possible wrap each bird in paper, this will keep them from getting bruised or sweating if weather is warm, or freezing if too cold.

## How to Build a Telephone Line

(Continued from October 14)

All trees on the route should be trimmed. All limbs should be cut back so that they will not be within three feet of any wire. It is very important that the trimming shall be done conscientiously, for there is more trouble on rural lines from that source than from any other. As these limbs will soon grow out again, the wires should be watched and never allowed to touch a wire at any time, as it makes the work easier.

The work is now ready for the line wires. For this work you will need, for the best results, clinkers, pliers, splicing clamps, pulley blocks, and wire reel. In starting, the reel should be placed in a convenient position behind the first pole. A coil of wire is placed on the reel and unbound, being careful to loosen only the outside end and to keep it clear. Now tie a 50 foot hand line to the end of the wire and you are ready to proceed. A braided cotton line, a half inch in diameter, makes the best kind of a hand line, though any half-inch rope will do. The line man starts out with the hand line, climbs the first pole, and runs the line over the top arms next to one of the pole pins. Each pole in succession is climbed, till the wire is exhausted. If there are other wires to be strung, the first wire is tied to the arm of the first and last pole and another coil is run through in a manner similar to the first stringing. As many wires as necessary are strung without changing the location of the reel. It is a good idea to have the reel so placed that you can string both ahead and backward from the reel, as it saves considerable carrying. Wire for the pins next to the pole on the top arm is first strung, then the two outside of these, and so on, going outward till the wire is full. The pole upon which the wires are temporarily dead ended, should have a guy run back to the butt of the next pole to keep it from being pulled over before the wire is spliced. The advantage in having a hand line comes in stringing the wires over or through obstructions. A weight is fastened on the end of the line and thrown over the obstruction, and the line wire can be easily pulled through. After the first block is done, the

second is finished before splicing the wire together. A pair of blocks with half-inch rope is used for pulling up the wire. A wire clamp is attached to each block, so that the pull may be made from both directions at the same time. When tight enough the two ends are brought together side by side and clamped with the splicing clamp. Cut off the wire on each side of the splicing clamp, leaving about five or six inches With your pliers wrap the one end tightly around the line, move the splicing clamp. Now remove the splicing clamp to the part that is wrapped and take two or three turns with the other end around the wire. These should not be close turns, but should extend along the wire about an inch or an inch and half. Then finish with four or five turns wrapped closely together. Now with the splicing clamps holding one the pliers holding the end of the wire at the other end of the splices, twist the neck of the splice tightly, but not enough to break the wire. Cut off the ends. Each splice should be soldered at the neck very carefully.

While the stringing has proceeded the insulators should have been put on the proper pins ready to receive the wire. The insulators are usually what is known as pony glass insulators. No more should be used than are needed for the wires already strung. After all wires are spliced, the tying-in should be done. A piece of line wire 10 or 12 inches long is

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satisfactory for a tie. Each tie should be bent around the insulator and the ends should be wrapped around the line wire. When the wire is to be dead ended, there should be two turns taken around the line wire at a point about ten inches from the insulator.

In tying the two wires next to the pole should be fastened to the sides of the insulators away from the pole and the other wires should be on the pole sides of the insulators. The reason for having the pole wires as far apart as possible is to afford room for a

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