

combine a market business with the breeding of fancy stock, but the majority of them cannot.

A man going in for poultry keeping has one of two objects in mind. He is either going into it for profit, making it a business undertaking from which money is to be made, or else he is going to keep a few fowls for pleasure, to supply his family with eggs and meat, or to produce a few fowls for fancy or exhibition purposes. He is not very particular whether or not he makes any profit from his investment and work. When one looks the country over he might be inclined to think that a majority of those keeping poultry are of this latter class. And, as a matter of fact, there are quite a few of this kind. Farmers, in this country particularly, do not keep fowls for the profit made from them, but largely for the poultry products required for family use.

Poultry keeping, if one wishes to go into it as a business, will yield large returns, providing it is managed properly. To handle a large business successfully a man requires to be an expert, to have good business judgment, a natural aptitude for the work, and a willingness to learn from his own experience and the experience of others. He does not need to be an expert at the start, he can pick up the business end fairly easy, but he does need to be a reader, a thinker and a learner. Few of those who are into poultry extensively to-day had much expert knowledge of the business when they embarked in it. They came to a knowledge of the work and learned the business methods necessary for its successful management as their establishment grew. As a rule, too, most poultry men start with limited capital. Probably it was just as well their capital was small for few men are entirely ambitious, and if a man has enough faith in himself and confidence in the business to go into it at all, he might be tempted at the outset, if he could command the means, to embark in the enterprise on a larger scale than his experience and expert knowledge would justify him. It is well to start a little slow. Fortunes can be figured pretty rapidly in the poultry business, but they come far short of realization, unless the man who does the the figuring can manage a poultry establishment as well as cipher.

There are several branches of poultry. If a man is going into it as a business undertaking, he wants to combine two or more different lines so as to have a steady source of income during the entire year. If he goes in for pure-bred stock alone, for example, his sales will be limited to about four months of the year. It is the same with the other branches. If a steady return is required, and a living to be made from the business, combination is necessary. In a general way, eggs and meat production make the most practical combination. Eggs are produced during the winter when they are high in price, incubated during the early spring season and the poultry keeper has a steady source of revenue coming in during the greater part of the year, though there will be some months when, if he is into hens alone, his income will not be very much. During the spring and early summer, no return can be expected unless he can supplement his winter egg harvest by the sale of eggs for hatching. If the stock is pure-bred this is readily accomplished. Then, again, poultry keepers in the neighborhood of city markets sometimes run ducks in addition to the regular line of hens, and tide themselves over the slack summer season by selling early hatched ducks. There is always a good demand for this class of poultry near large cities, and in the early season good profits are made.

The best advice that can be offered a beginner in poultry is to go a little slow, master first the details of the work, learn to manage a large business by first demonstrating that a small one can be handled successfully, and never overstep very much the limits of your own experience. The best way is to proceed as if you had no capital other than the profits from the flock.

Building and Equipment for a Two Thousand Bird Plant

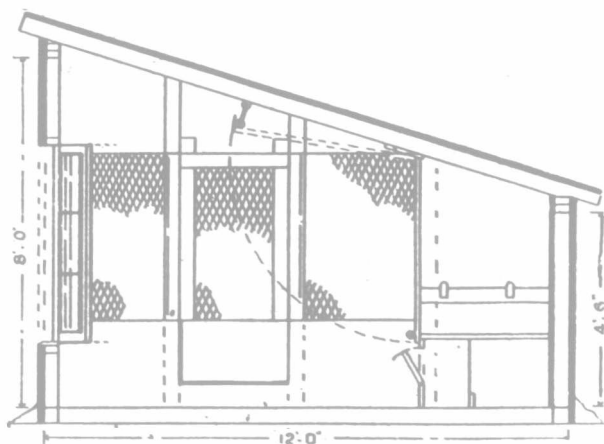
EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

As I am thinking of going into the poultry and dog business I would be greatly obliged if you would kindly answer me the following questions through the columns of your valuable paper. What would it cost to erect a building 300 feet long and 20 feet wide? What height should such a building be? I intend running a litter and food carrier track down through the building in the highest part. I estimate that the building will accommodate 1000 birds, having 200 birds partitioned off with poultry netting, so

as to prevent crowding. House (no floor) to be built of best quality shiplap, \$30.00 per thousand feet, and covered all over outside with some good roofing paper. What size of a run would be required divided in the same manner as interior? Give rough estimate of the grain that would be required for one year, fed two-thirds wheat and one-third oats. Give list of things required for a 2,000 bird plant—incubators, brooders and size suitable to use. What size of incubator house? Describe size and shape of kennels for 20 dogs, collies and Newfoundlands. Where shall I apply for a sample of free government farm grain. Sask.

A WOULD-BE POULTRYMAN.

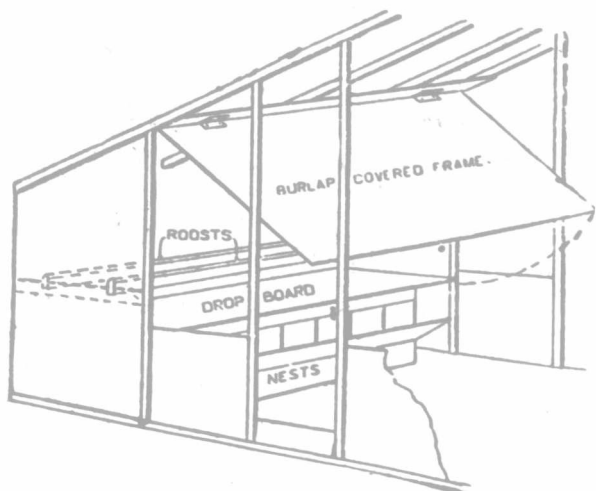
In reply to the enquiries of your correspondent who is going into the poultry business I might say that with reference to the cost of a poultry house 300 feet by 20 feet, that I would think it decidedly unwise to give such plan of house any consideration from the fact that a poultry house 20 feet wide is not practical. The essential consideration in constructing a poultry house is to so arrange it as to allow the rays of sunshine to penetrate, if possible, to the roosts and drop boards which are located at the rear of the pens. I take it that your correspondent proposes going into the poultry business in a practical way for commercial purposes, combining convenience and the most satisfactory conditions for the birds. For a purpose of this kind I would recommend a practical and economical poultry house, one recognized by poultrymen in general under the name of "the single style of poultry house." This style can be constructed as cheaply as any and has all the essentials of a first class poultry house. The general specifications of this style of house are 8 feet studding at the front,



CROSS SECTION OF SINGLE STYLE OF POULTRY HOUSE.

4 feet 6 inches studding at the rear, the width of the house 12 feet. The pen partitions are usually placed 12 feet apart, each pen having a capacity of from 25 to 30 birds. The partitions are solid board to the roof where the roosts and drop boards are located with 2 feet of board at the bottom and 4 or 5 feet wire above for the balance of the partition. The doorways in the partitions are placed two feet from the front of the pen in which the litter and food carrier, suggested by your enquirer, could be successfully operated.

I am afraid, however, that one thickness of shiplap and covering with roofing paper would not be a sufficient protection for the average Canadian climate. I would suggest that the inside of the studding on the ends and rear walls be sided up with shiplap, and on the outside of the studding throughout the building shiplap, paper and some suitable drop siding be used. This I think would make a much more satisfactory poultry house particularly for the securing of winter eggs which should be an important factor.



INTERIOR VIEW OF SINGLE STYLE OF POULTRY HOUSE. SHOWING POSITION OF NEST, DROP BOARD, AND BURLAP CURTAIN.

The estimate cost of such a building I would place at from \$3.50 to \$5.00 per running foot depending on the varying price of lumber and labour in the district where the building is to be constructed.

In running the birds in colonies of 200 as suggested, this style of house might be used by making it with partitions every 90 feet. In figuring accom-

modation for poultry from 5 to 6 square feet of floor space should be allowed for each bird. I would, however, advise the dividing of the house and not allowing more than 100 fowl to run in a colony, as I think better results would follow from this plan.

The runs in front of the house should extend for from 100 to 150 feet to the front and should be fenced with 2 foot board at the bottom and 4 or 5 foot netting above. The runs should be seeded to alfalfa clover or other succulent foods. The cost of feed per bird per year is usually estimated at from \$1.00 to \$1.25 per bird, depending on the varying cost of grain from season to season. I would not recommend wheat and oats alone as food rations, as grit, oyster shell, animal meat and other foods are necessary as a part of the rations in order to secure satisfactory results.

To give a list of things required for a 2000 bird plant is perhaps a large undertaking, and I think any person attempting to undertake poultry farming on such a large scale should have a pretty thorough knowledge of the requisites of a plant of this capacity, or the chances are that disaster and financial failure will follow.

To equip a practical up-to-date commercial poultry plant of 2000 bird capacity one can safely estimate that the land, houses, and general equipment will cost in the neighborhood of from \$6.00 to \$7.00 per head. Too often the poultry business is disgraced by failures resulting in persons undertaking it with the idea that a few dollars is all that is necessary with which to go into it. It is an industry by itself and to be made a success of requires capital and a thorough practical knowledge of poultry keeping. My advice to your correspondent, or any other person going into the poultry business without this practical knowledge, is to undertake it in a small way and extend his business with increased experience.

Edmonton, Alta.

A. W. FOLEY,

Poultry Superintendent.

For information in regard to the housing and breeding of dogs, we would advise our correspondent to write to Mr. H. B. Donovan, Editor of the Kennel Gazette, Toronto, who is one of the best authorities in this country on such matters. Our inquirer should also procure the latest government bulletins on poultry-keeping, particularly Poultry Bulletin No. 1, published by the Alberta department of agriculture. It is sent free on request.

For free government farm seed apply to the Dominion Experimental farm in your province, or to the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

HORTICULTURE

Great Britain last year imported £29,000,000 worth of timber. About one-fourth of this came from British possessions abroad.

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The area of land in Canada fit for tobacco growing is capable of producing twenty-five million pounds of leaf per year. Home consumption supplied entirely with domestic tobacco would absorb about one-third of this, leaving a large surplus for export. Soil and climatic conditions in this country is favorable for the production of tobacco equal in quality to that grown in the United States, but because the industry is in its infancy here, while the Americans have perfected their growing and manufacturing systems by generations of experience, this country is handicapped in competing with the States in foreign markets.

It is only recently that tobacco growing has been taken up as an agricultural industry in Canada. Certain sections of the country, particularly the Lake Erie counties in Ontario and parts of southern Quebec, are well adapted climatically and in soil conditions for tobacco culture. The quality of the leaf produced is not inferior to that grown in more favored sections in the south. The higher grades of cigar tobacco cannot be grown in northern latitudes, but leaf adapted for ordinary use may be readily grown. The Canadian Manufacturers' Association is proposing that the industry should be stimulated by government assistance in the way of instructing farmers in the best methods of curing and packing for home consumption and export, and by establishing farms in charge of experts, in the tobacco growing sections of the country.