

In this display a trained chicken pecks an air-supported ping-pong ball towards a semi-circular basket. When she succeeds in getting the ball into the basket, the ball drops to an electric switch to sound a buzzer and, for the second of two hits, to operate an electric feeder which delivers a food reward. The ball rolls back to the air column every time it is hit.

Normally, the blower which supplies the moving air is not running, but when the appropriate coins are inserted in the coin box, the blower starts up and puts the ball in play. After the second hit, the blower stops. The chicken is rewarded only for the second hit.

#### Setting Up

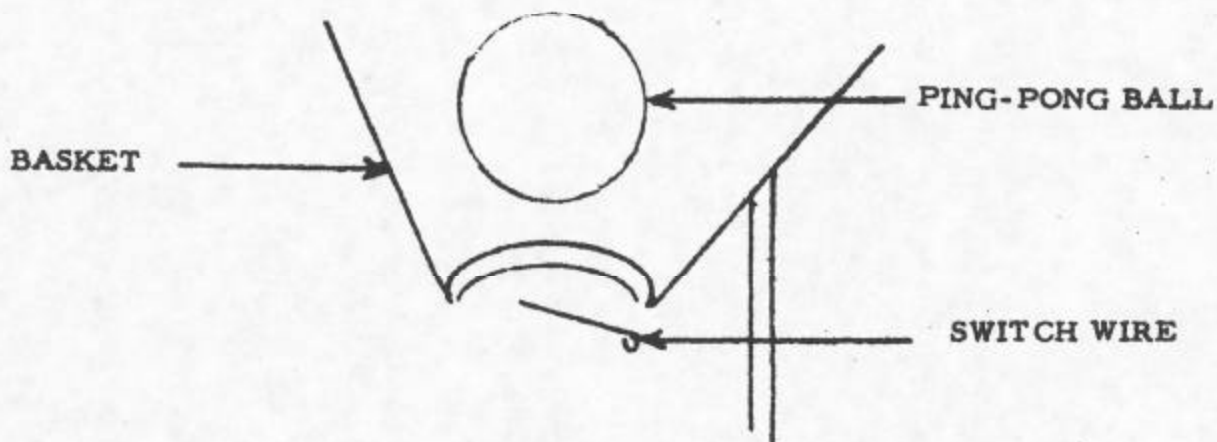
The unit is shipped almost completely assembled. For display it must be placed on a table or stand approximately 70 inches long by 24 inches from front to back, or larger.

The unit is completely enclosed. Its access doors can be padlocked to make it reasonably tamper-proof. However, neither the display nor the trained hens are weather-proof. The unit and the birds must be sheltered from rain and from the direct rays of the sun.

Check out the unit before working any of the chickens. Make sure the electric feeder (inside the chicken's compartment) is full of the fine grain sifted feed.

Place one ping-pong ball in the playing area of the display unit. Start the action using either the coin box or the "test" button. The blower will operate and raise the ball on a column of air above the metal tube in front of the chicken's compartment.

Drop the ball through the basket, or gently press the switch wire at the bottom of the basket. (see diagram below). You should hear a brief "buzz". Drop the ball through a second time. The feeder should click and drop a few grains of feed into the feed cup, and the blower should stop. Then the equipment has gone through its complete operating cycle.



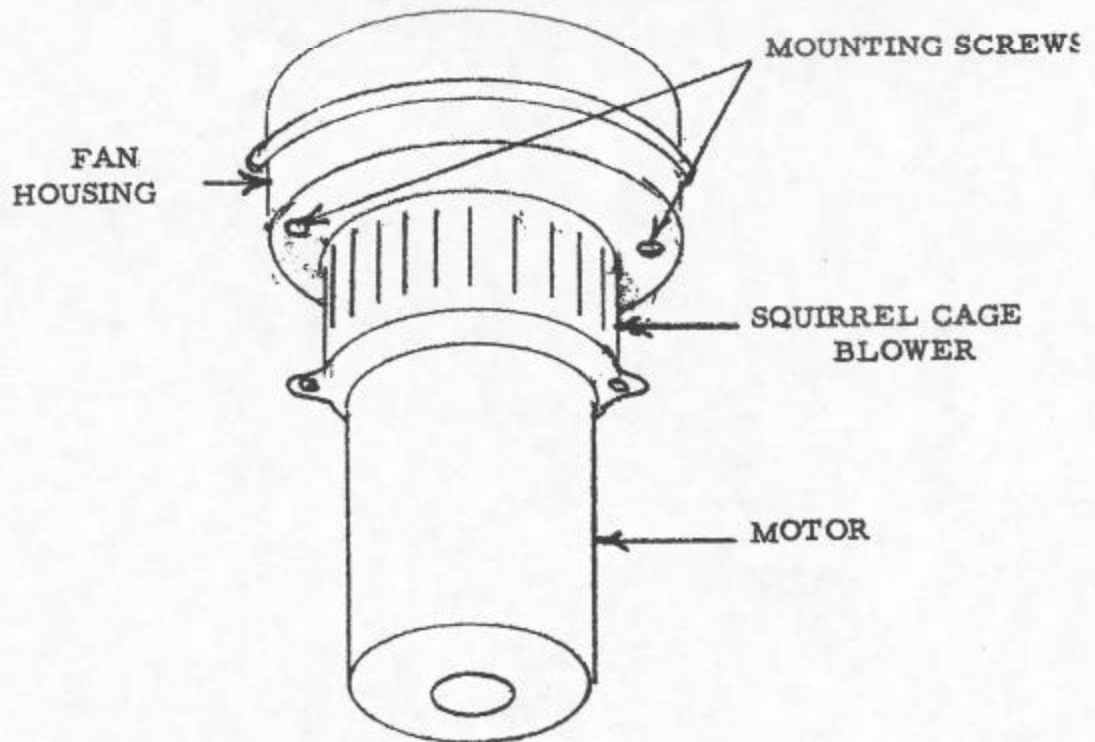
When the display is "at rest", only two light bulbs are lighted. As soon as the display is set in action two other lamps light up. It is best to use lamps not larger than 40 watts as replacements. Larger lamps tend to overheat the chickens and may also blow the relay box fuse.

If the unit does not operate perfectly, check to see that the electric plugs are firmly fitted into the relay box. Check further to see that the plug connection in the electric cord of the feeder is intact. See that the switch wire below the basket is free to move easily up and down.

When the unit has been fully checked for perfect operation, you are ready to work the chickens. The chickens may react slowly at first, but after a few practice runs they will become accustomed to their new location and perform well.

Because a ping-pong ball is very light, it is easily stopped by any small obstacle. To insure reliable operation, keep the floor of the playing area clean. A stray feather or even a grain of chicken feed may be enough to prevent the ball from rolling back to the air column.

The screen below the basket is an "anti-bounce" device. It prevents the chickens from bouncing the ball into the basket and helps train them to make direct "air-to-basket" hits. Screws holding the screen may be removed and the screen can then be lifted out for cleaning.

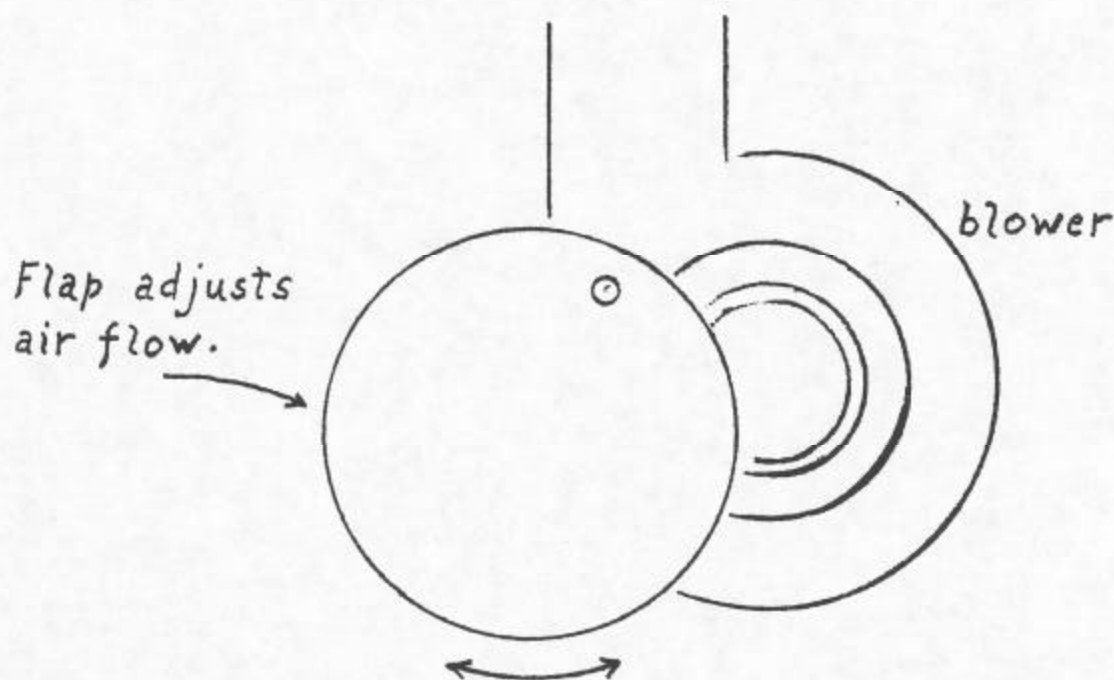
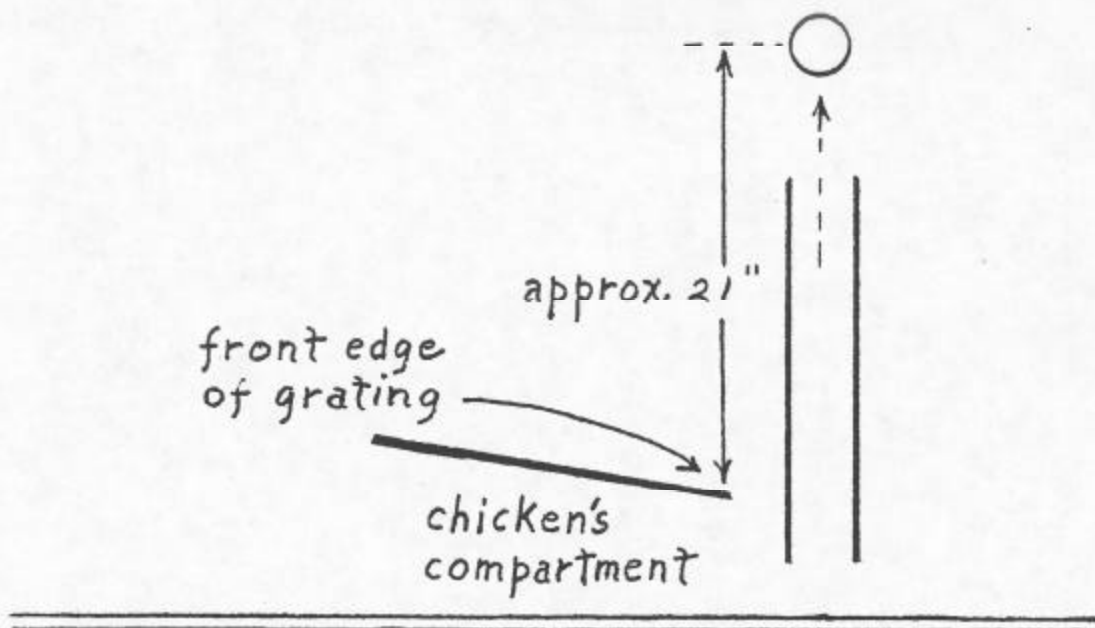


Eventually, the air stream which supports the ball may lose some of its force and fail to lift the ball high enough to permit the chickens to make hits easily.

A weakening of the air stream is usually a sign of a dirty blower.

To clean the blower, tip the entire display unit gently over on its back. The blower is then easy to get at. Two screws hold the blower motor in place.

Gently lower the motor to avoid damaging the blower "squirrel cage". The squirrel cage blades should be scraped clean with a wooden match stick or other soft tool.



The weights of ping-pong balls vary greatly from brand to brand. A heavy ball will not rise high enough on the air stream. A light ball may float too high.

It is best to use a light ball and, if necessary, adjust the air flow to the proper force. A movable flap on the blower intake can be adjusted to restrict the air to bring the floating ball down to the height which lets the chickens work best. 21 inches above the front edge of the floor grating in the chicken's compartment is a good height for most birds.