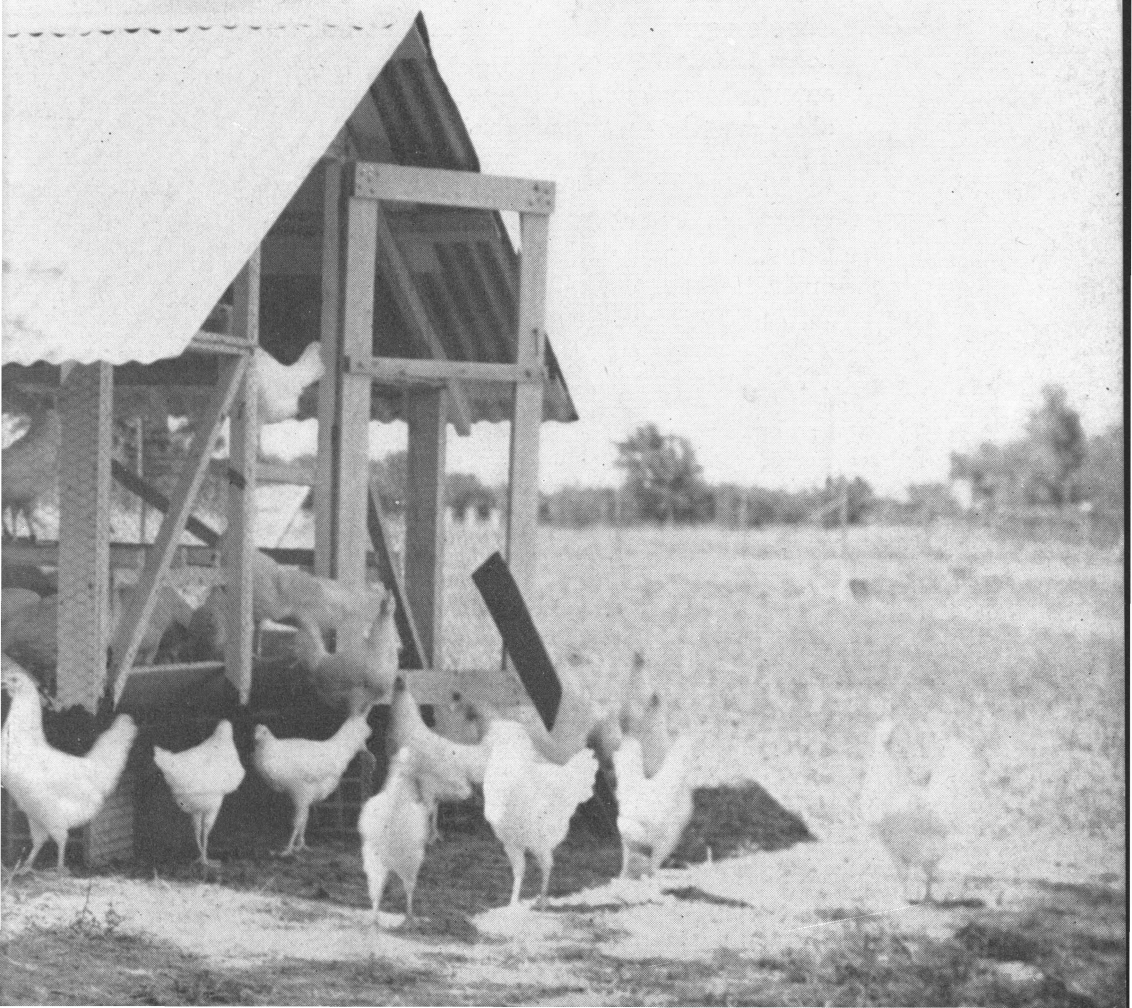


POULTRY YARD EQUIPMENT



POULTRY YARD EQUIPMENT

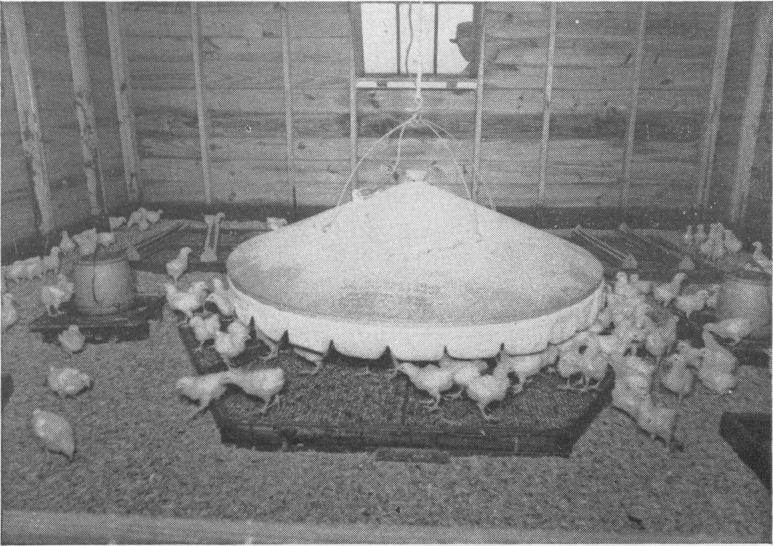
By

Ted Martin, Poultry Husbandman
and
M. R. Bentley, Agricultural Engineer
Texas A. and M. College Extension Service

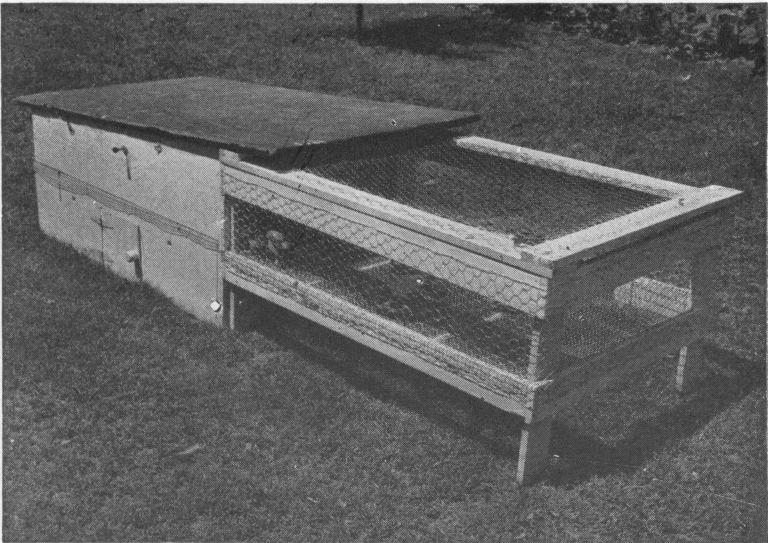
No attempt has been made to cover all poultry equipment in this bulletin but merely to illustrate the more common pieces and those that can be constructed easily at home. Simple equipment as shown in this bulletin helps to take lots of work out of the poultry enterprise and makes the work more enjoyable as well as more profitable.

The legends of several of the illustrations refer to other bulletins. These are obtainable through county agricultural and home demonstration agents.

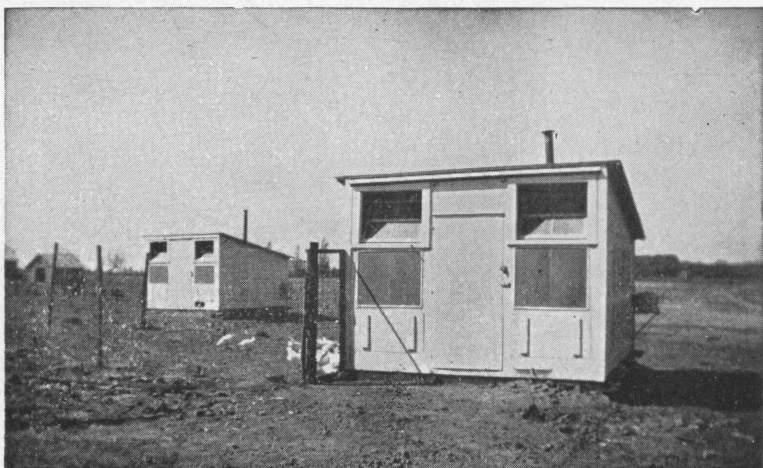
Issued By
The Extension Service
Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas and
The United States Department of Agriculture
Dr. Ide P. Trotter, Director, College Station, Texas



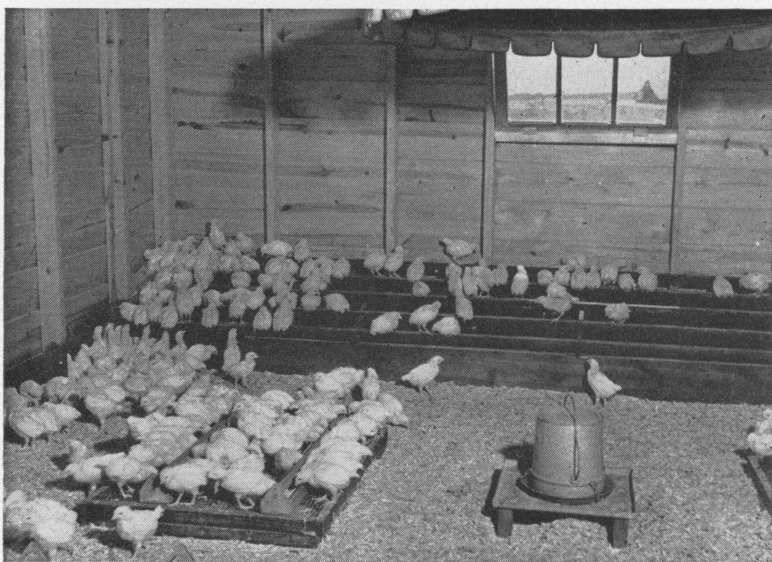
Interior view of brooder house showing arrangement of equipment and the wire floor. Wire floors are used as a precaution against disease by preventing the birds from coming in contact with the droppings.



Chicks can be brooded conveniently in this type of oil lamp brooder. Plans are available in Extension Plan No. 225 Home-made Lamp Brooder.

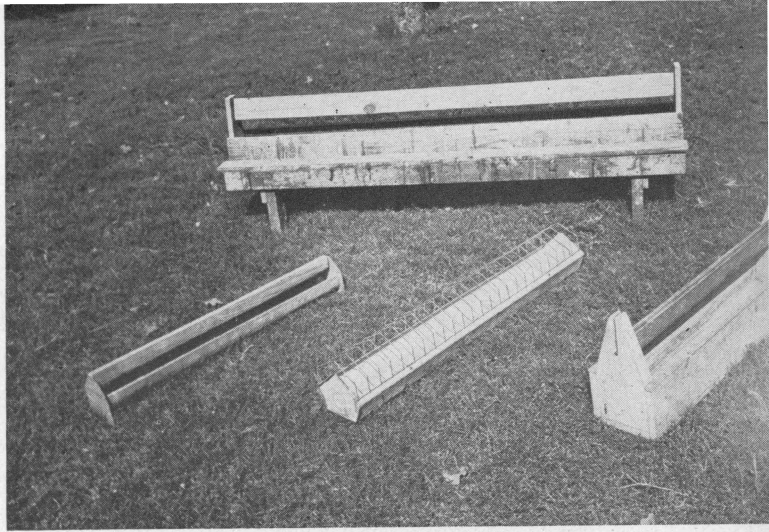


This brooder house is properly ventilated and built on skids for convenience in moving. Plans for construction are available in Extension Bulletin B-65 Poultry Houses for Texas.

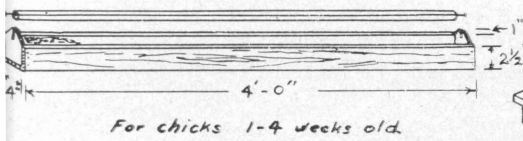


Small roosts are easily constructed and are excellent for use in the brooder house to teach chicks to roost at an early age. The roost illustrated is made of a 1" x 4" frame and built in convenient sections.

Proper feeding equipment is essential on any poultry farm. A feed hopper that is constructed properly eliminates waste.

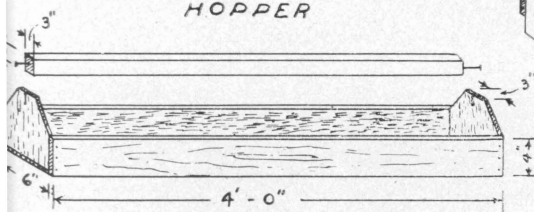


SMALL HOPPER

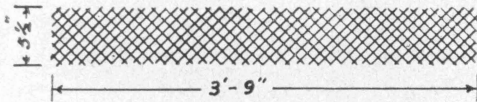


For chicks 1-4 weeks old.

HOPPER

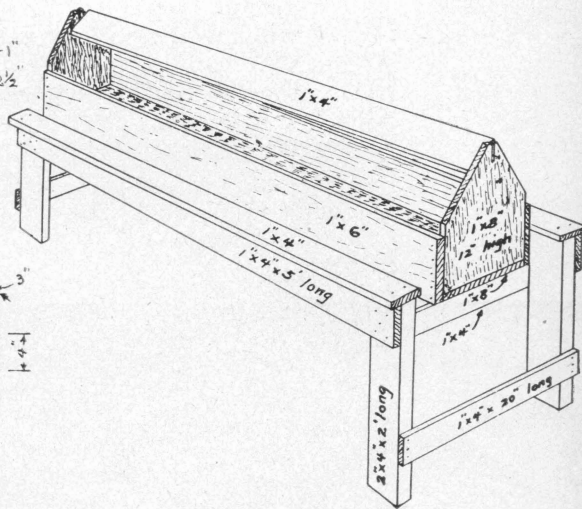


For chicks 4-12 weeks old.

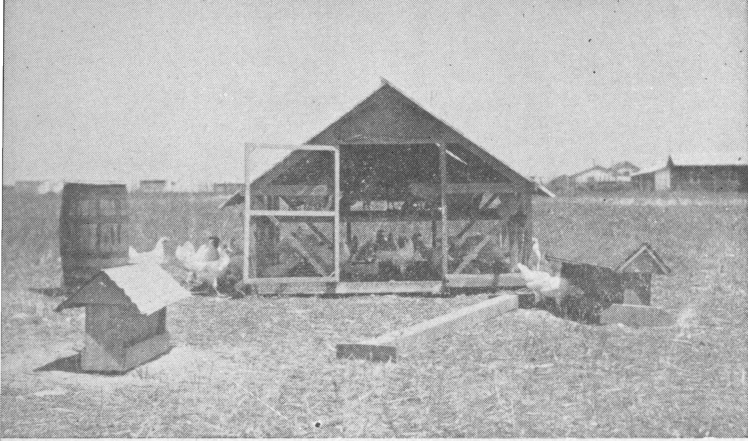


WIRE MESH

Lay loose on top of feed in hopper.

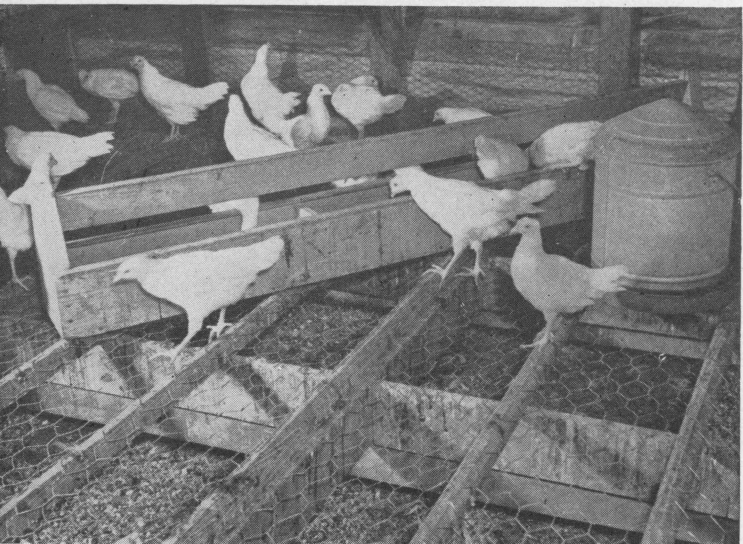


The line drawings show the detailed dimensions for constructing mash hoppers.

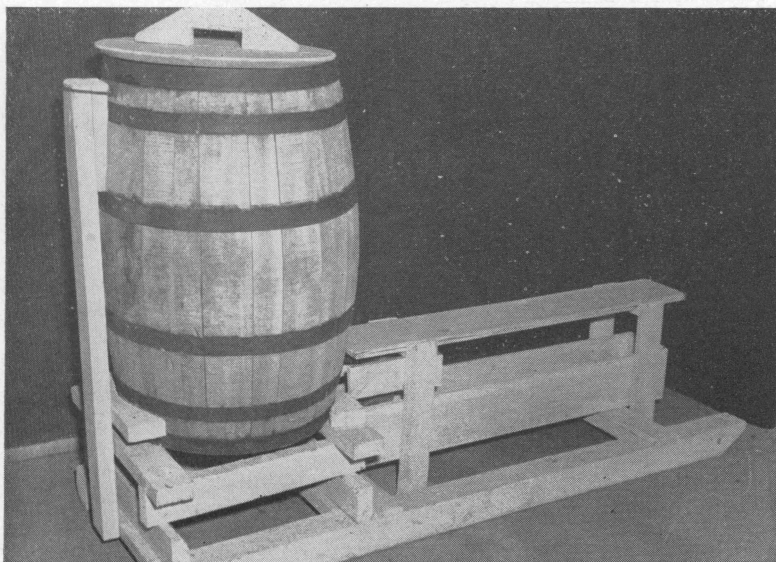


Range shelters are excellent for developing pullets. They should be placed on clean range away from the mature stock. Here is shown convenient equipment to go with the range shelters. Plans are available in Extension Bulletin B-65 Poultry Houses for Texas.

Large and small poultry flock owners are finding that shelter houses are almost essential for the proper development of pullets. A range shelter is inexpensive, is light in construction and can be easily moved. It will serve as a comfortable shelter for growing pullets during the summer, enabling the flock owner to develop pullets on clean ground, separated from the old flock. This will mean stronger and healthier pullets that can be moved to the laying house in the fall ready for good winter production.

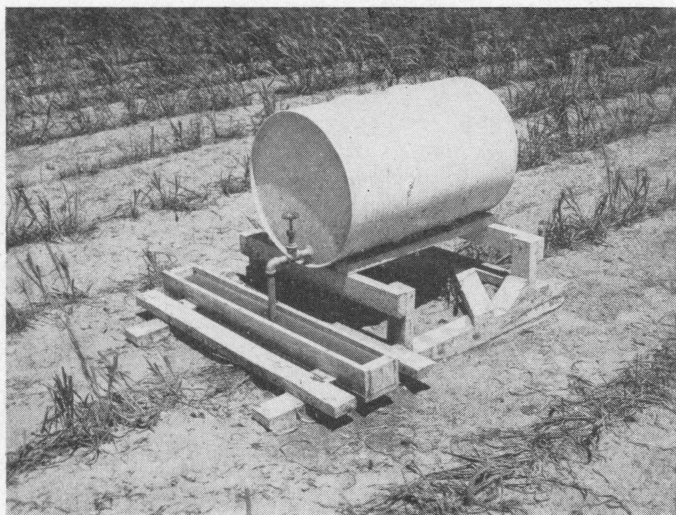


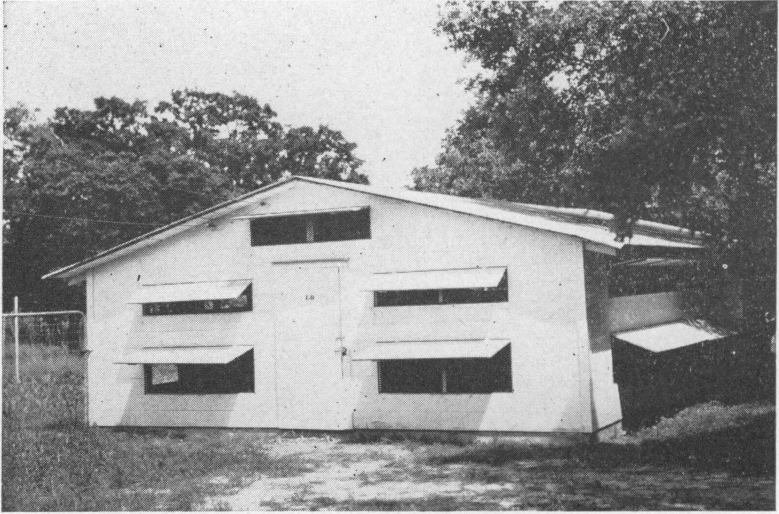
Interior view of poultry brooder house that has been converted into a range shelter. The wire floor allows the droppings to go to the ground. The netting floor is built in sections so that it can be easily taken out and a wooden floor put in.



Either of these range watering devices are easy and economical to construct. Plenty of clean, cool water on the range is a very important part of growing out the birds.

Plans can be obtained from the Extension Service.





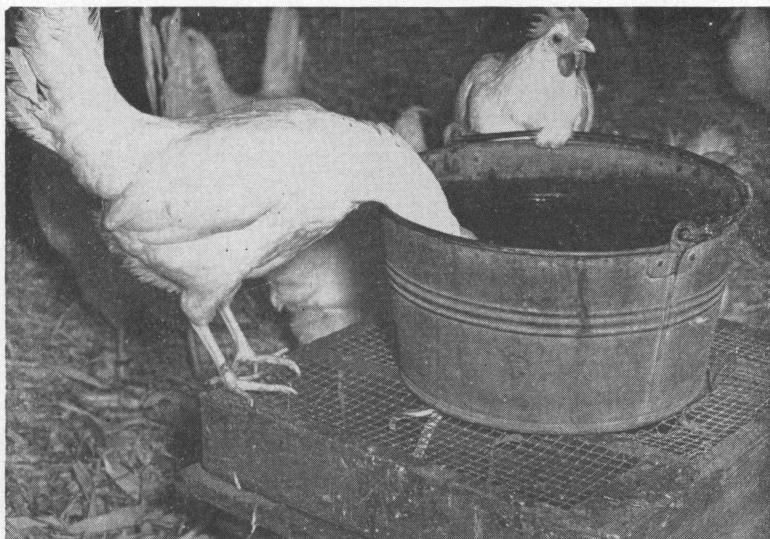
One of the essentials in poultry house construction for Texas, has been comfort to the birds. The above photograph illustrates proper ventilation. This type of ventilation insures comfort during the extremely hot summer days.



Dropping pits have added to the comfort of chickens and have been a decided factor in reducing colds. Dropping pits are cheaper to build than the old type dropping boards.



The different type of waterers being used satisfactorily.



Handy watering device showing frame and drip box. Water containers should be thoroughly scrubbed each day and disinfected with a good disinfectant once each week.

Good, clean water is as essential to poultry production as any other part of the feeding program. A sturdy galvanized bucket that can be cleaned easily and disinfected makes an excellent container for water.



Small wet mash trough constructed of 1" x 4" material. This type of trough can be made any desirable length to fit the needs of the flock.



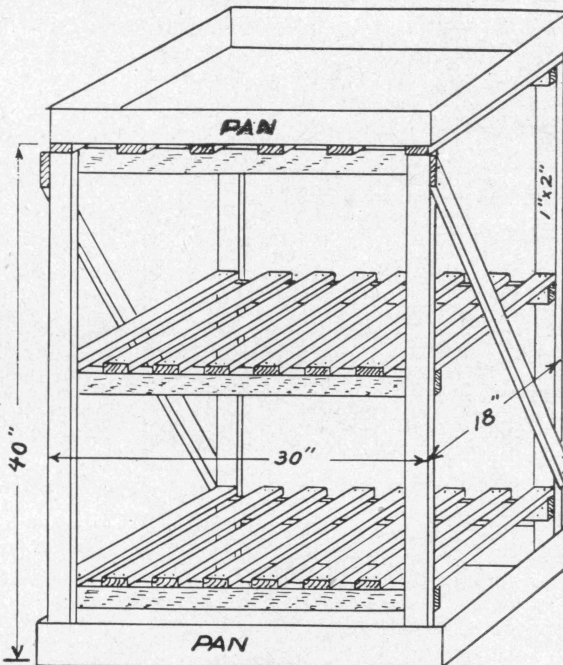
Catching crates can be easily made and save time and labor. No poultry farmer should be without one. The size may be varied to suit.

This type of iceless cooler is handy for holding eggs in the summer time, and helps the poultryman market high quality eggs. The capacity of the cooler shown is four cases of eggs.



Hot weather causes eggs to break down rapidly. Many Texas poultry farmers are using small iceless coolers to maintain the quality of their market eggs.

The line drawing shows the dimensions for constructing the iceless egg cooler. The cover on the sides is made of burlap sacking. Space between the slats allows the air to circulate freely.

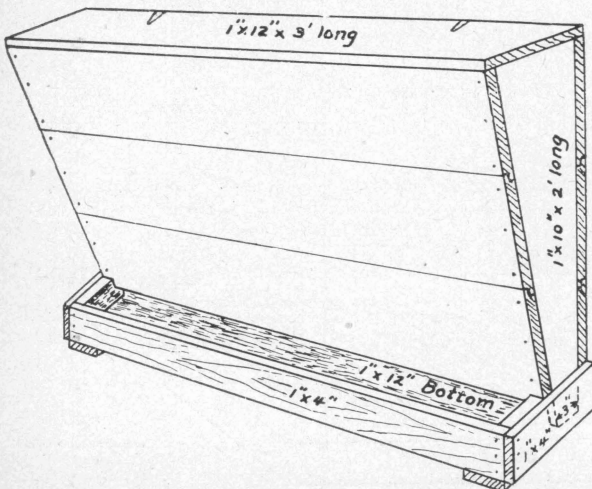




Oyster shell and grit are important in poultry feeding. A convenient hopper for feeding the necessary mineral is shown. The free choice mineral feeding system has been very successful.

Chickens need mineral the same as any other form of livestock. Many poultrymen do not feed minerals because they think their mash feed contains a sufficient amount of mineral material to take care of the needs of the birds.

This is a mistake that quite often leads to losses in the poultry flock. A small hopper to hold the mineral, particularly oyster shell, can be easily built and placed against the wall in some convenient place where the chickens can have access to it as their individual appetites demand.

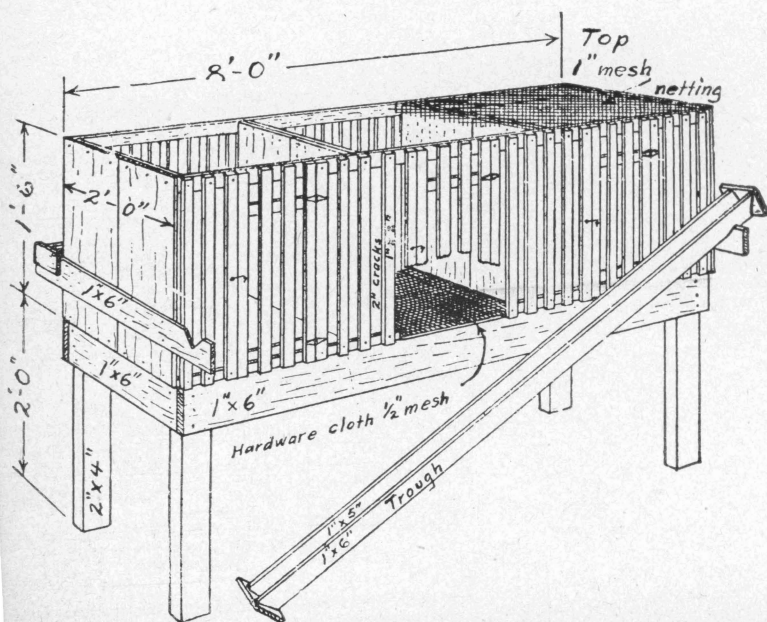


Line drawing shows detailed dimensions for building the mineral hopper.



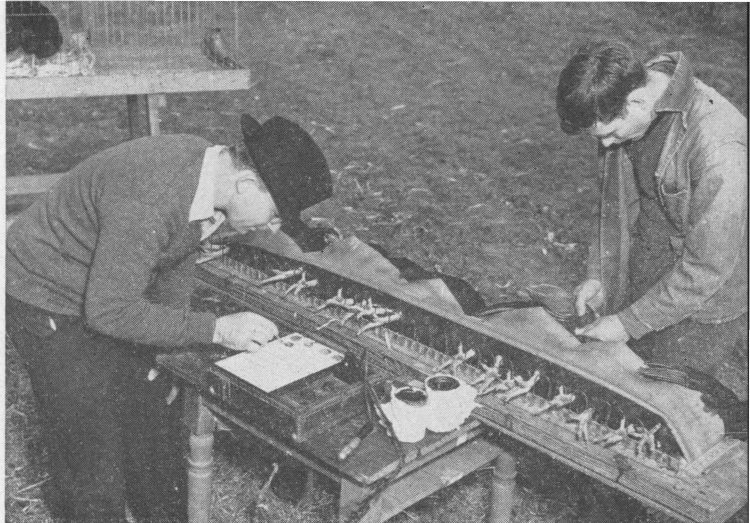
A swinging broody coop is a handy piece of equipment to use in breaking up broody hens that have a tendency to set. This type of coop almost cleans itself. Persistent brooders should be culled from the flock.

Broody hens sometimes are hard to handle. They often cause losses through egg breakage and losses in production. A good broody coop is an important piece of equipment for breaking up broody hens. Experience has shown that moderate temperature and free circulation of air are important factors in breaking up broodiness.



Handy fattening coop for fattening old hens and roosters for the market. The line drawing gives the detailed dimensions for building the coop.

Homemade table used for bloodtesting work. The holding table has heavy wire to hold the bird's legs in place. An old inner tube is stretched across the body of the bird to hold the bird down and to prevent flopping of wings.



No poultry farm is complete without labor saving equipment. Proper equipment for cleaning poultry houses and for disinfecting the houses, reduces the labor cost considerably and takes the drudgery out of this type of work. Sanitation is essential in the poultry business and where proper equipment is available, sanitary practices are usually followed.

A good selection of cleaning equipment takes a lot of labor out of poultry house cleaning. Sanitation is necessary in the poultry business.

