

low the Nilo specifications on these items, but should be governed entirely by circumstances. In general, the method of operation is basically the same as if all details were handled by two farmers. Hunting parties are even transported to the field in a converted hay wagon, drawn by a tractor, as against the ordinary method of transporting shooters in automobiles or station wagons.

Under the plan demonstrated at Nilo, "Farmer Smith" and "Farmer Jones" own adjoining acreage which, when combined, falls within the requirement of the State of Illinois for controlled shooting areas. (320 to 1280 acres.) Modern farm plans have been prepared for their farms by the Soil Conservation Service. They decide to offer controlled shooting on a fee basis, thereby earning extra cash income by guiding hunting parties on Saturdays and Sundays during the shooting season permitted by state law. (From October 15 to February 15.) This is the season when frozen ground, snowfalls, etc., prevent any but the most necessary farm work.

Through investigation, they learned that ring-necked pheasants can be obtained in three different ways — by rearing from day-old chicks, by

starting with half-grown birds past the brooding stage, and finally, by the purchase of adult birds. They find that the latter method, besides being too expensive, affords them little opportunity to utilize their own labor, and that of their families, in producing the necessary birds. They decide to raise their own birds from day-old chicks, which requires a small brooder-house, but gives them the opportunity to feed the birds, like farm poultry, largely on the produce of their own farms.

How many birds will they need? They compute that in a four-months season, there will be eighteen weekends, or thirty-six hunting days. They do not count holidays. They figure that each farmer can act as guide for a party of four hunters, or eight in all. This makes a total of 288 hunter-days.

"Farmer Smith" and "Farmer Jones" are hunters themselves. They decided that every hunter should have the opportunity to shoot six birds. By the law of averages, this means that every shooter should take home four birds—either cocks or hens—at the end of the day. This "take" of 66% is also within the allowable limit of 70% presently imposed by the State of Illinois.

