

## POULTRY YARD

### To Cure the Egg-eating Habit

Now, that our hens have started to lay after having taken a long rest for the most of the winter, they have taken to eating their eggs. What remedy do you advise other than to chop their heads off?—C. S. Bruce Co., Ont.

The egg eating habit is hard to cure. If the hen or hens are not valuable the best plan is to kill those addicted to the habit. It is a habit that will soon spread to the whole flock. I have heard of persons curing the habit by giving the flock eggs from the incubators to eat, all they will take. Another plan is the filling of empty egg shells with pepper, mustard and so on. Be sure the hens have plenty of oyster shell and green food and give them all the exercise possible. Feed all grain in a heavy

are not so satisfactory. If hens are kept in the backyard and will not be bred such as the Plymouth Rocks, R. I. Reds, Wyandottes or Orpingtons make very good fowl for a city lot. If it is the intention to let the fowl run on the lawn no fowl looks quite as nice as a white or colored bird. As far as laying goes the Leghorn is usually considered to be the best layer. A good laying strain of the American breeds however, give very good returns as well as being good table fowl. Eggs from most of these breeds could be had from advertisers in Farm and Dairy or from Macdonald College or the O.A.C., Guelph.—F.C.E.

### Crop Bound Fowls

Robert Smith, Lambton Co., Ont. This, the commonest of all crop diseases, is easily detected. The crop hangs down and is hard. The trouble is caused from the bird having eaten long pieces of grass or indigest-

The following are the chief factors in winter egg-production: Early-hatched and well-natured pullets; dryness, light, fresh air in the poultry house; and exercise and careful feeding.—H. B. Webster, Port Hope, Ont.

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J. H. McCauley, Ontario



A Winter View of Some of the Poultry Houses at the O.A.C. Guelph

The house in the foreground is a low down single ply board house with straw houses gave excellent results during the winter of 1909-10, both in health of stock and egg production.—Cut corners Institute's Branch.

litter so that they have to scratch for it and if this does not help matters the axe had better be used on the worst of them.—F.C.E.

### Chickens for Town—Best Layers

What would be the best kind of chickens to keep in town and what are the best layers? I am thinking of getting thoroughbred. How much would I have to pay a setting, and where can I get them?—A Subscriber, Elgin Co., Ont.

People who keep fowl in a town require a breed that is easily handled. Light hens that fly over any fence and get into the neighbor's garden should not be kept in city lots. They also make considerable noise with the crowing and cackling and for that reason

able fowl, such as chaff and wire-grass. It is also frequently caused by the fowl eating an over-amount of grain. Birds not being fed for some days and then being given all they desire will eat more than they can digest and they then become victims to this malady.

Treatment.—Pour some castor oil into the bird's mouth and force it to swallow; then work the crop with forefinger and thumb and endeavor to loosen the contents. Pour oil in small quantity frequently into the crop during this operation to soften the hard substance. When the contents become loosened try to work them out through the mouth. If unsuccessful try the following, which, if rightly performed, is positive: Pluck or cut the feathers from a place on the upper part of the crop, make an incision an inch long through the skin; then press the skin aside and make a similar slit in the crop. When released the cuts will not be immediately opposite each other.

Work contents through the opening and sew both incisions with white linen thread. Feed nothing for 24 hours, then feed mash till the bird recovers.

I think Farm and Dairy the best paper a farmer can take, as it contains advice from farmers who have experience in all the different branches of farming. I also enjoy the market review.—L. Linkletter, P. E. I.

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