

staves snugly together around the chime. The barrels should be put where they will season perfectly. Then drive the hoops firmly and nail them. Go over the heads and around the chime outside and pour melted beeswax or paraffine in the cracks and with a hole bored in the side for filling, they are ready. The honey is brought from out apiaries in there, but unless granulated and ordered in this way, they are emptied into sixty pound cans before marketing."

Notes From a Practical Poulterer.

Be regular in feeding and caring.

Keep the best and earliest pullets for laying.

Have a good reason for every change in the management.

Watch that cat. No matter how honest it may seem or to whom it may belong, it may bear watching.

While the hens are maturing they should not be fed too much fattening foods, as this will often prove unhealthy.

Eggs are going up in price and those April and May hatched pullets should be getting ready to lay. If they do not, see why.

Generally, with poultry as with other classes of stock, it will not be for a profitable to keep old stock. Young, vigorous fowls of all kinds will return the most profit.

"Like begets like," and a good layer will beget a good layer. The qualities of a strain of fowls may be improved and their egg production increased as well as their plumage, size, etc.

One acre of good stock hens will prove more profitable in twelve months than four acres of wheat or corn, and instead of exhausting the land they improve it. But they must be properly divided and housed.

Chickens to eat are well enough, but eggs we must have. Eggs come nearer being current cash than any other product of the farm or door-yard. Twelve eggs are good for twelve cents, and the more egg-producers we have the more cents will follow as a natural consequence.—Kansas Farmer.

A Business Partner.

A gentleman went to New York on business. As he went away he said something to his wife about buying her a new dress.

Just before starting homeward, he telegraphed to his wife: "Which shall I bring you, a diamond ring or a silk dress?"

The reply was concise and explicit—one word: "Both."

Bee-Keeping as a Business.

—Will Ellis.

SOME SEASONABLE COMPARISONS.

I have chosen the above subject after 12 years of practical work in the apiary, and will proceed to give my views in bee-keeping as a business. I am in it to stay a while yet; I have not thought much of giving it up at present. When I first began I sold extracted honey for 18 cents, then 15 cents, 12½ cents and 10 pounds at \$1.00. I have always thought bee-keepers of Ontario could drive the cheap syrup off the market, but I have not seen my dream begun to be realized.

1. Since I began bee-keeping I have had three total failures and for that reason I would not care to make it a specialty. If a person has a bank account sufficient to carry him over a poor season, then all well and good, but I have none and have got to hustle. Although the price of honey has declined, take a look at other things and I guess you will find them the same. How came it so with wheat, 50 cents per bushel, the world's greatest staple product. The farmers always said it could not be raised for less than \$1.00. Tea, 35 to 50 cents. I have seen it 75 cents, and I think \$1 per pound; sugar, now 4 to 6 cents; a few years ago 10 to 12½ cents. Flour, \$1.45, and so on. I shall not pretend to say what business will best go with bee-keeping. You must choose for yourself. You ask any person why he keeps bees, and he will tell you it is for the money that is in it. Ask the young man that goes out west, enters the professions, learns a trade, not for fun by any means. I have seen men living on farms and could not make a living. They would move off and another person would take that farm and soon make sufficient to buy a place for themselves. Management, with a big M, is the secret of the whole thing. So it is in bee-keeping. One of my neighbors came to me a short time ago and asked me how my bees had done. I told him very fair. Might have done better, and might easily have done a great deal worse. He said his had not done anything. He was away from home and the folks at home did not manage them properly. I suppose the average number of colonies I have kept has been about 50. I have had as many as 100, but never started in the spring with that many. I have now about 75. I started this spring with 50. More anon.