

effect of making it swell, practically doubling its bulk. The moisture contained in it, together with any liquid that was not taken up, usually provided sufficient moisture for bringing the mixture to a right consistency. The amount of lucerne used was varied according to the birds' appreciation of this food. When it was found that the lucerne was being left in the trough and the ground grains eaten, the indication was taken that the birds were getting too much of the lucerne, and the proportion was reduced for a time. It may be mentioned that, apart from the amount of meat-meal mixed in the mash in both cases, it was supplied in a separate receptacle and left always before the birds, thus giving them an opportunity of balancing their own ration. When there was no grass in the pens green feed (chiefly turnips) was fed during the day, while gravel-grit, crushed oyster-shell, and also clean water were always before the birds. The oats used in connection with the test were Sparrowbills of a good plump quality.

The test has also demonstrated that nothing less than the yearly record can be taken in regard to a bird's laying-capacity. This is proved by comparing the results put up by the individual pens for the first twenty-four weeks of the test with the yields for the full year, as shown in the following table:—

| | | Totals for First 24 Weeks. | Totals for 52 Weeks. |
|-----------|-------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Pen No. 1 | | 778 eggs | 1,438 eggs. |
| Pen No. 2 | | 610 .. | 1,463 .. |
| Pen No. 3 | | 742 .. | 1,433 .. |
| Pen No. 4 | | 602 .. | 1,449 .. |

The most striking comparison is in regard to pens Nos. 1 and 2. It will be seen that during the first period pen No. 1 led pen No. 2 by 168 eggs, whereas for the fifty-two weeks pen No. 2 not only caught up pen No. 1, but beat it by twenty-five eggs.

It will be noted that twelve White Leghorn and twelve Brown Leghorn pullets took part in the test, one pen of each breed having wheat in the ration and the others having none. By using one pen of each breed of the same age and strain, and supplying a different ration respectively, it was considered that the results obtained would be more conclusive than would be the case if only single pens of the same breed were used. The birds were selected as evenly as possible, both in regard to laying type and points indicative of constitution, while breed-points were not overlooked, the whole of the birds being good specimens of the breeds they represented. The