

the floor of house or shed in which they are kept will be found acceptable to the young birds. A supply of pure water must also be provided, and the small earthenware drinking-fountains generally used by pigeon breeders, and which can be purchased for a mere trifle, will be found to be exceedingly useful and particularly well adapted for the purpose required. A small quantity occasionally of new milk is also beneficial.

Insect food being only obtainable in the meadows, and forming as it does a considerable portion of their daily diet, it is, therefore, not only natural, but essential, that the young birds should be allowed to ramble in the vicinity of the homestead as early as they are strong enough, provided the weather be favourable for their doing so. When as yet so young, the space allotted to them should be limited to a moderate extent, which can easily be done by fencing a portion of the grass land apart from the other poultry by the use of light wire hurdles or the ordinary mesh netting. When, however, a few weeks old, it will be found necessary to let the young poults have full liberty to wander over the pastures surrounding the farm. Care must be taken that in the immediate vicinity where they are thus allowed to roam, there is no river or pond left unprotected, into which the poults might chance to fall, for when engaged in their favourite pursuits, searching for insects, they not unfrequently come to an untimely end when darting after flies near the water's edge.

The progress of turkey poults to maturity depends in a great measure as regards the prevailing weather during their growth, and it is especially in cold and wet seasons that the greatest care and attention has to be bestowed upon them; ample shelter should always be provided to which they can resort during rain or sudden thunder storms, nor must they be permitted to wander

among the fields in the very early morning when the grass is still very wet with dew.

Regarding the shelter required by the poults, to which they will return to roost at the approach of nightfall, and also where they can repair if necessary during the day, it is advisable to have dry comfortable houses, free from all draught but at the same time properly ventilated and, moreover, kept particularly clean; and if sufficient accommodation cannot be provided in the various sheds connected with the farm buildings, the ordinary portable poultry-houses will prove excellent substitutes if conveniently placed in the adjoining meadows. The supply of broad, well-shaped perches, on which the birds can safely roost, is likewise a matter requiring care and attention, the crooked breasts, not unfrequently seen in adult turkeys, being the result of growing poults having rested on inferior and faulty perches. Any possible attacks by vermin upon the poults during the night must also be cautiously guarded against, care being taken that all doors are securely fastened when the birds have retired to roost.

As they gradually attain age, and in order to have them in a plump condition for market, the feeding of the young turkeys is in most respects similar to that required in fattening other kinds of fowls destined for the poulterer's shop. Barley-meal, oats, Indian corn, together with a little wheat, will be found suitable; a small quantity of poultry spice mixed once a day with the usual soft food will be an improvement, and also be relished by the young birds. In the autumn during the time of harvest, the poults will also be actively engaged in searching for the different kinds of scattered grain to be found in the corn-fields.

The ailments to which these birds are sometimes subject are usually the result of inclement weather during the

summer period, and a few roup pills, or pepper-corns, administered in time generally prove to be a sure remedy.

Provided then that there is the necessary accommodation, and the management of the birds is properly attended to as described, the rearing of turkey poults, in addition to the other stock, will prove successful on most farmsteads.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT

OF THE POULTRY MANAGER OF THE  
CENTRAL EXPERIMENTAL  
FARM, OTTAWA.

*(Continued from last month.)*

**F**OUR died within a week and the remainder were placed in the brooder where they grew rapidly. Examination of the unhatched eggs showed chickens in the first stages of development in most of the eggs, thus proving that the mishap to the incubator at the end of the first week had been fatal to the embryo chick. As enquiries by letter, and from visitors, are becoming more and more frequent, I would recommend more extended experiments in the way of arriving at the simplest and safest manner of artificial incubation. From what has been attempted in this way in the past two years, the hot water incubator without a lamp has been found the most reliable. If the eggs are properly tested at the proper time and the infertile ones removed, there can be no doubt, with proper attention, the incubator will hatch as great a percentage of chickens as hens set on the same number of eggs. Beyond doubt the chickens grow as well in the brooder as those brought up by hens.

#### HOW THE CROSSES DID.

Several crosses were tried with gratifying success in most cases. A cockerel of a cross, between a black-breasted red Game cock and Brahma hen, made a very handsome large bird. Hatched