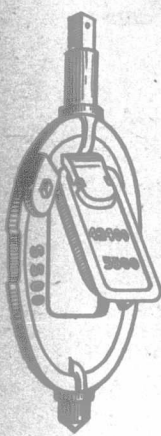


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When Writing Mention Advocate

## Questions and Answers. Miscellaneous.

### Chickens Die.

I have had over forty chickens die in less than one week with something I believe to be contagious. They would eat, and then stand around with their eyes closed, and before they died their eyes would not open at all. They set their heads back on their shoulders and stand till they drop dead. They were three or four days sick like that before they died. They did not have diarrhea, and I fed them bread crumbs and whole wheat and shorts moistened. Some of them were four weeks, and some three weeks old. I gave them a proprietary liniment in their drink, but it did not do any good, as they all died. I should be much pleased to know what the trouble was, and how to treat it. **B. M.**

Ans.—The symptoms given would lead us to believe that the chicks are affected with lice. If so, about the best treatment we have found is as follows: Mix one part 90-per-cent. carbolic acid with three parts gasoline, each by measure. To this, add enough plaster of Paris to dry it off after mixing well. Dust the birds well, but if chicks are very small, be very careful in using this mixture, as it is very strong. **A. C. McCULLOCH.**

### Ants and Aphids.

How can I kill small, black ants, which are destroying a Virginia Creeper?  
**SUBSCRIBER.**

Ans.—The ants which you find running up and down your Virginia Creeper are not in any way injurious to it, but they indicate the presence of aphides, or plant lice, which are very injurious because of their sucking the juices of the plant upon which they live.

This is one of the interesting cases in natural history where one insect makes use of another without destroying it. The aphides secrete a honey dew upon which the ants feed; in fact, ants treat them much like cows, inducing them to give off this sweet secretion by stroking the aphid's back with their antennae.

The aphids may be destroyed by spraying them with some caustic wash, such as strong soap suds or tobacco water. Attempting to kill them with Paris green, as is often tried, is useless, as they insert their beaks and suck the juice of the plant without getting any of the poison, but the caustic nature of strong soap suds or tobacco water acting upon their soft bodies soon destroys them. It is necessary, therefore, in fighting insects of this kind to spray so that every insect is touched. **H. L. HUTT.**

### Tetanus.

We have a fine young mare which has some trouble our veterinarian calls lock-jaw. We had not been working her for a few days, and on Monday morning, June 9th, I went down to the pasture to get her to go to work and she appeared quite stupid, and if I would give the least pull on the halter she would turn her eyes back so you could not see the ball at all. We have been keeping her quiet in a dark stall. She is not able to chew hay very well, but she will take plenty of mash made of bran, chopped oats, and oil cake. She looks quite smart now, but the least excitement will make her turn her eyes back in her head. Do you think she will ever get better? Our veterinarian thinks she will. If it were not for her eyes, you would think she might go to work. The medicine we have been using costs us \$4 per day; \$2 night and morning. It is called anti-tetanic serum. Do you know anything of it, or have you ever tried it? **M. R.**

Ans.—The contracted condition of the muscles of the eye is a good proof of your veterinarian's correctness in diagnosing the disease. From the description given, the disease did not develop its acute form, being a mild or sub-acute attack, and for this reason it is quite probable the mare will get well in time. The use of anti-tetanic serum is the proper procedure, as dosing the animal with medicine often does more harm than good. Keep the mare quiet, and under no circumstances excite her until the attack has fully passed.

## HEADQUARTERS

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