

POPULAR POULTRY TALKS BY PRACTICAL BREEDERS.

QUESTION.

DOES cold and roup begin to trouble your flock now? If not, say how it is avoided. If they do, give cure.

ANSWERS.

By A. A. Whitteker, Morrisburg.

I am not troubled with cold or roup. I never allow my fowls either old or young to roost out-doors. I keep them in their house on wet or cold windy days, and as soon as the nights get cool I keep them in every morning till 9 or 10 o'clock and then at night their last feed is given inside and the door or hole shut. I used to be troubled some years ago and found it was the young stock and late moulting hens that commenced first. But the above treatment is a preventative. Experience has been a good teacher for me. Don't let your fowls have access to dirty water, I believe it is one of the causes of many diseases.

By Joseph Kinsey, Doon.

I have had late hatched chickens take cold in fall owing to their not being feathered right. I keep them shut up from the rest and give sulphur in drinking water and feed well, by so doing they grow strong and overcome the effects of the cold. Have never been troubled with roup in consequence. I believe in never having them roost in a draught, keeping them in on cold or wet days, not letting them out in the morning before it is dry, putting them in early in the evening, and feeding well. I never give much wet food, it is all right to feed it once a day, but it must be mixed dry enough to crumble.

By G. A. Pearson, Brown's Corners.

Cold and roup have not troubled my fowls this year, because I avoid it by not allowing the fowls to be out in cold rain or not to be in draughts as they catch roup very easily when they are moulting. I cure roup by putting two or three drops of turpentine on a piece of bread and give each hen two or three doses, and I have always found it a sure cure.

Question for next month is - If you have handled ducks give breed, feeding, housing, etc., and say if they have proved more profitable than hens.

PROFITABLE POULTRY KEEPING.

BY T. A. WILLIITS, TORONTO, ONT.

(Continued.)

HAVING housed and yarded our Plymouth Rocks we will now consider the quarters most suitable for our Leghorns; the eggs from the Plymouth Rocks are to be used during winter, spring, and early summer, for hatching purposes so we have colonised them in the most suitable manner for that purpose, but our Leghorn

eggs are to be marketed so we may make a slight deviation from our plan of houses and yards. As in the case of the Plymouth Rock houses each house will be built in the centre of the half acre lot, but will be only thirty feet long by twelve wide and will be divided into two pens, each 15 x 12, each pen to accommodate twenty-five birds, thus by reference to diagram on page 103, it will be seen that each pen of birds has a yard 100 x 100 ft. It thus costs less for our Leghorns quarters, the houses having seven and one-fifth square feet instead of ten square feet of floor space for each bird, and we also save about four hundred lineal feet of fencing per acre, our original plan of one hundred birds to the acre is still to be maintained, but we will colonise the birds in flocks of twenty-five instead of half the number, the general construction of the house and the interior arrangement should be precisely the same as in the Plymouth Rock houses, and it will be necessary to erect four of these houses to accommodate two hundred fowls.

We have now three acres of land properly equipped with houses and fences to accommodate three hundred fowls in the manner that the writer considers the best possible, taking all things into consideration. If the six houses and yards are placed in a line the extreme distance from end to end of the yards is exactly two hundred yards, but the most convenient plan would be to arrange the houses and yards in two lines thus occupying a piece of land 400 x 300 ft. thus the attendant would save a good many steps in attending to the birds.

During April and May I should use the birds in one of the Leghorn houses for breeding purposes, and I would cull down to twenty birds in each pen dividing the other ten birds amongst the other three houses; it will be unnecessary to have any male birds in the houses containing the laying stock, and it will be to the owner's advantage not to have them in more ways than one, the chief advantage being in circumventing the genius who would buy market eggs at market prices with the intention of hatching thoroughbred Leghorns.

It must be borne in mind that the revenue from our farm is to be derived from early "Spring chicks" and market eggs. As we have to hatch very early in the season, as early as we can get our Rocks laying, it is obvious that we must do our hatching with incubators, and three machines of three hundred eggs capacity each will be required, we shall also need one small incubator of one hundred eggs capacity. Our hundred Plymouth Rocks if of the right kind and properly cared for should yield three hundred eggs per week, and as soon as we have four hundred eggs we will fill one large machine and the small one both at the