

be carried from the house on the range to the storehouse, thus entailing too much time in the busy season.

With the brooder outlined the above faults are overcome. It is so constructed that it may be dismantled in five minutes, the hover and its parts put in one place, and the different frames, etc., placed in under the floor of the brooder. Any plan which is shown to be of a labour-saving nature should be welcomed by every poultryman in the Province. The advantages which we found to accrue from the use of this brooder are as follows:—

It was found possible to rear a larger number of chicks in proportion to the number originally put in than in any other brooder, and the mortality was much lower. Furthermore, the chicks not only lived and grew quicker, but were more thrifty than those raised in any other type.

We must not let the problem of tuberculosis pass unnoticed. Although we do not see it in so much young stock, the main way to help prevent this disease is by allowing more fresh air to the young chicks from the time they leave the shell until they are put into the laying house.

The Construction of the Brooder.

With the idea in mind of obtaining a fresh-air brooder, it was deemed advisable to use a wall which is permeable to air. In meeting this requirement, the outer side and front walls, as also the top of the brooder, were made of cloth. Collectively speaking, the brooder is a cloth box containing a hover of the type in which the lamp-fumes are conducted outside of the building by an exhaust-pipe. These brooders may be built permanently into the house which they occupy. If the house be 6 x 6 feet, we would not place more than one brooder in the same. If it be 12 x 6 feet (as shown in Cut 1), two brooders may be run to their full capacity. When two brooders are placed in the building, a part of the end wall and part of the back wall of the building form two of the sides of each brooder. The remaining side, front, and cover are made of cloth tacked firmly on light wooden frames, as are shown in Cut 2. The floor of the brooder stands 10 inches above the floor of the house. From the front of the brooder a sloping walk extends down to the floor of the house, reaching in width clear across the whole front of the brooder. A small piece of burlap may be tacked on this runway to allow the chicks to run up and down from the hover more easily. The cloth front and side of the brooder are not permanently fixed in position, but are removable panels, which are held together to the framework by hooks and eyes, cleats also being placed on the floor and sides, as shown in Cut 3. The cover is hinged in the middle in such a way that it can be either half or entirely open, and folded back out of the way. The advantage of having it jointed in the middle is that the degree of heat may be fixed more regularly, and that by folding over it is possible to turn up against the back and roof, thus leaving no small holes for the chicks to fly into and get lost, as shown in Cut 4.

A hover of the circular type must be used in this kind of brooder. The lamp is placed inside the house, underneath the brooder, on the floor. Two little pegs of wood should be nailed securely on the floor, to prevent the lamp from sliding about. By having the lamp inside the house, we do not have any trouble from winds or rains when we wish to light it. In the old type of brooder it often requires a box of matches to light the lamp in the outdoor box. Heavy insulation is also required on the inner side of the top of the hover or drum, to reduce the loss of heat by radiation in the early spring. Detailed working drawings are given, as seen in the cuts. Fig. 2 shows the end elevation of the brooder. Fig. 3 shows a section through the middle of the brooder. Fig. 4 shows the floor-plan and arrangement of the hover. Fig. 5 shows the brooder in operation. Fig. 6 shows its appearance when dismantled, with the parts stored in the base, yet the house is in use by the larger chickens.