

them with an abundant supply of a variety of vegetables, especially when they can be grown as easily and as cheaply as on the average farm.

A person would hardly believe it, but it is only too true that many farmers have been known to buy vegetables for their own use. Such an expenditure is simply a waste of money that should and could be avoided if every farmer would take a day or two in the early spring and a few hours occasionally afterwards to put and to keep his garden in order. It does not take much trouble, and good results are sure to follow if a good piece of ground is selected and put in fine shape at the start. The reason why so many farmers' gardens are a failure is because they have never given them the care and attention they required. To make it a success it should be made part of the regular farm work, and if properly arranged at the beginning can sometimes be well cared for by the women of the household. If every farmer would give his garden some special attention the coming season and grow a variety of choice vegetables for his own table we are certain that he would not feel like letting it run to weeds next year. The necessary thing to do is to put the land in good shape by cultivation and manuring, and to secure from some of the many reliable seedsmen advertising in this journal the kind and variety of seeds required to sow it. This done and a little care and attention while the plants are growing will insure a good supply of table vegetables, berries, currants and such like.

Domestic Science

We have received a very interesting report on this subject, by Mrs. Hoodless, of Hamilton, published by the Educational Department of Ontario. The report, while emphasizing the necessity of teaching domestic science in our public schools and colleges, gives special attention to what is being done in other countries and the account of a recent visit of the lady referred to to the schools of Philadelphia and Washington.

After giving some information regarding the work in European countries Mrs. Hoodless says:

"The progress made, together with the apparent educational value placed upon these practical subjects (domestic science and sewing) in other countries has led to a consideration of their introduction into the public schools of Ontario. It is generally conceded, after years of experience, without which an educational system cannot be perfected, that a strictly mental or theoretical training has not produced satisfactory results. That the brain must be the directing power is, of course, acknowledged; but mental power without the ability to execute, without the co-operation of eye and hand, is not the kind of education which will 'fit scholars for the ordinary duties of life.' The more advanced theories in regard to education involve the training of the senses as agents of the mind in acquiring a true knowledge of things."

In summing up the general evidence obtained from her visit to the United States and from other sources, the writer gives the following as the chief benefits to be derived from the introduction of those practical subjects into the public school curriculum:

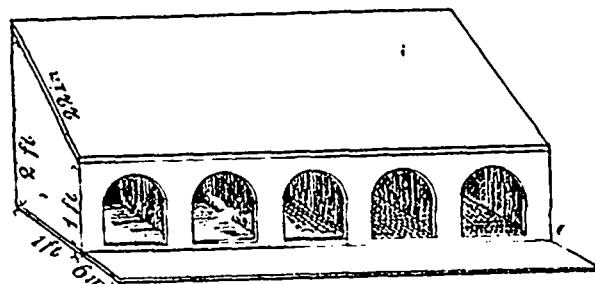
- (1) It tends to inspire respect for skilled labor and domestic duties.
- (2) It develops self-respect and self-reliance, especially in pupils who dislike books.
- (3) It develops general intelligence and increases interest in school work.
- (4) It cultivates habits of neatness, attention, accuracy and industry.
- (5) It improves the health and strengthens the will-power.

In closing her report she says:

"There is no part of a girl's education which is so likely to produce a permanent effect or to exercise a better influence than an intelligent study of domestic science, which gives a practical knowledge of the essential principles underlying true home-making."

We have given this subject more prominence just here than we otherwise would because we wish to draw particular attention to the fact that, if the teaching of domestic science, etc., in our public schools will be of value to people living in the towns and cities, it will be equally valuable to those living in the country. But why not extend the study of this subject beyond the scope of the public school? We have expressed ourselves more than once as being strongly in favor of a Department of Domestic Science in connection with the Ontario Agricultural College, and we would again like to emphasize the need of such a branch of study at that well-managed institution. The teaching of domestic science and kindred subjects is being made a prominent feature at many of the leading American agricultural colleges, and why not at our leading Agricultural College?

We shall, however, have more to say in regard to this matter later on. Beginning with this issue we will have a department of our paper devoted specially to the farm home and woman's sphere and influence therein. In this department we purpose giving special attention to the discussion of matters pertaining to domestic science and kindred subjects with a view to giving practical information along these lines that will be of value to the women and girls of the farmer's household in enabling them to perform the duties devolving upon them in a way that will bring greater happiness and prosperity to all concerned. The work of brain or muscle depends in no small degree upon



Nest-box for Poultry House

The nest-box is supposed to be in position, resting on the nest bottom.

the kind of food and manner in which it is prepared; and while the farmer's wife in this country is, perhaps, above the average of any other land in her knowledge of foods and how to prepare them, yet we are of the opinion that there is room for improvement along this line in many ways. The whole subject at any rate opens up a very wide field for thought and investigation, and we trust it will receive the attention its importance demands.

A New Poultry Manager At the Ontario Agricultural College

A change has taken place in connection with the Poultry Department of the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. Mr. L. G. Jarvis, who has occupied the position of manager during the past five years, has resigned, and Mr. W. R. Graham, B.S.A., Belleville, Ont., has been appointed to succeed him. Mr. Graham, whose appointment is temporary for one year, is a graduate of the college of five years' standing and has had a wide and successful experience as a poultry breeder and producer. He has been a frequent contributor to these columns, and those who have read his articles must come to the conclusion that he has a practical and intimate knowledge of matters pertaining to poultry farming.

What is wanted in connection with the poultry department of an agricultural institution like the Ontario Agricultural College is good, practical, definite work along the line of showing the farmers how best to conduct the poultry branch of their business so as to make the most profit out of it. It may be necessary, perhaps, to do a little work in the way of breeding birds that are true to type in the way of color and marking, yet if this merely fancy part is