

a few who have started in the business on an extensive scale and have made a success of it, but there are a greater number who have started in this way and have failed; therefore, it seems only wise to point out this fact to those who may be contemplating the advisability of entering the poultry business.

CHOICE OF BIRDS.

We are often asked the question—What is the best breed? There is no best breed of poultry. There are good and poor among all breeds, and there are also good and poor strains of each breed. By strain we mean birds that have been bred especially for some one purpose. Probably the strain of birds is the most important factor in the whole industry. Buy good birds that are pure bred. Choose the breed adapted to your locality and secure the best strains of that breed. Seek to improve your flock by careful selection and breeding. To secure uniformity in colour, shape and size of eggs one must keep pure-bred fowls. This is also true in raising broilers, roasters or any other product. There are many other advantages also in keeping a pure breed. A cheap bird is always a poor one; it will eat as much as a good bird, but will not give the returns for the food consumed.

INCUBATION.

(Note.—The reason for so concise a treatment of incubation and incubators is due to the fact that a special bulletin, dealing with this phase of the industry, will be published later.)

As usual, both natural and artificial means are practised the world over. The incubator has not replaced the hen as far as the hatching of eggs is concerned. However, the incubator has become more adaptable in many cases, and here natural incubation has been done away with altogether because of the probable depletion of vigour in the stock from continued use of the incubators, the hen is being reverted to occasionally. The success or failure of artificial incubation depends to some extent upon the machine selected to do the work; therefore, care should be exercised in making the selection. The best machines on the market are none too good. By this I mean that it pays only to select the best the market offers. It will prove a more satisfactory investment in the long run.