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********** POULTRY YARD

Watch the Litter

M. A. Jull, B. S. A., Macdonald College

The number as well as the fertility of eggs depends largely upon the vitality of the flock. The vitality, in turn, depends upon the exercise the hens are given. It is only natural for a hen to work for most of her living; the harder she works the greater will be the circulation of blood in her system: consequently, the reproducsystem; consequently, the reproduc-tive system will be better nourished than if the hen were fed large quan-tities of food only a few times a day and induced to take but little exer-

Exercise helps to start egg produc-tion. The litter should be quite deep—from 12 inches to 14 inches. It should be kept in such a condition that the hens may readily scratch down to the floor, thus being able to pick up every grain that is in the litter. If the straw used for litter is too coarse, many hens will soon become discouraged after a time and will give up scratching altogether. This will induce laziness among most of the best layers and the egg production be impaired.

The fowls should keep the litter free of grain. If, sometime after feeding, iny grain except a few coarse oats are



A Popular Style

The ground plan of a continuous poul-try house here given is popular with poultry men, and is found on many poul-try farms in Eastern Canada. Notice that the nests are under the drop boards. Also that the back and side only are couble

eft in the litter, there is something wrong with the method of feeding. The flock should not be fed too heavily in the morning or throughout the day; but at night the fowls should be given all they will pick up clean.

Through vigorous exercise the fowls will become hardier and when cells weather comes on they will be better able to resist the change and will make better breeders and layers.

A New Poultry Book

Many of the poultry failures that are recorded each year could have been entirely avoided had the begin-ners in poultry taken the trouble to ners in poultry taken the trouble to thoroughly study the subject of poul-try husbandry before they started ex-tensively into the business. "The Be-ginner in Poultry," a new book by C. S. Valentine, is designed especial-ly for the amateur poultry man; and any poultry man, whether in the busi-ness on a large or small scale, could well afford to read it.

ness on a large or small scale, could well afford to read it. Beginning with the initial step, "The Beginning with the initial step, "The Beginning with the large sclearly, and completely every factor that makes for success with fowl, in cluding the state of the st why their poultry ventures are not vielding fair profits this volume will

SINGLE AND ROSE COMB WHITE LEG-HORN COCKERELS AND COCKS, thor-ough-bred stock. Also Rhode Island Eeds, \$200 and \$300 each. One pen of year-old S.C. W. Leghorn Hens, heavy laying strain, 60 de, each.—K. Pentland, Grove Poultry Yards, Peterboro.

doubtless give a clue; for the seadoubtless give a clue; for the sea-soned poultryman it will have many new and valuable hints. This book published by the McMillan Company, of Canada, may be secured through Farm and Dairy, for the regular price of \$1.50. The book contains 450 pages, is well bound and splendidly illustrated Hustrated

Prepare the Hen House for Winter

A. C. Colback, Cumberland Co., N.S.
One would think that hens were tropical birds to see the way in which many of the farmers around here prepare their hen houses for winhere prepare their hen houses for win-ter. Just yesterday I noticed a man who gets the name of being very thorough in all his work, banking his poultry house with earth, putting on double windows, and actually pushing small pieces of cloth into the cracks around the doors and windows. He was doing this work very thoroughly all right, but I will guarantee that he will not get many eggs this winter.

all right, but I will guarantee that he will not get many eggs this winter.

As I see it, the points to be striven for in preparing the poultry house for winter, are, first of all, dryness, and then lots of light and lots of air. I then lots of light and lots of air. It do not believe that warmth is a condo not believe that warmth is a consideration at all in a temperate climate. The best way to secure drymate. The best way to secure drymate, light and air is to leave the focus of the house entirely open. This front of the house entirely open. This course would hardly be advisable, however, with the style of house that is common in this district, where the front is high, with a shed roof sloping to the back. With this style of house I would have cheese cloth or house I would have cheese cloth acreens in place of window glass. We need to get away from the old idea that we must make the poultry house warm.

Where Poultry Is Profitable

Under what conditions can poultry be most profitably kept? L. H. God-dard, of Ohio, after investigating the poultry industry in his State, gives his conclusions as follows in a bulle-tin recently insued:

his conclusions as follows in a bulle-tin recently issued:

Both in town and country, small flocks have given greater profits per fowl than large flocks.

Flocks with unlimited range have shown better profits than flocks that were nartly or wholly confined

were partly or wholly confined.

Farm flocks have been more profit-

Farm flocks have been more profit-able than village or city lot flocks. To successfully compete with the farm flocks the village or city poutry-man must keep high producing hens, and sell at a higher price. Poultry "systems" requiring close confinement of the flock and a large amount of pressonal stretum.

amount of personal attention are out

amount of personal attention are out of place on a general farm. The poultry should be incidental to the main business of the farm. Farm and village lot poultrymen are serious competitors with the com-mercial poultrymen. The surplus from all these small flocks pours upon the market a continuous stream rethe market a continuous stream re-gardless of profit. The commercial poultryman devoting all his time to poultryman devoting all his time to the business sends to the market a product, the price of which is largely governed by supplies furnished by his competitors and to whom the business is only an incident. A better system of marketing eggs and poultry is needed; one which will encourage the production of a high-class product, and insure expeditious and careful transportation to the con-sumer.

sumer.

Cleaning the House.—Cleanliness is one of the most important factors to be considered in the poultry industry. The house should be cleaned cocasionally and the roosts painted with any and the roosts painted with kerosene or some other disinfectant. The interior of the house should be whitewashed frequently and carbolic acid used. The nests must be kept clean, since eggs readily become tainted.—M. A. Jull, Macdenald Col-lege. One. lege, Que.

TWENTY NINTH ANNUAL

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