

Poultry Department.  
Revenue Loss 1930 - 1931.

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In offering an explanation for the reduced revenue of the Poultry Department for the year 1930-31 as compared with the previous year I beg to first make a statement as to the flock differences between the two years. In the year 1929-30 approximately 1400 pullet layers were kept, whereas in the year 1930-31 about 1100 were kept. The 1100 bird flock was, however, much superior to the previous year's flock and should have made as good a showing financially as the larger flock.

We must also recognise the vast difference in prices received for produce this year, especially since January, as compared with 1929-30.

The above statements re size of flock and prices are, however, not the cause of the severe drop in revenue. The real cause for the loss in stock and production was an outbreak of Infectious Bronchitis which was accompanied by Chicken Pox. Both diseases ran a long course of infection among the flocks causing an immediate drop in egg production and the necessary loss in stock in an attempt to stamp out the infection. Many birds were sacrificed because of going off laying to avoid too heavy feed losses.

Since the infestations only appeared after the pullets had come into full laying condition it was not