

preferred the suggestions may be sent in our care and we shall see that they are placed in the Secretary's hands in ample time.

MIDLAND CENTRAL FAIR, KINGSTON.

We were surprised in picking up a copy of this schedule to see the good classification in the poultry sections, fowls and chicks have 41 sections each of \$2.00 and \$1.50 for an entrance fee of 25c. All entries close August 24th. All are pairs. Mr. G. S. Oldreive is the Superintendent of the Poultry Department and Mr. W. C. Martin, Manager.

THE PROVINCIAL, LONDON.

Birds shown in pairs here also, entrance fee 25c. Fowls and chicks have 63 sections each, with prizes of \$3.00, \$2.00 and \$1.00, and medals for collections. Entries close August 17th. Mr. Hy. Wade, Secretary, Toronto.

CENTRAL CANADA FAIR, OTTAWA.

The list here is a good one, 60 sections for pairs fowls of \$2.50, \$1.50 and 50c., and 61 for chicks of same amounts. Entries 25 cents each, close August 31st. Mr. R. C. W. McCuiag, Secretary.

GREAT CENTRAL FAIR, HAMILTON.

This list has been considerably improved since last year. Fowls have no less than 63 sections of \$3.00 and \$2.00, and chicks 52 of \$2.00 and \$1.00, for an entrance fee of 25 cents, all shown in pairs, entries close September 17th. Mr. C. R. Smith, Secretary.

THE INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITON, TORONTO.

We have gone into details before. Entries close August 17th. Mr. H. J. Hill, Secretary.

THE JUDGES

At the great Central Fair, Hamilton, will be Messrs. R. McMillan, Galt; W. H. Doel, Eglinton; D. T. Rogers, Cayuga; and R. C. Holbrook, Hamilton.

SEX ANGULAR POULTRY HOUSE.

These cuts explain themselves; from the ground plan (Fig. 2.), it will be seen that all the work is done from the centre,

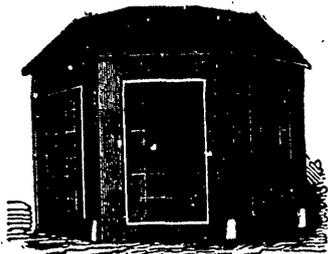


Fig. 1.

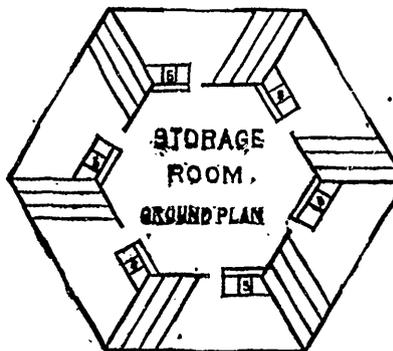


Fig. 2.

which is also used for storage, heating, or any other purpose preferred. House may be six feet high, with size of house of any dimensions required. It combines convenience in the smallest space.

THE SIZE OF THE COMB AND THE EGG.

A correspondent in *Vinton's Gazette* in writing on this subject, says that many will remember what Darwin says of selection, and the illustration he adduces, of how blue-eyed cats are deaf: feather-legged pigeons are webbed between the outer toes; short beaked pigeons have small feet, while long-beaked pigeons have large feet. "Hence," Mr. Darwin says, "if man goes on selecting, and thus augmenting any peculiarity, he will almost certainly unconsciously modify other parts of the structure."

Now, for some years past I have held the opinion, which careful observation has confirmed, that there is a correlation of growth between the size of a comb and the size of the egg. Whenever you see a hen with a big comb, in nine cases out of ten, she lays a big egg. Observe how this statement affects the yellow-legged breeds to which you referred. Cochins, Brahmans and Wyandottes must have small, fine, neat combs, according to the "Standards;" the breeder cultivates this feature again and again, and all the while he is unconsciously modifying the egg-producing organs. Hence the comparative disrepute into which Cochins and Brahmans have fallen with many practical poultry-keepers. But it was not always thus. My white Cochins, to which I have referred, had large, coarse lop-combs, and their eggs were of the largest size. I submit, therefore, Sir, that your indictment against the yellow-legged races is not of universal application.

Again, apply my view to other breeds. It has been decreed that the Hamburgs should have fine, neat combs, and as a rule they lay very small eggs. Yet in the old days the eggs of the Yorkshire pheasant were of very respectable size. Again, the Houdan used to lay a very large egg, but this valuable breed has woefully deteriorated since a fine, neat, leaf comb became the order of the day. Or take the Langshan, which is advocated mainly for its economic merits. When I followed the "Standard," and cultivated a small comb, the eggs, too, grew "small by degrees, and beautifully less." Now that I go in for rather large combs, I have splendid eggs and plenty of them. On the other hand, breeds like the Minorcas, which have not been condemned to carry small combs, still lay large eggs. I think, Sir, that this correlation of growth between the fowl's comb and the egg has not received sufficient attention, and