an old thoroughbred hen, properly cooked, for dinner. Veal, you know, is immature meat; young chicken in undeveloped poultry." I do not endorse his whole statement. I give it to you as he made it. Perhaps I will be now met with the statement that the great majority of our farmers have not thoroughbred hens to market. Well, the moral is obvious: Keep thoroughbred poultry.

HOW TO FATTEN YOUNG AND OLD STOCK.

To fatten up give a morning mash of table and kitchen waste and ground grains. Feed grain for noon and afternoon rations. If Indian corn is plentiful use it in judicious quantity. Meat, broken up beef heads or bones, etc., are prime factors in getting the flesh on growing cockerels. The rapidly-maturing pullets should also be generously fed, and will repay any extra care by early laying. No food for old or young stock at this season of the year has been found superior to cut green bone.

FITTING BIRDS FOR MARKET.

If the birds are intended for shipment they should be fasted for twenty-four hours previous to killing so as to ensure an empty crop and intestines. Kill by cutting the roof of the mouth at the base of the brain lengthways and across so as to cause instant death. Begin to pluck while the body is warm and be careful not to tear or injure the skin in any way. Pluck the tail and wing feathers, then the smaller feathers of breast and body. Remove the pinfeathers carefully. If the bird is to be drawn do so carefully through an incision in the right side. In drawing be careful not to rupture the gall. Have the fowl or chicken present an inviting appearance and it will sell better on home or foreign market.

PACKING AWAY EGGS FOR WINTER USE.

When new-laid eggs are in supply all the year round there will be no necessity to pack away eggs. In putting away eggs care should be taken that every one is strictly fresh. Non-fertilized eggs are to be preferred when they are stored away in a cool, dry, sweet-smelling cellar. Strictly new-laid eggs wrapped in paper and put away in such a cellar have kept perfectly during the winter months. They must not be allowed to freeze. A pickle may be made without much trouble according to the following recipe: 24 gallons of water, 12 pounds unslacked lime, 4 pounds salt. Stir frequently every day and let stand until clear. Draw off the clear liquid, leaving sediment in the bottom. Take for the above amount of liquid five ounces each of baking soda, cream of tartar, saltpetre and borax, and one ounce of alum. Pulverize and mix these and add to the mixture about 20 gallons of the pure lime water. The whole will nearly fill a cider barrel. Put the eggs in carefully so as to avoid cracking any. The liquid is enough for 150 dozen eggs. Put in eggs as you get them and be sure they are fresh. Do not use the liquid twice. The above is not original, but it is good. Use smaller proportions for smaller quantities.

An Egg Record.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—In your issue of July 15th I was much interested in the egg-laying test. If you think the following account of my flock will be of any interest to your numerous readers, I will give it in detail. My hens are what would be called barnyard fowl. They are principally descendants of Plymouth Rocks and Hamburgs, and as I bought the foundation stock on April 13th, 1893, I start my hen year on that date. On April 14th, 1897, I had 40 hens ranging from one year old upwards; no male bird at all, as it was eggs I wanted. The males are a detriment, as the previous two years' record shows, the number of eggs being 4,483 and 3,572, respectively, from a much larger number of birds. I might say the cold weather in March last stopped my hens laying, or the amount of eggs would have been greater in that month and the thirteen days in April, as they laid 315 eggs the last half of the month, and I had only twenty-nine hens then. The price of eggs during the year ranged from 8½ cents to 25 cents per dozen.

Month.	No. of Eggs.	Value.
April (14 days)	529	$ 4 40
May	777	5 40
June	639	4 53
July	633	4 75
August	638	5 84
September	593	6 59
October	361	4 51
November	117	1 46
December	12	20
January (1898)	92	1 92
February	180	3 00
March	416	5 20
April (13 days)	24	30
Totals	5,011	$ 48 10

I might say when writing that I am very well satisfied with your paper, as one issue in March last was worth to me the whole year's subscription.

E. BROWN.

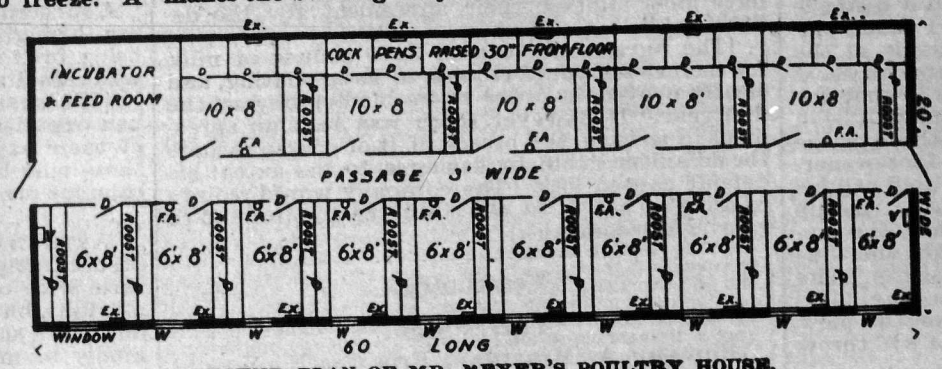
Boissevain, Man.

Description of Mr. Meyer's Poultry House.

The foundation for this poultry house averages 3 feet deep and one foot wide. This is filled solidly with stones of all sizes and cement. The walls above the foundation are 8 inches thick, 4 feet high on north and south sides. They are built of cement, with small stones in the center of such a size that in no place do they reach any nearer the outside than two inches. The gable ends are solid cement same as the walls. The whole of the floor inside is cement. It is 2½ inches thick under the fowls, and 3 inches thick in passageway and feed room.

MR. MEYER'S POULTRY HOUSE.

Forty-four barrels of Queenston cement, manufactured by Isaac Usher & Sons, Queenston, were used in the building. Ten barrels were used in the foundation, 12 barrels in the floor, and the rest in the walls. About 20 yards of clean gravel besides the stones were used. The sheeting boards on the roof are placed close together, and over them is placed two thicknesses of heavy tarred felt, and on this is placed the shingles. The perpendicular portion of the south side above the short south roof is built of matched lumber inside, tarred paper, then the 2x4-inch studding, tarred paper and inch lumber battened outside. There are quite a number of upright 2x4-inch studding supporting the roof, all resting on solid stone and cement, which makes the building very solid.



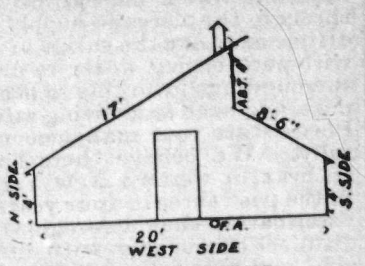
GROUND PLAN OF MR. MEYER'S POULTRY HOUSE.

D, doors; Ex, exit doors for fowls to enter yards; F A, fresh air pipes; V, ventilation; Roosts (or P, perches) on platform to catch droppings.

A 3-foot passage runs through the center. The south half of the building is divided into ten 6 x 8-foot pens, and the north half is divided into five pens, 8 x 10 feet, and a feed and incubator room.

Each south pen has a window containing a single light of 20 x 30-inch double-thick glass, placed in the center. These light the south pens, while the north pens obtain light from the same number (10) of windows of the same size placed in the wooden part of the south side. By this arrangement of the windows the north side pens are lighter than the south side pens. Each pen has a small hole 9 x 13 inches, through which the fowls go to the yards. These holes are opened and closed from the passage by means of cords on pulleys.

The partitions between the pens consist of a 12-inch high board, above which is 15 inches of ½-inch mesh wire, and above which again is 2-inch mesh wire. We prefer the ½-inch mesh wire to another board for appearances, and it is just as effectual in keeping the male birds from fighting. The board along the passage is 9 inches high, above which is 2-inch mesh wire. The door leading into each pen is made of 2-inch mesh wire netting stretched on a frame. They are 26 inches wide.



END ELEVATION.

The platforms for catching the droppings are raised 26 inches from the floor. On the south side they are 23 inches wide and the full length of the pen (8 feet). On the north side they are 3 feet wide, and reach to within 26 inches of the back or to the cock pens. The perches are 2½ inches square pine, with upper corners rounded, and are placed 8½ inches above drop-boards. Their position can be seen in plan of floor. They are supported at each end and are movable. Along the north side, extending from the feed room to the end and raised 3 feet from the floor, are 15 cock pens. They are 26 inches wide and each a little more than 3 feet long. The partitions are wood, and front wire. Each pen has a door.

Ventilation.—The ten upper windows are hinged at the bottom, and in summer they are opened inwards about 15 inches at the top, and held in place by a wire hook. This, together with the opening of the door and a 16-inch diameter window placed in the center at the east end of the passage, gives all needed summer ventilation. The winter ventilation consists of a 6-inch diameter pipe of tiles from the outside of the west end under the floor to near the east end, and 2½-inch tiles leading from it, as indicated in the diagram, for the flow of fresh air. The outlet consists of three wooden pipes, as shown in cut. The end ones are 8 inches square, and the center one about twice that size. These extend from 16 inches above the floor out of the roof. The inlet pipes are covered with fine wire to keep out all dirt, and the outlet pipes are provided with slides that may be closed and opened at will. We have found this system to work admirably. The nests are placed under the drop-board, and fastened to it in the form of a drawer. When eggs are gathered the nests are opened by pulling them into the passage just as you would open a drawer. Each nest is 12 x 15 x 12 inches. There are two in each south pen, and four in each north pen. They are easily removed for cleaning. They are out of sight, and are not at all in the way. At the end of each drop-board along the passage there is a door, on the frame of which that end of the perch rests. The door is hinged on the upper side, while the lower side comes down even with the top of the drop-board, and is buttoned there when closed. These doors are for the purpose of cleaning off the droppings by means of a hoe drawn through the doorway. The handle of the hoe, being considerably longer than the passage is wide, is run through the wire netting on the opposite side of the passage when drawing the droppings out into the barrow or box. It takes but a few minutes to remove all the droppings when done in this way. The drop-boards are furnished with a flange, except where the door for cleaning out is placed.

The feed troughs are movable and placed along the partitions. After the soft feed has been eaten they are either turned over or placed with one end up. They are V-shaped, made of 4-inch and 5-inch wide pine. The watering cans are placed just inside the door on the studding. The pen must be entered to feed the soft feed. The cement floor is excellent, and we would not be without it for three times its cost. We keep from 4 to 6 inches of straw on it all the time. For a dust bath we use a box of road dust placed in the pen.

Of the cement walls we must say that we are simply delighted with them. They are never damp. They never sweat. They keep the cold out better than frame, and in ten years from now, unlike frame, they will keep the cold out just as well as they do to-day. Vermin do not harbor in it as they do in frame. It is cool in summer. One improvement could be made in this building, and that is ceil the roof with matched boards inside. Frost will collect on the inside of the roof and melt and fall down, causing dampness at times, which it would not do if it were ceiled.

The building in its interior arrangement is designed for breeding pure-bred stock as well as keeping hens for laying only. The ten south pens are for breeding pens, while the five north pens are for hens, without male birds, for laying.

We have always preferred a poultry house with a passage through the center. It looks more comfortable to us, and then we like to see our birds all around us. We think that having the long part of the roof to the north is a great advantage in keeping the inside warm in winter and cool in summer. The snow will lie on that roof much more than it will on a south roof, and so keep it warm, while in summer, the sun not striking it, it will keep cool. We had another reason for wishing a double house, and that is that we have a large apple orchard to the north, and a young plum orchard to the south, and we are enabled to have our hens running in both.

A number of poultry houses designed after the plan of this have been built near here. One important thing to be remembered in building in this climate is do not build a high house. It is too hard to heat. The walls of this building, being 4 feet high with a 2-inch plate, are high enough.

Prof. James W. Robertson, Agricultural Commissioner, recently visited the Niagara (Ontario) district in connection with the shipment of several lots of fine fruits, etc., to the British markets.