

pullet, just as she entered the winter some three or four months before, to furnish eggs for breeding purposes.

### INCUBATORS IN WARM WEATHER.

There is a profit in incubators in summer if they are properly managed. Great care must be used to prevent overheating. An incubator with several hundred live eggs in it on a warm day contains much heat, and one could readily overheat and kill half the chicks even if there was no lamp near the incubator. There should be enough ventilation to carry off all the surplus heat made by the chicks, and at this time the incubator may require more moisture than at any other season of the year, or at any time during the hatch.

A good guide for the correct amount when hatching during warm weather is to have all that the machine will bear and still not have so much that the chicks will not dry off when they come out. Chicks should be dry in one hour after they are hatched. One could so saturate the machine with moisture that the chicks would remain wet, but that is too much. It will not only prevent some from hatching that would otherwise get out, but it will cause the machine to get foul. During the last few days to have all the machine can have and not enough to prevent the chicks from drying off nicely after they get out is the proper point. Some use no moisture at all until just about hatching time. This will bring out more chicks than the other way, and experiments show that in some cases no moisture at all is necessary. After the chicks are out be careful not to crowd them. It is best to put about twenty-five or thirty in a lot and let them lie quiet until they get old enough to eat. That will not be until the end of twenty-four or thirty-six hours; then feed them. Feed but little for the first day or two; they do not need much at first. Give fresh water from the start in warm weather, but not in cold weather. The chicks are liable to get out and do themselves injury if proper precaution are not taken to protect them.

On a warm day during hatching-time the incubator should be attended to quite frequently, as there is danger of overheating the eggs, and by observing often it saves all that would be likely to perish.

### WHEN TO LEARN HOW TO USE THE INCUBATOR?

Is a question I have been often asked and I answer, summer is the proper time to begin with the incubator. Practise first, and then get ready for winter. To wait until late fall and then try to hatch for market is unwise, owing to the losses that may occur should a failure result. The first hatch is everything, if the work begins late, but if done sooner, that is while eggs are cheap, any failure resulting will not injure the market chances. Then again it is easier to raise the chicks in the summer, hence practice with a brooder will be beneficial. The mistake made by beginners heretofore is that they begin hatching with incubators too late in the season and do not give themselves time to learn anything about the business. They purchase their incubators when ready to hatch and then take the risk of good and bad results, most often the latter. There is another point which is that to fail with the first hatch after the time arrives to bring out chicks or market is to get behind the prices; that is, if prices are high the chicks must reach the market in time to secure them; but if three weeks are lost because the first hatch failed, that lost time cannot be regained and the prices will be going down as the later chicks come on. Instead of getting ahead of the prices one is following behind and cannot overtake them. For that reason all who are interested should begin as soon as possible; now, for should failure occur with the experimental hatch the operator will not only be more experienced but will also be in a position to be up with the markets. Learn while eggs are cheap and plentiful.

S. J. ANDRES.

### POULTRY.

*Demand for the superior quality.—High prices paid in London, Eng., for Canadian poultry of first quality—Farmers who have done well—Essentials to success.*

(By A. G. Gilbert, Experimental Farm, Ottawa).

Poultry development is taking place at a rapid pace. The demand for the superior quality for shipment to the almost unlimited British market, or, for home consumption is assuming extensive proportions.