

**Shut up the Males.**—Do not allow the male birds to run with the flock at any other time than the breeding season as they are not in any way conducive to egg production. The better way is to kill and market them immediately after the breeding season is over. The infertile egg is a better egg for the market and its keeping qualities decidedly superior as there is no germ to produce the addled or rotten egg complained of by consumers, which in the fertile egg is the result of contact with heat ranging from 70 to 95 degrees—a temperature high enough to start incubation. The infertile egg is not affected in this way. It is not desirable to allow the cockerels to remain with the pullets after they have reached an age suitable for the fattening crate. At this time they should either be placed in the fattening crates or confined to runs where they will not come in contact with the pullets.

In the foregoing paragraphs an attempt has been made to outline a plan of action which should enable any beginner or poultry raiser to thoroughly establish a flock. Having decided upon what investment he will make, and the method to pursue in building up the breed selected the plan of strain building suggested is one which is to be highly commended. If the desirable qualities possessed by any breed of fowl are to be perpetuated and improved, it must be done by selection, and this selection is best accomplished by knowing what the individual birds do in the way of producing eggs and responding to the feed in the fattening crate. It is only possible to perpetuate and intensify these qualities by adopting a system of selection such as suggested in the section dealing with strain building. If a poultry breeder will follow this line it is possible for him to build up a superior class of fowl which should not only be profitable to himself, but a greater advantage to the country as well.

**Line Breeding.**—The system of breeding outlined under the head of strain building will give results as satisfactory as the average poultry.

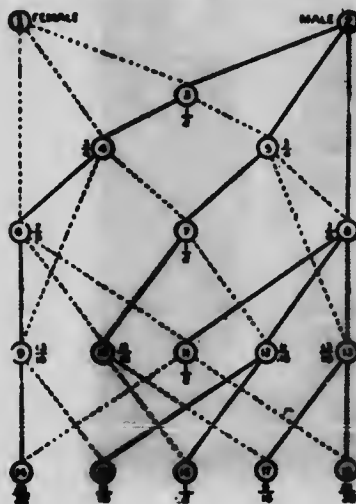


Fig. 66.—LINE BREEDING CHART.