

structed as to be opened to afford ventilation. As fowls like plenty of sunshine, at least one third of the south side should contain windows. Along the north side, the roosts may be placed about three feet from the floor on the level, with dropping boards six inches underneath the roosts. The nests may be placed in under the dropping boards and therefore economize space. The size of the house depends on the amount of poultry you wish to keep, allowing four to six square feet of floor space for each fowl.

A house of this kind kept clean and well ventilated, should give satisfaction.

In selecting a breed of poultry to keep on the farm, the farmer should get fowls that will go out in the meadow and fields and pick a part of their living. The farmer wants a breed that is not in any way an oddity. Large crests and heavily feathered legs, and monstrous combs, are objectionable because they serve no useful purpose. As on most farms the chickens are hatched in the natural way, the farmer's hens must usually be sitters. It is also important that the surplus poultry be of good market quality.

The farmer not only looks for a fairly good egg production, but also for a body of considerable size that will serve a good quantity of meat of first class quality for table use and for market purposes. Not only does the farmer demand meat when the fowls are mature, but the meat of fowls of all ages after the young reach the broiler stage must be of good quality. It is vitally important, also, that the fowls produce the greatest amount and best quality of meat from the food consumed, for some fowls eat much and produce relatively little. Good layers are required, especially during the winter months. Steady winter layers are demanded by the farmer quite as much as by the poultryman whose business it is to produce eggs for the market. Most farmers do not expect to consume all the poultry products on the farm. If eggs are produced in great numbers during the winter months a high price is usually realized for them. It is also desirable that the farm hen become broody, incubate and become a good mother for the young. Most farmers will not care to bother with incubators and brooders but raise the young with the hen.

It is not possible to make definite classifications of the different breeds of poultry for the farm as some breeds in the hands of skilled poultrymen may prove profitable, while in the hands of an unskilled person they would not compare favorably with other breeds that are less productive. Some of the varieties of pure bred fowls that would prove suitable for the farm flock are Plymouth Rocks, Orpingtons, Wyandottes, Leghorns and Rhode Island Reds.

The laying fowls should be well cared for if large egg yield is desired. They should be kept healthy and have plenty of exercise. In the summer time the fowls will usually get plenty of exercise and will pick a greater part of their living. They should also be fed some grain or mixture of grains. Wheat is the best grain to feed alone, although corn is good food also when fowls run and get plenty of exercise. Corn is of a heating nature, therefore, it should not be fed alone in warm weather. Oats may be fed also, but are not relished by the fowls unless they are hulled. The fowls should be fed twice a day of some mixture of grains in the summer time.

In the winter the fowls should be fed some grain in the litter, night and morning, as scratching for the grain will afford plenty of exercise. At noon a mash may be fed consisting of equal parts by measure of corn meal, ground oats, and wheat bran. This mixture is moistened by water or skim milk. The fowls should also be supplied with some green food such as clover, alfalfa, mangels or cabbage. The clover or alfalfa may be cut up and fed. The mangels should be suspended from the ceiling by a rope and the fowls allowed to pick at them.

Some animal matter should also be supplied and fed to take the place of the insects that are eaten in summer. Meat scraps, ground bone, and animal meal should be fed daily at the rate of from one-half to three-quarters of a pound