

mainly for the reasons that it was difficult to keep the fowls in good health, and furthermore the eggs were low in hatching power. The cost of heating was also considerable, in fact the entire equipment was too expensive to be successful as a business.

It was noticed yearly that the surplus stock held in the cheap houses was much healthier than those fowls kept in the warm houses. During the past eight years we have been trying to evolve a house that could be cheaply constructed, that would keep the fowls in good health, and at the same time get a fair egg yield from the fowls so housed.

Seven years ago, four houses, representing different styles of popular poultry houses, were constructed. These houses were stocked with birds representing, as nearly as possible, the same strains of the breed.



No. 4.

No. 3.

No. 2.

No. 1.

Fig. 1. Different Styles of Poultry Houses Suitable for an Ordinary Farm.

The breeds used were White Wyandottes and Buff Orpingtons, the one a rose combed breed, the other a single combed breed.

The houses are of equal size as regards floor space. Each house is 24 feet long and 12 feet wide. The house is divided by a wire and board partition, making two pens each 12 feet square. The pens will accommodate from 20 to 25 birds each, or about 50 to the houses. Fig 1 shows fairly well the appearance as regards windows, etc., of the house. The roosting quarters of each house are very similar in construction. A dropping-board is used which is constructed of matched dressed lumber. The board is placed at the back of the building, and is about three feet above the floor level. The dropping-board is three feet wide. The roosts are made of dressed 3 x 3 scantling, and are placed six inches above the dropping-board. A curtain is arranged to be let down during cold nights, as in No. 1 and No. 2 houses. [There is no curtain used in No. 3 or No. 4 houses.

House No. 1 is made of matched boards which are dressed on one side. The front and ends of the house are single-ply. The back is sheeted