

Poultry Bookkeeping

A. Carmichael, York Co., Ont.
 "Hens don't pay." I don't know how many times I have been told this by my neighbors who have not managed to make any money out of poultry as I have. I always suspected that these neighbors of mine really did not know whether their hens paid or not. I usually take their objections to poultry pretty good naturedly, but when at the end of a short address that I gave at an agricultural meeting held here recently, I was told flatly that hens don't pay. I got after the objector much in the same manner as a lawyer would get after me when I was acting as a witness in court.

"How many hens have you?" I first demanded.
 "Well, I don't know exactly, but may be there are 30 or 40," Mary," he said, turning to his wife, "they

"The Baby Chick" and "Eggs for Hatching" Business

There is a tidy little profit in both of these lines of poultry business.

Eggs you can quite be shipped across a continent quite safely and will then hatch well. Boxes made especially for the purpose, (cheap, light, yet strong) obtainable from all poultry supply dealers, should be used.

Baby chicks do not require feeding for periods of at least from three to four days. Nature has provided for them by the yolk which they have absorbed inside of their yolk sacs. Thus they should not be fed until they are strong enough to hatch and shipping them long distances keeps them from being fed too soon. Thus they are well after taking long rides by express, in the special, cheap, light, strong boxes made to provide for them and to be had from poultry supply dealers.

For profitable sales and plenty of them one must reach out and sell to his own neighbors. The best way is to advertise.

Farm and Dairy has anticipated your need in this line. We make the cost very low to you even for small ads, that are charged for only a few lines—only \$1.00 per inch each insertion, in advance lines, \$1.00.

Classified rates only 2c per word, each initial, sign, address, etc. to count as one word. Cash must always accompany ads, strictly in advance for classified ads.

Fit up your ad now while you are thinking about it. You may as well sell your stock and cash for hatching at good prices!

Farm and Dairy will take your message out to over 10,000 possible buyers.

many hens have we anyway?" "I cannot say exactly," was the reply, "but maybe there are 40 or 50."

"What do you feed them?" I next demanded.

"Well they get the table scraps and mixed grain."

"Very good, if you feed that mixed grain in large enough quantity and often enough. How do you feed it?" My friend was getting somewhat "up on his ear" at being thus interrogated before all his neighbors and he looked very much as if he would like to tell me to mind my own business, but at last he admitted that he had no regular time for feeding the grain and that the quantity depended on how much he thought he could spare.

"And how many eggs do you get?" I asked.

"You know Mr. Carmichael, we have a large family and we all like eggs, especially for breakfast. The hens don't lay much in the winter, so about all of the surplus that we get in summer we store in salt for use the following winter. We get any-

where from a dozen to two dozen eggs a day in the early summer, however."

"Do you think those eggs pay for the feed?"

"I don't know." I asked numerous other questions and the invariable answer was, "I don't know," or "I guess so." Would that man like to take a case before a judge and jury that he knew so little about as he did his poultry?

The licensee that seems to prevail as to the profits from poultry is not due to the difficulty of "getting wise." In order that those who know as little about their poultry as did the farmer of whom I have told you, may know more of their poultry, I will tell of the simple system that I have of determining poultry profits.

On the wall of the poultry house, we have tacked two large cards. Between them a pencil hangs on a string. One of them is ruled off so that entries may be made of the number of eggs gathered each day. The other is a separate column down the side of the sheet and at the end of the year we can add up the 12 months and know immediately how many eggs we have received altogether. In a column alongside we put down the value of the eggs for each month, allowing the same for the eggs used in the house as we do for those that are sold. This is only fair to the poultry.

On the second sheet we keep track of the feed consumed. This is easily done. Instead of getting the usual daily allowance from the general grain bin, we bring the feed to the poultry house in bushel loads. For instance, if we were feeding wheat and the supply run out we go to the barn and bring over a couple of bushels at once. This is jotted down on our feed sheet along with the value. At the end of the year we are able to determine quickly just what value our birds have cost us and in about two minutes we know just what the profits have been.

Egg Eating.—I have had a good deal of trouble with egg eating fowls, and have found the best preventive is to cut off a bit of the upper bill with a sharp penknife till you see a drop of blood. This leaves the bill sore for a day or two, and the act of breaking an egg shell hurts so that it is not repeated. By going into the pen after night, a good many fowls can be trimmed, as I have suggested, in a few minutes.—C. W. Young, Stormont Co., Ont.

I take several farm papers but appreciate Farm and Dairy most, and consider it truly the farmer's friend.—G. H. Laird, Oxford Co., Ont.

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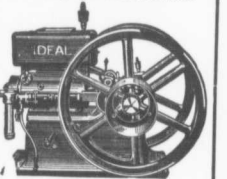
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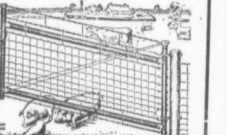
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