

freeze quickly the difficulty may be overcome by heating the water. The fountain being air tight, excepting the space from which the hens secure the supply, the water remains warm sufficiently long for the hens to get enough. The can, however, should be emptied of any remaining water daily to insure it from being broken by frost.

Study the Flock.—The wise poultryman will study the wants of his flock constantly, observing their likes and dislikes. Should they seem to tire of any particular ration try something else that may prove appetizing to them, as hens appear to enjoy a change of food occasionally.

Keep the flock contented and busy. Give them plenty of fresh air. Never allow them to become too poor or too fat. Keep them free from vermin, and the drop boards and the roosts clean. Remove a bird out of condition to quiet quarters where it will not be worried, and treat it as required for its special case. At once detect in the flock any defect and immediately take steps to remedy it.

MARKETING EGGS

Keeping hens for summer egg production is antiquated. According to present advanced methods in poultry raising chickens are hatched in the spring, the hens are fattened and killed in June or July and the spring hatched pullets lay throughout the autumn, winter and spring months. In this way the eggs are produced at a time when they command the highest price owing to the limited supply at that season of the year, and the advanced poultryman has no surplus supply of eggs in summer when an over supply would trouble him and when they are cheapest.

As well as endeavouring to supply the eggs at a time when they are in greatest demand the poultryman must get into touch with the best market. The price depends very much upon the way the eggs are presented for sale. The following considerations, therefore, are worthy of note:

Freshness.—Be sure that the eggs are fresh. This is only made possible by gathering them every day and marketing them frequently.

Cleanliness.—A dirty egg looks bad and of two lots, one dirty and the other clean, the dirty lot sells much more slowly. Washing eggs that have dirty spots brings a sufficiently higher price and quicker demand to pay for the trouble.

Uniformity.—The cook likes to get eggs of one size and color and the larger the better. It behooves the poultryman therefore to endeavour to satisfy the whim. This is done by having but one breed, having it pure and using only eggs that are large and uniform in shape and color for incubation.

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