

on strips in front. The crate is strengthened by having slats three-quarters of an inch thick and an inch and a half wide in each corner of the crate, running lengthwise. The ends and the partitions can also be made of solid wood in order to strengthen the crate. Ordinary inch mesh wire nailed to the bottom of the crate will answer the purpose of a floor better than a slatted bottom, as there will be less accumulation of droppings, therefore making the crate more sanitary.



Breeds best adapted for Fattening

The breeds of chicken best adapted for fattening purposes are the Plymouth Rocks, Wyandottes, Rhode Island Reds, and the Orpingtons. All these breeds, or any variety of these, will do well when placed in a fattening crate. They produce meat and lay on fat very economically, and dress out neat, plump, and desirable carcasses for table use. The cockerels of any of these breeds, when taken at three and a half to four months of age will usually gain from a pound to a pound and a half in three weeks time. As they get older the amount of food required to make a pound of gain increases very rapidly, and crate fattening will not be very profitable after the birds are six months old. Strong, vigorous and healthy birds will always make better gains than those lacking in vigor and vitality.

The heavier breeds like Cochins, Brahmas and Langshans will not give very satisfactory results when fattened, as they do not with-