

equally fine ones, which he is keeping to fatten for experimental shipment to England. In both cases the chicks were mostly incubator-hatched and brooder-raised. During March last, Mr. J. W. Newman, of Engleside Farm, near Brockville, notified me that he had fifty early chicks of large size and 700 to follow. He wished to know where to sell them in Montreal or Toronto to good advantage.

These instances show gratifying development in poultry raising. I ask your numerous family of farmer-readers how many of them are prepared to do likewise. With good management there is undoubtedly money in raising chickens and without proper management no department of the farm can be made to pay.

Ottawa, Aug. 17, 1900.

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### POULTRY NOTES.

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A pound of cheap meat, such as the liver of sheep or the trimmings of beef should not cost over five cents per pound, and where a green bone with a large share of adhering meat is cut up with a green bone cutter the cost is not over a cent a pound. Wheat is at least a cent a pound and in some years corn in some sections is nearly as high. Now the cost of the foods is not of the kind but the results. If meat will make the hens lay two eggs in winter where the grain promotes the production of only one, then the meat is cheap and the grain is dear, because the increase derived by the use of the meat reduced this cost really to nothing.

If a large amount of grain is used it will be found that by using less of the grain and more of meat combination of the two foods in winter will be better than the use of either alone, but in summer lean meat and cut bone is the best ration that can be given, leaving the grain out entirely. No food is costly if it accomplishes the object that is sought but any kind of food is expensive if it does not induce the hens to lay eggs.

Some of the pullets may not begin to lay before spring unless hatched early in all flocks there some individuals that will be more advanced than others in the laying time but it is the pullets which grows to the largest size that are backward. The pullets that fail to in the winter will be the first to begin in the spring, and they often commence in February, keeping at their work well into summer.

Breeders who hatched early chicks from which they expect to procure their best show birds are of the opinion that when hens or pullets lay through the winter they are, to a certain extent, exhausted, and that eggs from the fowls that begin to lay early in the spring are the ones from which the chicks should be raised. Much depends on the food, however, if lean meat is made a portion of the ration and less grain given, the hens will lay a larger number of eggs and the eggs will nearly always hatch.

Never allow very young chicks on wet grass. Wait until the sun has remove the dew. When they come out of the shells give no food for twenty-four hours, and then pinhead oatmeal or stale bread dipped in milk three times a day, removing all food that is not eaten. It is also important to watch for the large head lice. The best preventive is to rub two or three heads, getting it well on the skin, but be careful to use but little as it may cause harm. At this season the majority of the chicks die from the large lice on their heads.

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## Live-Stock.

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### CARE OF YOUNG LAMBS.

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There is no animal kept on the farm whose young require more care and attention than the sheep. Especially is this true if the lambing season comes during the winter or early spring.

While old, careful ewes, that have the instincts of motherhood well developed and udders full of milk, cause comparatively little trouble if good, comfortable pens are provided, the yearlings or two years-old with their first young ones may cause a lot of trouble if not tame, and if they have been neglected. The income from the sheep depends largely upon the lambs she raises, and if she loses them the chances of securing a good income from her are past for a year at least. The careful shepherd should therefore plan to have every sheep raise at least one lamb, and to accomplish this should be willing to sacrifice a little of his time and, if necessary, his sleep. The large Scotch and English sheep-raisers have their night shepherds, who stay with the flocks through the night to see to the lambing ewe. Some sheep farmers make a practice of visiting their stock a couple of times during the night in the lambing sea-