

In this breeding work a utility type of a table fowl has been carefully selected, and it has been proved that the chicks thus bred and raised at the station have fattened more profitably than those either raised from purchased eggs, or purchased at three months' old for fattening.

So popular has this breeding of the utility type of bird proved that the managers have been forced to sell most of their chicks to Canadian farmers for the improvement of their birds, instead of fattening them for the market.

Another remarkable development is that the home market absorbs practically all the fattened poultry. The dwellers in our Canadian cities, having tasted the properly fattened poultry supplied from the Government fattening stations, have demanded more and more, until now the Government stations, and very many private individuals who have learned how to do this work from the illustrations at the Government stations, are not able to fill the local demand. Such fattened poultry now commands in the large Canadian cities as high as 12, 13 and 14 cents a pound, while formerly the Canadian farmer was obliged to be content with 5, 6 or 7 cents a pound for his barnyard birds.

CONSERVATIVE TESTIMONY.

As an instance of the influence which the Government illustration stations have on private enterprise, Mr. A. A. Wright, M.P. for Renfrew, in the House of Commons during last session, read an extract from the Renfrew "Mercury," adding that it was written by Mr Muirhead, a leading Conservative, and President of the Farmers' Institute in Renfrew :

"An Admaston farmer resolved to make a test—to see if in farm practice there was really any profit in fattening chickens on the plan followed at the Government's experimental station here a short time ago. So he took 30 ordinary chickens—not at all large ones—and fed them on oats and barley, mixed with low grade flour, for five weeks, and then sent 24 of them off to a Montreal commission merchant whose name was one of several which had been furnished him by Mr. F. C. Hare, the Government's demonstrator. He received answer that the 24 fowl had weighed 158 pounds, and remittance was made for them at the rate of 11 (eleven) cents a pound in Montreal. The expressage cost the Admaston farmer 80 cents per 100 pounds, so that he received \$10.20 per 100 pounds net for his fowl. The fowl were kept confined in coops, were fed twice a day, and in the five weeks the thirty ate 8 bushels of oats, 2 bushels of barley, and 100 pounds of low-grade (unsaleable) flour, with just enough skim-milk added to make the food moist. Water to drink and gravel to peck were supplied. The farmer was so well pleased with the result of his experiment, that he will fatten more chickens next year. He knows nothing that pays better for the amount of labor involved. The merchant to whom he sold rather took his breath away by writing that if he could supply broilers weighing 1½ or 2 pounds in April or May, he would get 45 cents a pound for them."