

it would be splendidly adapted for British Columbia weather conditions but I am afraid it is too cold for this North Ontario climate. However it is hardly right to give data obtained from only one winter's experience.

By Mr. Kidd:

Q. The same kind of hens were in both houses?

A. Yes.

By Mr. Thornton:

Q. Do you say that the difference in the production was due to the difference in the kind of house?

A. To a great extent. Of course weather conditions are to be taken into account. I hope to have a better opportunity of going into experimental work of this kind than I have had in the past.

By Mr. Best:

Q. Was the feed furnished to both lots the same?

A. The very same. It would not be proper experimenting if the conditions varied.

Q. It was the difference in the house?

A. I think so, and it is all-important to have different kinds of houses tried.

By Mr. Wright:

Q. The house with a cotton front would be a comparatively cold house. How would that compare with a place kept reasonably warm?

A. We have reason to favor the comparatively cold cotton front house in preference to a partly heated house, but as to the latter we have no exact data. A farmer in New York State who has some 5,000 or 7,000 hens, and who furnishes a New York hotel with strictly new-laid eggs at 60 cents a dozen all the year around, told me when on a visit that he kept the temperature of his poultry house at 60 degrees during the winter and would have no less.

By Mr. Best:

Q. Can you tell us what increase took place in the laying at the farm last year?

A. We have the trap-nest system, a mechanical and sure way of finding out which are the good layers and which the poor. We discard the poor layers, and breed from the good layers. It is a slow but sure process, and we have certainly made progress. We have found out that some hens lay only 20 to 25 eggs while we had one hen which laid none at all. It is all-important that these facts should be found out.

Q. The principal point would be to find out how you can increase the production. Do you keep any account of the increase in production?

A. Certainly. The figures of different years are given in our annual reports. The only way to increase the production of eggs, as I have said, is to find out which are the best egg producers and breed from them.

SUGGESTED LINES OF POULTRY DEVELOPMENT.

I mentioned a short time ago that Mr. Ashton, who is largely interested in poultry at Morrisburg, came to see me, and he made the statement, which has frequently been made to me by others, that he had difficulty in obtaining birds of the proper fattening type (such as Barred or White Plymouth Rocks, White Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, White Orpingtons, &c.) in sufficient quantity, and which lack of quantity seriously curtailed his business operations. To obviate this dearth of chickens of the utility types, Mr. Ashton proposed the establishment of stations throughout the country under government auspices and that each of these stations might be furnished with a large incubator to hold from 3,000 to 5,000 eggs, the eggs to be laid only by birds of the utility types, such as I have mentioned, and which are