

manufactured are ventilated exactly alike. What a boon it will be to incubator manufacturers when our judges tell them which is the *best* method! Every manufacturer now claims his method THE BEST.

(3). Moisture. The remarks under ventilation apply equally well here. There is the moisture applied from below the eggs, from above the eggs, from the centre and from the side, and the moisture applied from the end. Which makes the best machine? Our experienced judges will tell.

(4) Regulation. Even more varied are the methods of regulation adopted by incubator manufacturers. We are safe in saying that no two are exactly alike. One uses water expansion, another brass, another steel, another vulcanized rubber, another brass and rubber, another brass, rubber and wood, another alcohol and mercury, etc., etc. Is it possible for the judges to tell which is the best regulated machine by simply looking at them for a few days or a few minutes?

There is a way by which we can learn which is the best incubator, and it is only by actually using them side by side under exactly the same conditions, or seeing them worked side by side under exactly the same conditions for three weeks. The incubator placed in such a contest that with the least trouble and least expense hatches the largest percentage of *good* chickens is the best incubator in ventilation, moisture, regulation, and in every other respect, providing the workmanship is in keeping, i.e., that it is substantially built of good lasting material. The brooder that will raise the most chickens and the best chickens to six weeks of age is the best brooder.

I maintain, Mr. Editor, that it is utterly impossible for any one man or any body of men to say which is the best incubator and brooder without either using them or seeing them used for at least three weeks. The machine that does its work the best with the least trouble and expense is the best machine. It is the best machine for the people of Canada to buy, and it is the machine that the people of Canada are after.

If we must have an incubator and brooder contest at the Industrial, give us a fair one—one that will favor no manufacturer. If you cannot give us a fair one, give us none. Just imagine six or eight farmers, two or three of whom have used binders, while the rest are acquainted with reapers and cradles only, awarding a silver medal for the best binder at next Industrial! This is exactly the way that the awards on incubators and brooders were given last year. How many of the judges ever used any other incubator and brooder

than old Bidcy? Is it not a ridiculous farce from beginning to end.

Thanking you, Mr. Editor, for the space you have given me, I remain, Respectfully yours, J. E. MEYER.

Kossuth, May 28th, '96.

POPULAR POULTRY TALKS BY PRACTICAL BREEDERS.

NO. 6.

UNDER the above heading it is the purpose of the REVIEW to discuss one leading question in each issue of 1896, and we would ask you to lay your views on each question, as concisely as may be, before our readers. Kindly answer each question on a separate slip, numbering each slip to correspond with the number of the question. Do not fear to write because your spelling or grammar may not be quite up to date. We will gladly see that all errors of this kind are corrected before being printed.

QUESTION FOR THIS MONTH.

If you have been troubled with insect pests, lice, etc., say so and give remedy.

By A. A. Whitteker, Morrisburg.

I have never been troubled. Prevention is better than cure. Plenty of dust, lime and coal oil and perfect cleanliness is my preventative.

By Joseph Kinsey, Doon, Ont.

I always guard against insects by thoroughly cleaning all pens early in the spring, first by sweeping walls and ceiling, then whitewashing the whole with fresh lime slacked in boiling water and applied hot. Nests are built in the wall and are given the same treatment and the roosts are removed, scalded with hot water and cleaned. In June, which is the worst month for lice, the coops are gone over again, and with the necessary every day cleaning there is no room for insects.

By J. H. Minshall, Brantford.

I was troubled with lice on my fowls last year after I had bought setting hens. I used a good deal of insect powder, it seemed to drive them away for a time, but I do not think it kills many. I have used a good many things, and find that chewing tobacco beats all. I take one ten cent plug of strong black strap and steep it well and put it into enough water to dip the hen or chicks in, seeing that all the feathers are wet. I put a couple of tablespoonsful of coal oil in