

ty, and should therefore more readily commend itself to the present generation.

H. WESTON PARRY.

Compton Model-farm.

The Poultry-Yard.

(CONDUCTED BY S. J. ANDRES).

INCUBATOR CHICKS.

It is less trouble to raise them than it is to run after a lot of setting hens.

Blessings on the man who first invented the incubator. It seems little short of marvellous how these wooden machines (when intelligently managed) will hatch chickens so perfectly. They really have a better start in life than the chicks the old hen hatches, for the very simple reason they have no lice. How many readers have tried hatching ducks in an incubator, I wonder.

There is no prettier sight than one of those wonderful machines full of little ducks when the last ones are out of the shell. The greedy little things begin to "nose around" (with their long yellow bills) for something to eat before they get dry. I hatched three little quails in my machine last summer. After they got dry I tried to put my hand on one of them and he hopped away to the darkest corner, the little fellow didn't want to be "cotched."

Some people condemn artificial incubation. For my part I would rather give the incubator the little care it requires than run after a lot of setting hens. It is so aggravating to have an old hen stay off her eggs till they are cold, or, may be, break half the eggs. Some old hens are like some people, there isn't much dependence to be put in them. And if you have a good incubator (I believe the most of them are all right) you can depend on them as money makers. Of course there is more work attached to raising the chickens. So much depends on the person, whether he makes a success of the chicken business. Then, I think one has to have a love for any work he is engaged in to be successful.

LEVEL ROOST THE BEST,

When the roosts are level, the fowls will have plenty of room, but if the roosts are slanting from the wall the hens will seek the highest ones, as

instinct prompts them to get as far from danger as possible. In the wild state the greatest number of enemies of fowls is below them at night. They therefore seek elevated roosting places as the safest. The domestic fowls do the same. They will struggle to get to the top roost, and if there are 100 hens together they will endeavor to crowd until they are pushed off, falling and struggling until darkness compels them to become quiet. If one has a large poultry house and the roosts are slanting, there will be a waste of space and crowding will not be avoided; but place the roosts so that all will be of the same height, and more room will be afforded, the fowls will not crowd, and they will be more comfortable. Sometimes only a small matter may be in the way of egg production, and it has happened that the slanted roosts have caused the hens to nearly suffocate on a warm night, rendering them unable to give a profit.

CURRENT NOTES AND COMMENTS.

Old hens have been surpassing the young in egg production at the West Virginia station, which is disturbing to one of the popular traditions of poultrydom.

Be on the alert for every new idea in your business, but do not be greedy and attempt to swallow more than you can digest.

Always know your business. Keep strict accounts and records and study them. A good system of accounts is the surest guide you can have to success in any business, and you will find farming to be no exception, though comparatively few farmers keep them.

Study your markets, the particular likes and dislikes of your customers. Learn to fill every want, and just as they wish it, and never know more than your customers. If you wish to make changes in any way, do it in such a manner that they will think they are the ones making the change, rather than you.

Above all, look after the details, for no department of the farm needs such close attention to the many little details or will suffer so quickly for lack of attention as this. Careful attention to