

The Itch or Scaly-leg Mite attacks the comb and beak as well as the legs. It bores under the scales of the foot and leg and goes deeper and deeper into the tissue, setting up an irritation, frequently a lameness and sometimes the loss of some of the toes. The disease is readily transferred from bird to bird, and is therefore contagious.

The Depluming Mite produces a kind of disease which causes the feathers to break off at the surface of the skin. The symptoms usually appear first at the rump and later become visible on the head, neck and other parts. The mite lives at the base of the feathers in the mass of epidermal scales. On account of the irritation produced the birds pull out their own feathers. The disease is contagious, inasmuch as the mites are readily transferred from one bird to another.

THE CONTROL OF POULTRY LICE AND MITES

It has already been stated that the poultry lice and mites increase in dirty and unsanitary surroundings and in warm weather. One of the first considerations in the control of these pests is, therefore, to clean the poultry-house thoroughly. The following extract taken from a special bulletin prepared by the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, entitled "Poultry Diseases and Their Treatment," gives a clear, concise statement of how a poultry-house should be cleaned:—

"The first thing to do is to remove all the litter and loose dirt which can be shovelled out. Then give the house—floor, walls and ceiling—a thorough sweeping and shovel out the accumulated debris. Then play a garden hose, with the maximum water pressure that can be obtained, upon floor, roosting boards, walls and ceiling until all the dirt which washes down easily is disposed of. Then take a heavy hoe or roost-board scraper and proceed to scrape the floor and roosting-boards clean of the trampled and caked dressing and dirt. Then shovel out what has been accumulated, and get the hose into action once more and wash the whole place down again thoroughly, following this with another scraping. With a stiff bristled broom thoroughly scrub walls, floors, nest boxes, roost-boards, etc. Then after another rinsing down and clearing out of accumulated dirt, let the house dry out for a day or two. Then make a searching inspection to see if any dirt can be discovered. If so apply the appropriate treatment as outlined above. If, however, everything appears to be clean, the time has come to make it *really* clean by disinfection. To do this it is necessary to spray or thoroughly wash with a scrub brush, wet in the solution used, all parts of the house with a good disinfectant at least twice, allowing time between for it to dry. For this purpose 3 per cent. cresol solution is recommended. The chief thing is to use an effective disinfectant and plenty of it, and apply it at least twice. To complete the cleaning of the house, after the second spraying of disinfectant is dry apply a liquid lice killer (made by putting 1 part crude carbolic acid or cresol with 3 parts kerosene) liberally to nests and roosts and nearby walls. After all this is done the house will