

brings us back to the original question, if vibration is not injurious to the hatching of eggs incubated naturally, why should it be so to eggs incubated artificially?

I carry on artificial hatching on too small a scale to have any faith in my observations, but many hatch extensively, and perhaps some may think it worth while to experiment on the question, and report results in these columns.

There is another matter connected with artificial hatching I am curious about. I see it frequently stated that eggs should never be more than a week old when put into the incubator. I have often put them

in much older than this, sometimes nearly three weeks old, and I have never noticed any difference in the hatching results as between these eggs and quite fresh ones. Is this a common experience?

ALEX. MCINTOSH.

ARTIFICIAL HEAT.

EDITOR REVIEW:—

I HAD thought not to say any more re eggs or incubation in your valued paper at this stage, but I should like just to ventilate my opinion in respect of your answer to a fellow reader in the April issue,

who asks if artificial heat is necessary in a hen house, and you reply, "No." Now, this answer is contrary to our experience, which is that hens will not do their best if kept in a house so cold that their drinking water will freeze, and further, I am nearly certain that eggs exposed for any time to a temperature of below say °45 will be so chilled and the arrangement of the albumen so broken up, that they will be rendered altogether incapable of producing a living chick, and for my part I would rather have 50 eggs that will hatch than 100 that will not.

I apologize for again trespassing on your valuable space, but my opinions on this subject are very strongly formed.

Yours faithfully,

H. J. WOOD.

Hull, P. Q., April 18th, '99.

[We are glad Mr. Wood gives us his opinion. Our experience has led us to believe that where the house is dry, and warm sleeping quarters are supplied, that heat is not necessary. We did not give an emphatic "No" to enquiry. Mr. Parker's letter in April issue on this question is worth reading.

We agree with Mr. Wood entirely as to the effect of cold on eggs intended for early hatching, but eggs in cold weather should be collected frequently.—ED.]



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