

PERTH POULTRY ASSOCIATION.

Annual Show, December 26 to 30, 1899 **IN THE CITY OF STRATFORD.**

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Prize List on Application to Secretary.

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be liable to diarrhoea because of accumulation in the system which wholesome green meat would have carried off. A fat-forming diet, such as Indian corn, with which some people ply their birds early and late, is sure to end in disaster, and an attack of diarrhoea would be the first indication of the approaching end. Therefore, unless birds have a free grass run, they should have a supply of green food once a day at least. My own method is to give it at midday to birds in confinement. There is nothing better than freshly pulled grass; lettuce leaves, cabbage and the like are good, as are also succulent roots (so-called), such as mangold wurtzels and swedes.

Enteritis or Inflammation of the Intestines is distinguishable by the jelly-like appearance of the excreta, which are sometimes tinged with blood; the bird also has a shivery, pained look, and is very thirsty. The condition may be due either to the effect of some irritant

poisonous substance, such as unslaked lime, which the bird has picked up, or it may be of tubercular origin, and as such will probably end fatally. Tubercular disease of the bowels ("Tubercular enteritis") is more likely to be caused by drinking dirty water than in any other way, and it is desirable that poultry should be prevented as far as possible from drinking dirty water especially that which drains from manure heaps and the like.

It may be asked, How is it possible to distinguish between a case of poisoning and one of disease? The poisoning case would be more rapid in development, whereas disease creeps on more slowly, and the bird, instead of being taken suddenly ill, gradually wastes, and only goes into a rapid decline after plenty of preliminary warning. However, the cases need to be treated exactly alike. Emollients like sweet oil must be given, and, whilst water ought to be withheld,

the sufferer's thirst can be mitigated by allowing it to drink of pearl barley water perfectly warm. When the bird gets better, if such good fortune attend the treatment, it ought to have doses of cod liver oil—preferably the capsules now sold in which a small dose of quinine is added to the oil.

Now a word about worms. Fowls often suffer from these, and very frequently seem little the worse for their presence. They indicate, however, an unhealthy condition, and ought to be cleared out at once. A three-drop capsule of extract of male fern (*Felix mas*), followed in half an hour by a purging dose of castor oil, will generally remove them.

So much, then, for the commonest diseases affecting the food passages. The article is by no means complete, and I have purposely omitted several matters—for instance, internal displacement—as being too abstruse for the average poultry keeper to deal with. The