

ROOSTS.

All interior fixtures of the house should be portable. The perches should be in the warmer part of the house, where no draughts can strike the stock, yet allowing them plenty of fresh air. They should run from east to west inside the back wall of the house.

Perches may be made from trees of 3 inches in diameter, or by using 2 x 4 joists. The edges should be skived down evenly, then placed narrow edge up, and always built on the same level.

The general working rule for roost-room is 6 to 8 inches per bird, and the perches placed 12 to 15 inches apart, having the first perch 15 inches from the back of the house.



A poor open front arrangement, showing too much wood and glass.

DROPPINGS PLATFORMS.

Drop-boards should not be used if the poultryman cannot give them the attention required. It is better that a 12-inch piece of rough lumber be nailed across the back of the pen far enough out from the back wall to catch all the droppings. An absorbent, such as loam, sand, or staked lime, should be used in this method to keep the house from smelling badly.

In constructing the platforms the boards should be laid from the back towards the front of the house, rather than from wall to wall, to allow of easy cleaning.

Many prefer building the drop-boards with a pitch to the front, instead of on the level plane, with a piece of 1 x 3 inch nailed edgewise along the front to keep the droppings from falling in the litter. An opening is allowed every 4 feet