



A Convenient Form of Smoke House.

The Handy Mechanic.

A BRICK SMOKE HOUSE.

While a smoke house 7x9 or 8x12 ft is plenty large for private use, by the illustrated plans herewith, this style of a house may be enlarged to any size. At the bottom of the building is a brick arch, shown in the upper right-hand figure, with bricks left out here and there to give passage for the smoke.

At the center or elevation figure, the house is shown in perspective, with the open archway for the fire, and the door provided with steps. Above the lower bar and below the upper one are a series of ventilating holes through which the smoke may escape. These are made by leaving out a brick, and can be shut by inserting a brick closely in the vacancy.

To Anchor Corner Posts, take a smooth wire, double it two or three times, and cut off about 12 ft long. Twist it once around corner post just below top wire and fasten with staple, so as to leave both ends about 5 ft long.

Take a stout stake 1 ft long and drive into ground one-third of it, and about 4 ft from corner post in a line with wires to be stretched. Fasten one end of wire to top of stake by twisting it around securely, and fasten with staple so it will not slip off.

Small Ropes—Where these are used over pulleys or in places exposed to the weather, although the first cost may be a little more, it is doubtless cheaper in the long run to buy braided cotton instead of twisted hemp rope.

To Disinfect drains, sinks, etc. flush the system thoroughly with any one of the following liquids: 1/2 lb copperas dissolved in 1 gal water; 1 lb chloride of lime dissolved in 2 gals water; dissolve 1 bu salt in a barrel of water and then slake lime with it until a thin wash.

Quick Fattening—An English poultry expert gives as follows the essentials for fattening poultry: Separation of the sexes, absolute quiet, abundance but not surfeit of food and plentiful supplies of water, grit and green food.

The Poultry Yard.

WHEN POULTRY KEEPING PAYS.

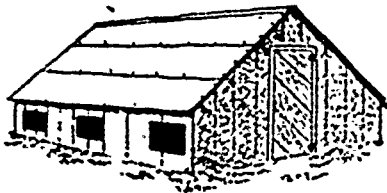
If it were possible to give flocks of 100 or 1000 the same care and attention that is given to one, there is no reason why equal returns should not be realized. Peculiar qualities are needed by those who go into poultry raising with a view to make it a life business. One, and the most important, is love for the work, a willingness to work day and night, a thorough system that no detail may be neglected, that every part of every day's duties shall be attended to promptly and at the proper time.

The location is not the most important factor, though if one can choose it, it will add materially to the chances for success as well as to the amount of profit. To be near a good market is very desirable, but in these days of quick transportation one place, specially suitable, is better, even if 100 miles from market, than one unsuitable and only 10 miles away.

To be successful one must be something of a merchant as well as a poultryman, and must keep posted on the markets for what he buys as well as for what he sells. Any turn that enables him to save on his feed bill is so much profit made at the start. It is often possible to get better prices in one market than in another and he should know it and take advantage of it.

A LOW COST POULTRY HOUSE.

This coop costs \$10 and is large enough for 12 fowls. It is built 7x10 ft in size of boards costing \$6 p M. Sides are 2 1/2 ft high and roof boards, cut 5 ft



A \$10 HENHOUSE.

long, are covered with tarred paper. The doorway in front on the south side is 20 in wide and 5 ft high. This kind of coop does well for summer and will answer during winter use. There is one great objection to it: snowblow in during winter and fowls with large combs like Leghorns or Minorcas freeze them and will not lay.—[C. H. Chester.

In Starting the Duck Business it is a question whether it is more feasible to begin with eggs or with the birds themselves. In the summer or autumn it would be better to begin with the breeding stock, but if beginning late in the season it would be better to buy the eggs. If you get any breeding birds in the spring it is generally something

that the breeder does not care to keep for himself. It is really throwing away a source of profit to sell the birds in the spring. In the autumn you can buy your breeding birds cheaper and you can get a better quality for the same money. There are very few people who care to pay fancy prices for ducks.—[G. H. Pollard, Mass.

Queries—Neb Beginner: Where land is plentiful, an acre per 100 hens is none too much. H. H. Stoddard's book, The New Egg Farm, gives full details for a modern poultry ranch; it is sold by the Orange Judd Co of New York—W. C.: The pea comb shows three distinct rows of points, the middle row being highest. Rosecombs include more than three rows and all of nearly equal height.—N. F. M.: Langshans are classed with Asiatic breeds. They have been called superior winter layers, but with few definite records to support the claim. Eggs are light brown. This is one of the best black general purpose breeds.

Diseases and Cures—H. H. K.: Your chickens fed liberally, but kept in crops or grass land are probably stunted and of uneven growth because of a lack of grit. Move the coops or supply sharp sand. Chickens hatched this fall will molt later next year than those of the spring hatch and will make the best of summer layers, but will rest the greater part of the following winter.—L. J.: The soft, blister-like swelling on the cock's foot should be cut open and washed.—Mrs O. P. T.: A few meals of boiled rice will relieve the bowel looseness of young turkeys. Add a little red pepper for a bracer.—P. T.: Watery droppings indicate nothing worse than diarrhea caused by change of weather and dampness. See preceding reply.—H. T. T.: It will scarcely pay to doctor the common hen which has been sick so long with roup; use the ax.—N. N.: Drain the sunken floor, cover it 6 in deep with chaff and dust and signs of lameness will disappear. Do not overfeed.

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