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Hints on Lightning Rod Installation

(Continued from page 4.)
that in tests at the O.A.S. a pen of fowl receiving buttermilk laid 22 winter eggs out of a possible 100, and that another pen of similarly bred birds and similarly fed, except for the absence of buttermilk and other animal food, produced only 17 eggs. In two coops, side by side, there were two pure-bred Plymouth Rock roosters. One of them had a long head, a long back, long tail and lack of breast development. The other was a well-set-up bird with a strong back, large, bright eye, good breast development and every other indication of constitution. A study of these two types was a lesson worth carrying away.

Finally, there were two hens, both Plymouth Rocks and, to the unpracticed eye, however, was a broad-day bird and had produced 256 eggs in her pullet year. The other was of no special breeding and her production was only 82 eggs. Both birds reared the same food and housing. Having digested these and several other features of the special car, I thanked those in charge for the courteous attention they had given me, and bled me off to the tractor demonstration at the college.

Electro Culture

Wm. S. Aldrich, Colorado Agricultural College.

THE range of experimental work in electro-culture has extended all the way from greenhouse work and early forcing of choice marketable vegetables to grain and sugar beets, on ten to thirty acre plots, and in connection with irrigation.

As a running summary of results of experimental electro-culture it may be of interest to note the following: Beets, 35 per cent increased yield, and 14 per cent more sugar yielded; carrots, 50 per cent; cucumbers, 17 per cent; strawberries—five year plants, 30 per cent, and one year plants, 80 per cent increased yield. In general, the least increase of yield for all crops, under favorable conditions, should be about four per cent; and, for certain crops it may reach an increased yield of as much as 100 per cent. A careful analysis of the costs incurred, show that the increased yields should be about 15 per cent, to make electro-culture pay.

Besides the increased yields, the effect of electrical stimulation is markedly apparent in the improvement in quality, and in shortening the period of growth, in which sometimes as much as 40 per cent is gained. But electrical stimulation of plant growth will not take the place of the most careful attention to the details of every other known method in conjunction with it, as cultivation, irrigation, fertilizing, after the best seed has been selected. What is now considered a luxury—the early marketable and succulent vegetables, the luscious fruits, and the choicest grains and seed crops of the same may well be worth the additional care, and surely more than worth the added cost of production. This applies not only to the local market, but to distance service, by parcel post, express, or fast freight.

Another result, and one which some will say, might have been expected, is the remarkable freedom of the electro-culture stock, from bacterial and other diseases sometimes incident to forced plant growth. In one writer has put it, "The installation required no attention except to clear away the cobs and straw shoots, etc., from the network of wires." This new kind of crop work may well be attended to even on large tracts, when wheat has a yield of from 30 to 40 per cent increase, and sold for 7.5 per cent better price by reason of its very superior quality.

Settle the Silo Question

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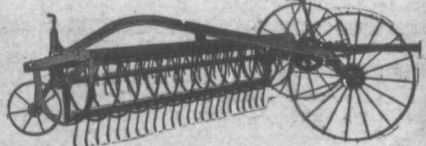
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