

"I think the accrual method of accounting is the best way to keep books. If you run your business for income tax reasons, you are on the wrong track."

John Frederich

houses have been built further away from main traveled roads. They reason that psychologically, if people can't see a poultry house, they can't smell the poultry manure.

Some of the things that Creightons can't buy are made in their well equipped shop. They still build their own poultry houses.

"This works out well for us because we can keep people the year around," Frederich claims. "We'll build a new poultry house in the spring or summer and get it under roof, and then in the winter, we will have the people who do general farm work put in the equipment. By doing this, we don't lose our key people."

The hatchery has a 500,000-egg capacity. Creightons sell H&N day-old chicks and started pullets. One fourth to one third of the pullet chicks hatched are sold as day-old chicks. About a million chicks are

brooded each year on the pullet rearing farms.

The H&N breeder flocks are maintained on three farms with about 25,000 breeders per farm.

With the exception of the new cage rearing farm, all of the chicks are brooded on the floor. About half of these houses have litter floor and the other half have slat floors over deep pits. Canopy-type gas brooders are used.

Within recent years, the feed mill has been updated somewhat with the installation of a six-ton mixer, additional corn storage bins, and improved drying facilities. The mill turns out about 110 tons of feed every working day.

Every fall about 750,000 bushels of corn are stored at the mill. Creightons produce enough corn for their replacement pullets and layers. Corn is purchased for their additional needs and for the feed

that they sell.

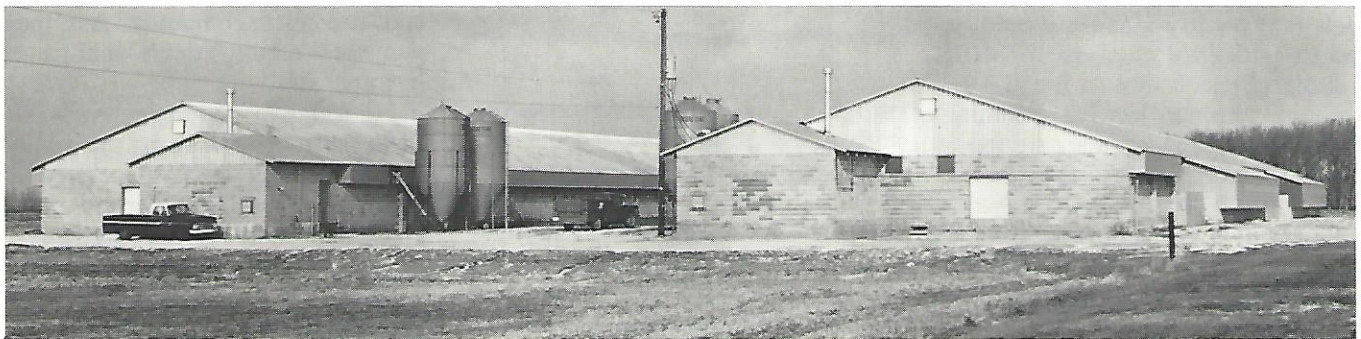
"I like to raise enough corn to feed our own chickens. Our corn costs us what it costs us to raise it," Frederich comments.

In 1974, Creightons had 2,800 acres of corn and 500 acres of soybeans. Plans call for increasing this acreage in 1975.

While Crystal Lake Egg Products, Inc. is owned, operated, and managed by Creighton Brothers, it is operated as a separate business. Gerald Snowhalter manages this plant as well as the shell egg processing at the home farm.

Eggs come to the products plant from Creighton's egg processing plant and from producers in western Indiana and Michigan. The big volume product is whole frozen eggs. In addition, the plant produces whites, yolks, and salted yolks. A small volume of scramble egg mix is put up in one gallon cartons and sold to institutions, restaurants, cafeterias, etc.

Three different methods are used for handling poultry manure. In the laying and pullet rearing houses which have deep pits, the manure is pumped out through an irrigation system onto corn fields. A pump can handle about 18,000 gallons an



ABOVE: The newest Creighton pullet rearing farm. The farm has facilities for brooding more than 120,000 day-old chicks in cages. Each 60 x 276 ft. house has its own standby generator. The first batch of chicks was started on this farm January 28, 1975.

AT RIGHT: Eddie Creighton observes chicks in one of the cage houses at the new pullet rearing farm. Chicks are reared in triple-deck Keenco automated starter/grow cages. Note the heat retainer paper over the top of brooding cages.

