

Retention of the Placenta.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have read with interest an article by Mr. George Rice, entitled "Contagious Abortion," in which he also dealt with the subject of retention by cows of the afterbirth, and to his contention I make objection. While conscious that Mr. Rice has had a far broader experience in the management of stock than I have, still I feel that when he says if he has a cow that retains the placenta he simply leaves her alone as far as outward help is concerned, gives her his prescribed doses of carbolic acid and that nature does the rest, that he does not relieve the cow of the afterbirth, and would not allow a veterinarian to do so, it is this statement that I take exception to. I have seen cows invert the uterus in less than twelve hours from the effect of weakness, due to constant straining to relieve themselves of the placenta. For my part, while not denying that carbolic acid is, perhaps, a preventive when given in due time, I must say I consider taking the retained organ from the cow when she does not expel it in a day's time, by inserting the hand and stripping it from the walls of the womb, is the only practicable way, and when done carefully is quite a safe and simple operation. In conclusion I would say, that when the placenta is retained eight to twelve hours it is high time to remove it by hand, as at this time decomposition has not set in, and it can all safely be removed, thereby leaving nothing to pass off in discharges, which is often the case when left to become putrid, in the vain hope that nature will relieve itself.

Norfolk Co., Ont.

ROY SCHUYLER.

A Record of Four Cows.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I notice a few records of cows, and as you asked for others, I thought I would send mine, which I hope you will find room for in your valuable paper. You may notice the extra calf. I will just note that I bought a calf of a neighbor and fattened it, hence the extra calf, \$3.50—50—\$3.00 as per report. I wish you every success with your wonderful paper.

Of four cows, aged 10, 7, 4 and 2 years, respectively, from March 1st, 1905, to March 1st, 1906:

115 quarts of milk, at 5c., \$5.75; 50 lbs. butter, at 20c., \$10; 1 veal calf, \$3; April cheque (4 days), \$3; May cheque, \$25.63; June cheque, \$30.96; July cheque, \$32.22; August cheque, \$38.03; September cheque, \$34.52; October cheque, \$41; November cheque, \$38.19; December butter, 61 lbs., at 20c., \$12.20; January butter, 52 lbs., at 20c., \$10.40; February butter, 55 lbs., at 20c., \$11; 75 quarts of milk, at 5c., \$3.75; total, \$299.68; adding calves (pure-bred) sold, respectively, \$100, \$50, \$15, 60c. (skin), making a grand total of \$465.28.

This is not giving the cows credit of \$1.65 for making and drawing to factory, nor for whey, skim milk or buttermilk.

ARTHUR KELLY.

Norfolk Co., Ont.

Whitewash for Dairy that Does Not Wash Off.

Dissolve two pounds of ordinary glue in seven pints of water, and when all is dissolved add six ounces of bichromate of potassium dissolved in a pint of hot water. Stir the mixture up well, and then add sufficient whiting to make it up to the usual consistency, and apply with a brush in the ordinary manner as quickly as possible. This dries in a very short time, and, by the action of light, becomes converted into a perfectly insoluble waterproof substance, which does not wash off even with hot water, and, at the same time, does not give rise to mould growth, as whitewash made up with size often does. It may be colored to any desired shade by the use of a trace of any aniline dye or powdered coloring matter, and, once applied, will last for years, while, by the addition of a small proportion of calcic sulphite, its antiseptic power is much increased.—[Field to Dairy.

Milk Makes Brain and Brawn.

I think one very important phase of the subject, "Milk and Its Uses," writes Mrs. M. S. King, in the Jersey Bulletin, is from a culinary point of view. Analysis shows that one quart of milk has as much nourishment as five-sixths of a pound of beefsteak, and the beauty of it is it is already in available form. Milk is almost a perfect food, and if it can be assimilated, is the most economical of all foodstuffs. Take the sturdy people of Scotland, for instance; their almost universal habit of eating oatmeal and milk gives them plenty of "brain and brawn." We doubt if Carnegie, had he been born in America instead of Scotland, and been fed on American pie and all that goes along with it, would ever have been the great financier of to-day, with his robust health and ability to endure almost any amount of hard work.

POULTRY.

Brooding and Rearing.

The brooding of the young chick is very often where the amateur poultryman or poultrywoman fails. The question of incubation does not seem to be so difficult, but to keep the young chicks alive and thrifty is the rub. By using good healthy, vigorous parent stock, and running the incubator under proper conditions, the chicks that hatch by the 21st day should have sufficient vitality to live until maturity. Many of the chickhood diseases are brought on by lack of proper conditions, and though there are many things in artificial incubation that we do not as yet understand, the brooding is a much simpler matter, and one in which nature should be followed with more certainty.

FEEDING.

More young chicks are killed by overfeeding than underfeeding. The yolk of the egg, absorbed into the system of the young chick prior to hatching, is sufficient nourishment to sustain life

introducing the dry-hopper system of feeding growing chicks after they are six or eight weeks old. This system saves considerable labor, and is giving good results where chicks have free range and green food. A self-feeding hopper is placed in a sheltered place, filled with a mixture of suitable grains, to which the growing chicks have free access. A supply of meat meal or beef scraps or other animal food is supplied, as is also grit when not otherwise available.

THE BROODER.

For brooding, many use the old hen, and when every precaution is used against vermin good results are obtained. Satisfactory arrangements for brooding are absolutely necessary, however, when artificial incubation is adopted. Even where it is intended to use the hen, artificial brooders should be provided, as hens are not always to be relied on. There are many good brooders on the market. A brooder should be dry, with plenty of heat overhead and good ventilation. Young chicks, as well as old ones, require plenty of fresh air. The young chicks need a high temperature beneath the hover—a place where the chick may doze for several days.

A covering of clover leaves or similar material makes a good litter in which the feed may be fed.

For ordinary farm conditions, the individual brooder and colony house is very advantageous. The brooder inside of a colony house is easier to operate in changeable weather; the colony house forms a runway for the young chicks and protection from the wet, and, when the brooder is taken out, allows a good place to house the growing chicks till marketed or put into winter quarters. A description of how the brooders and colony houses used at illustration stations are made, might be of benefit to those intending to construct such for their own use.

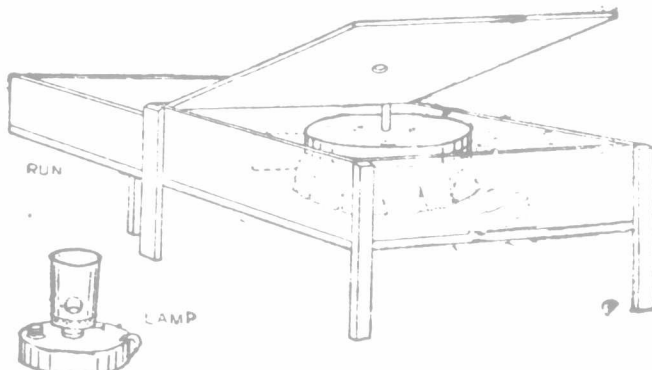
CONSTRUCTION OF THE BROODER.

The brooder is warmed by means of a lamp; the fumes of the lamp are not permitted to enter the chick compartment. Warm fresh air continually flows into the brooder and ventilates it. The management of the brooder is simple. It should be placed in the movable house, or in a vacant room or pen. It is not intended for outdoor use. The brooder can be satisfactorily constructed at home; the heater and lamp can be made by any tinsmith; the cost of the complete brooder is small.

Box.—The box that forms the brooder is 34 inches square and 8 inches deep, inside measurement. It is made of 1/2-inch lumber, planed on both sides. A 5 x 10 inch chick door should be sawed in one of the sides of the box; the chick door should be hinged at the top. The floor is 1/2-inch matched lumber. At center of the floor a round hole (diameter 6 1/2 inches) should be sawed. The heater is placed in this opening, and rests on a galvanized-iron rim (inside diameter 5 1/2 inches). Four legs, 1/2 by 2 inch, should be attached to the box; they should project 8 1/2 inches below it. The roof is a light wooden frame, covered on both sides with heavy cotton. It should fit inside the box level with the top, and be supported on 1/2-inch cleats. The roof frame is 34 inches square and 1 inch deep, outside dimensions. A 2-inch hole is required in the cotton for the upper smoke pipe of the heater.

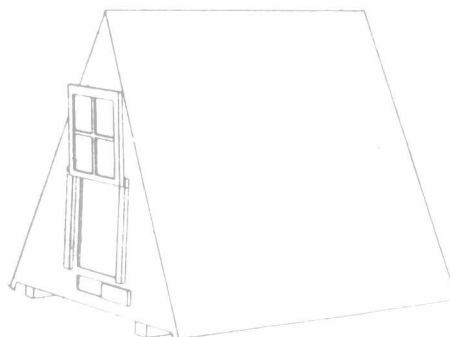
Run.—The run is 2 by 3 feet. It should be hinged to the front of the brooder on a level with the brooder floor. A three-section hinged frame, 6 inches high, should be placed around the outside of the run to confine the chicks for the first few days. The floor of the run can then be lowered to the ground, and will form a runway into the brooder.

Lamp.—Dimensions: diameter of the oil fount, 7 1/2 inches; depth, 2 inches; total height of lamp (including chimney), 8 inches. There should be a small handle on the oil fount, and a screw cap for filling with oil. A large-size burner can be

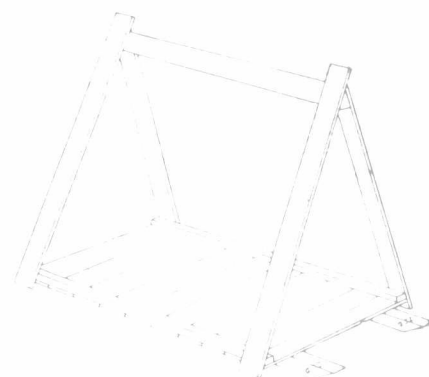


General View of Brooder.

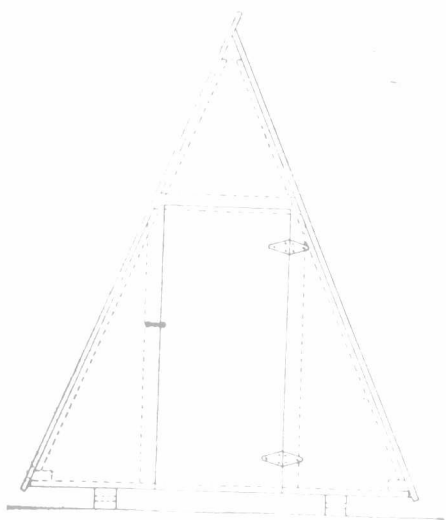
for a week or more; and still, young chicks are often fed all they will eat as soon as they come out of the shell. In the case of chicks running with the mother hen it is different. The young chicks pick up a bite here and another there, with plenty of exercise between, so that their stomachs are never overloaded; but brooder chicks, or chicks under unnatural conditions, do not have the forced exercise between each mouthful, and to be allowed all the feed they will eat during the first week has only the one result—indigestion and consequent bowel trouble. A hungry chick is a healthy chick. Feed a little and often, and let the feeds be dry. It takes more skill and care to feed young chicks on wet mash than on dry feed. Dry oatmeal, granulated or flaked, seeds and small grains, prepared chick food—any, or a mixture of these, sprinkled in good clean litter, gives good results. A crumbly mash can be introduced later on if preferred, though some poultrymen are



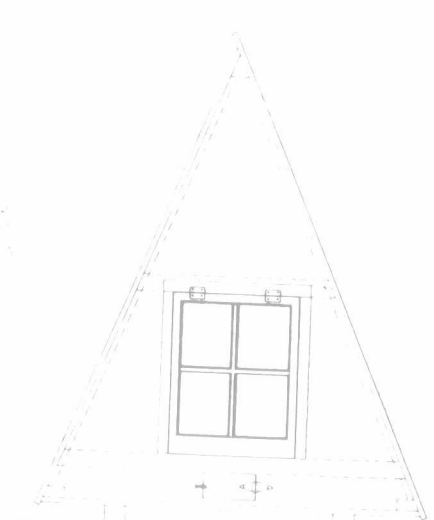
GENERAL VIEW



FRAME AND FLOOR.



REAR VIEW



FRONT VIEW

Colony Houses.