



A Farmer's Poultry House

A poultry house must be dry, well-ventilated and yet free from draughts. G. B. Curran, B.S.A., district representative in Lennox and Addington Co., has devised a house which he believes meets all of these requirements fully. It is the cotton front, open front style of poultry house with a straw loft. The diagrams on this page will make clear the construction of the house. Mr. Curran believes that the open front houses are too cold for Eastern Ontario as are too roof houses as are a rule, cold and damp, and that too much glass renders the poultry house too warm in the day time and too cold at night. He considers the cotton front, straw loft idea the best yet.

In winter the cotton frames are kept closed at night and on stormy days, and are opened on all bright, sunny days. The sun shines into every corner of this house some time during the day, and the cold, dry

it is necessary to enter the house from the west end, the door should be placed in the front at the south-west corner. Never place the door in the west end, as this will cause drafts. The walls are eight feet high. For joists use 2 in. by 4 in. scantling, the building should be boarded with rough lumber, and covered with heavy building paper, and finished with matched siding. This makes a wind-proof wall.

Inside the house the walls are left unfinish'd, with the exception of the above the dropping boards should be lined with matched lumber. To build the straw loft, poles or beams should be put overhead at a height of 16½ feet above the floor level. If beams are used, use plank 2 in. by 6 in. by 16 feet. These are placed on three feet apart, and may be covered with woven wire fencing to hold the straw up. The straw must be packed close to the eaves, and should lie a foot thick after settling. A runway of boards should be laid 'or use in putting in and removing straw. In each end of the loft are small doors hinged at the top to swing outward. These are used for ventilation. The west one is closed in winter, and the east one opened. In summer both doors are left open.

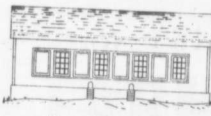


Fig. 1.—Front View

Note alternate glass windows and cotton frames. The windows should be 20 inches above the floor level, and not be built too near the ends. Note how high the foundation walls are built above the ground level.

cement floor-level. The joists are placed on top of the elevation. (See figure 3.)

Some Profitable Poultry

A creamy man who finds his flock of poultry a profitable hobby is Mr.

H. Weston Parry, proprietor of the Foster Creamery of Foser, Que. His laying flock at the present time numbers only 12 pullets and three hens. They are, however, of the pure-bred Buff Orpingtons from the best strains. Mr. Parry recently wrote us as follows:

"I have kept accurate track of my little hobby during the year of 1913, and enclose herewith a detailed statement of the same. I have not allowed my birds to interfere with my business in any way, but they have received regular attention and have been kept under somewhat adverse conditions."

The debit side of Mr. Parry's statement shows a total of \$65.40. The credit side shows \$130.72. This includes eggs and stock sold. From his little flock therefore, Mr. Parry has a profit of \$65.32. Not so bad for a sideline is it?

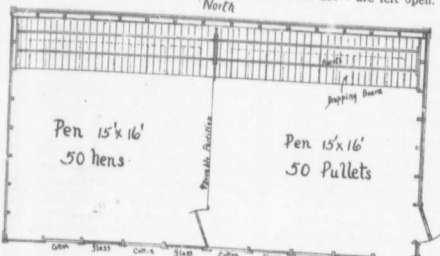


Fig. 2.—Floor Plan of the Lennox Poultry House

The roosts and nests are built at the north side. Note position of glass and cotton windows and doors. There should be no windows in either end of this house. The house is 30 feet long, and will accommodate 50 yearling hens and 50 pullets.

Fresh air and sunlight makes the fowl healthy and vigorous. Cold dry weather does not hurt a fowl; it is damp air, dampness brings disease and loss of vigor. In summer the cotton frames are hinged to the ceiling and left open all summer, making the house an open-air one. The straw is removed each spring, and renewed in the fall.

DIMENSIONS

The Lennox poultry house is built 16 feet wide and 30 feet long. It contains two pens, each 16 feet by 15 feet, and each pen of total capacity 50 hens or pullets, a total accommodate 100. (See figure 2.) The house must face the south, and there are no windows on the west, north or east sides. The door is best placed at the east end, near the front of the house. If

The front of the house is illustrated in figure 1. The windows are alternately glass and cotton. The windows should be at least 20 inches above the floor, so that when the cotton is opened a draft will not strike the fowl's head. The windows should start about four feet from the end walls, so as to leave drafts. The glass windows are standard 12 pane size, outside measurement 3 ft. 10 in. by 2 ft. 4½ in. These glass windows do not need to be made to open. The cotton windows are made the same size, on wooden frames, and are hinged from the top to open INWARD. They hook to the beams overhead. Wire screen is placed on the outside of the openings to keep out the sparrows, or if square ¼-inch iron mesh is used it will prevent snow blowing through.

The best floor is cement. However, never build a cement floor unless thorough drainage can be obtained. The worst location is on a hillside, when the water drains down the hill, and keeps the cement damp. Select a dry spot and fill from 12 to 18 inches with stones, and lay the cement floor on this. Smooth the surface of the cement with a trowel, so the surface will not be rough and wear the birds' sand on top of the cement the first season will aid in keeping the floor dry.

An excellent idea is to build the cement walls up 6 inches above the

Dominion Fruit Conference

A conference of fruit growers, representing all the provinces of Canada, was held in Grimsby, Ont., Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of last week under the auspices of the Dominion Department of Agriculture. Mr. D. Johnson, of Ottawa, was the recently appointed Dominion Fruit Commissioner presided at all the sessions.

Subjects of far-reaching importance to the interests were discussed. There were a few set addresses, the open for discussion of various set subjects. Cold Storage Commissioner J. A. Riddick, of Ottawa, spoke on the "Pre-cooling of Fruit," and showed the delegates through the pre-cooling plant recently established by the government at Grimsby. "Transportation of an apple paper read by G. E. McIntosh, of Forest, Ont., Traffic Expert of the Ontario Fruit Growers' Association. Mr. McIntosh showed that States carry fruit under much better conditions than do the railways of Canada. The secretary of The United Scotia, Mr. A. E. Adams, gave an instructive address entitled "Systematic Cooperation in Nova Scotia."

Among the more important resolutions adopted were the following: One was to urge the Dominion Government to enact legislation that will enable fruit growers when exporting fruit to foreign countries to use the style of package required by the countries to which they are exporting.

One recommending the prosecution of fruit growers who do not properly fill the berry boxes.

One asking the Government to take steps to keep Canadian growers in fruit in other countries, and to make trilateral shipments of fruit to foreign and near markets.

Asking the Government to bring pressure to bear on the Steamship Companies to prevent or reduce an announced increase in steamship rates on fruit for export for this season's trade.

Recommending that all forms used in the manufacture of 11 and 6 quart berry boxes be inspected by an officer of the Fruit Division, who shall stamp the boxes complying with the Government requirements, and making it a legal offence to manufacture from other than stamped forms.

Recommending that Cargo Inspectors be given power to require steam-

ship companies to load fruit properly.

That the fruit districts in the different provinces shall be divided into sections and that a sufficient number of fruit inspectors be employed so that each inspector shall have a certain section at least weekly visits and when instruction is required to or employ competent assistance.

That the Fruit Marks Act shall be rigidly enforced where men habitually break it.

That all packers of fruit shall be compelled to register with the chief inspector for their district.

That fruit inspectors be given authority to leave a copy of their report to the Department on the fruit they inspect with the packers of the fruit for as they may desire.

During the Conference the delegates were taken on a tour through the Niagara District.

No Fruit Without Bees

Francis Jaeger, Apiculturist

If there were no bees, fruit trees and other plants could not produce any fruit. Apple, plum, cucumber, clover, alfalfa, alfalfa are fertilized by honey bees. Honey is the bait with which the bee is lured to perform this task. The colored, fragrant petals of the blossom are the advertisement signboard telling the bee where the honey may be found.

If the blossom is in "set fruit" the bee with its fuzzy body must brush some of the yellow dust called pollen from the male organs or anthers at the bottom of the blossom, and flying away to another blossom, deposit the pollen on the female organ called the stigma. The blossoms are so arranged that to get at the honey the bee must first brush, with its pollen-covered body against the stigma, thus completing the pollination.

As soon as it has performed its duty, it may draw a drop of honey from the bottom of the blossom, while drawing this pay the bee is involuntarily covered with pollen again and made ready to proceed to the next blossom, and repeat the process.

Glycerine has a tendency when applied to the combs and wattles to keep them from freezing. In extreme weather a valuable bird should be treated in this manner a couple of times a week if there is any chance of its getting frozen.

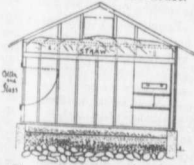


Fig. 3.—End View of House

shows gable roof, with straw loft. Note that the poles are placed low enough so that the straw extends to the eaves. The west foundation walls are built about 6 inches above the cement floor-level.