

Treatment.—Medicinal treatment for true cholera is of little value. The disease is so rapidly fatal that it is rarely discovered until too late to attempt treatment. The best treatment is to prevent the disease. Its spread in an infected flock may be prevented by prompt isolation of the sick birds, through disinfection of the runs and houses with a 5 per cent sulphuric acid solution, and the disinfection of the water. For disinfection of the drinking water and for general use as a mild, effective intestinal antiseptic there is no better poultry remedy than napcreol; use, according to the severity of the case, from one to two teaspoonfuls in each two gallon bucket of drinking water. No attempt to treat birds sick with cholera should be made unless they are valuable. For the safety of the rest of the flock, they should be strangled and cremated. No particle of the flesh or blood of the diseased bird should be permitted where a fowl may get it, and so become infected. After removing the sick birds from the flock, thoroughly disinfect the houses and runs. As a precautionary measure, use napcreol in the drinking water. In addition to this, give any birds showing a suspicious looseness of the bowels, though not apparently sick, a three-drop dose of spirits of camphor made into a small pill with bread crumbs and a little sugar twice daily for three or four days. Mercury bichloride 3x tablets are an effective remedy. Give one tablet three times daily or dissolve twelve tablets in each quart of drinking water.

The chief symptoms to depend on in diagnosing cholera are: (1) A rapidly fatal disease, accompanied by copious yellowish-green or deep green diarrhoea; (2) frequent discharge of excrement, pale face, comb and wattles; (3) sleepiness which may last until death, and which is ushered in with convulsions and piteous cries; (4) infection of a large number of birds in one flock.—(Dr. Woods.)

Sulpho-Carbolate of Zinc has proven a good preventive, and, in mild cases, a remedy, at several of the poultry stations. Dose—A teaspoonful to a gallon of drinking water, given to the flock, or those affected, for several days.

13. Entero-hepatitis or Blackhead.—This disease has been known for some years as a common and fatal disease of turkeys.

Symptoms.—There are no prominent symptoms by which the disease can be diagnosed during life, and it is only by the examination of the internal organs after death that the trouble is recognized. The disease runs a chronic course, and birds do not show signs of illness until just before death, when the pathological changes are so far advanced as to preclude medicinal treatment. These changes are to be observed in the liver and caeca. The caeca are two elongated blind pouches at the lower end of the small intestines. In the normal fowl they are of uniform diameter throughout, the walls thin and the mucus membrane pale; they are filled with a rather dry, greenish excrement. In entero-hepatitis one or both caeca have their walls greatly thickened, either throughout or in spots. The mucus membrane is deeply reddened and eroded, and from this inflamed surface there is poured into the caeca a quantity of creamy material or exudate more or less tinted with blood. The liver also shows marked alterations. It is enlarged and darkened, due to engorgement with blood, and scattered over its surface are round spots, sometimes whitish or again with yellowish tinge. These spots are so distinct that no one can fail to recognize them.

Prevention.—Isolation of the sick and disinfection of the houses occupied by the healthy. Particularly is it important to guard the young birds which are more susceptible to the contagion. It will therefore be best where the disease has been prevalent to remove the young to new quarters, where the trouble has never before existed, rather than trust to the ability to completely disinfect the old houses and runs.

NOTE.—The remedies (—X) mentioned on page 9 paragraphs 6 and 7, and page 12 paragraph 12 (cholera treatment) are included in the homeopathic remedies.