



Fig. 1

A GOOD BREEDER

Note the type and vigor possessed by this bird in contrast with the one shown in Fig. 2. This bird will produce thrifty chicks, which are so necessary with feed so expensive.



Fig. 2

A POOR BREEDER

Note the narrow head, narrow body and weak legs. Such a bird should not be used for breeding purposes.

Mate the breeders, selected from the pullets which laid best during the previous winter, with a male whose mother was a heavy winter layer. The selection of the male is very important, for the sire has more influence in the production of heavy laying pullets than has the dam and it is only by using a male bred from a good winter layer that best results can be secured.

Aside from the improvement resulting from better methods of breeding better methods of management will also give much larger production.

EGGS FOR INCUBATION

The breeding stock is the foundation of success in hatching and rearing chickens; great care should be exercised in the selection of vigorous breeders of a good winter laying strain.

It is very important that the chicks be hatched as early as possible. Above all do not hatch late in the season. Since winter egg-production is the most profitable branch of the poultry industry and since the average general purpose chicken does not commence laying before about six months after being hatched, it is obvious that hatching should be done six months prior to November, when pullets should commence to lay. Late hatched pullets are rarely profitable. *General purpose chickens should be hatched before the middle of May; Leghorns should be hatched before the first of June.*

Mate one male with from ten to fifteen females. About ten days should be allowed from the time the male bird is placed in the breeding