

The poultry house must be disinfected, the walls, floor, roosts, and all the utensils used by the birds must be washed with milk of lime. The diet during the epidemic should be composed of vegetables to which bran is added.

DIPHTHERIA.—This disease spreads rapidly, and if not checked kills in two to four days all the birds affected. There should be no hesitation to kill and bury or burn the diseased hens, if they are not of high value; for diphtheria alone is enough to destroy the largest and most thriving flock.

Symptoms.—When the sick bird is examined, it is easily seen that the beak and the tongue are becoming coated with whitish, more or less thick, false membranes, that the nostrils are stopped up with a mucous secretion; breathing is laborious, the bird is drowsy, its feathers ruffled and its gait tottering.

Treatment.—Smear the beak and throat with a feather dipped in a mixture of vinegar, one part, and ordinary honey, two parts, brought to a gentle heat to facilitate their thorough mixing.

Another treatment is as follows: Remove the above-mentioned false membranes with a damp and lukewarm sponge, dry the sores with the same sponge and burn them with a small silver nitrate pencil; when new false membranes form, smear the beak and throat with a solution of Carle Seiler's tablets,* one tablet dissolved in two ounces of water. Repeat every other day, one day burning, the next smearing.

The diseased birds must be removed from the flock, the water and litter changed and the poultry house disinfected.

ANEMIA.—This disease attacks all poultry birds; it is due to bad sanitary conditions and bad feeding.

Symptoms.—Loss of appetite, general emaciation, excessive prostration, paleness of the comb and presence of pustules on the head or the throat wattles.

Treatment.—The treatment consists in keeping the poultry house quite clean, protecting the fowls from the weather, giving nourishing food and removing the weak ones from the flock.

CONSTIPATION.—This is rather a frequent ailment in poultry, caused sometimes by a too liberal feeding of such food as oats, buckwheat, &c.

Sitting hens and good laying hens often suffer from it.

Symptoms.—The bird makes efforts to discharge its droppings, which are drier and harder than in normal conditions, forming round, chalky masses. This trouble is sometimes accompanied by depression and loss of appetite.

Treatment.—The treatment consists in giving laxative food, such as green vegetables mixed with bran. A spoonful of olive oil two or three days in succession has an excellent effect. It is advisable for geese to administer five or six grammes of sulphate of soda in a tablespoonful of water.

DIARRHŒA IN YOUNG CHICKENS.—There are two kinds of diarrhœa—bilious diarrhœa, which often spreads rapidly, and chalky diarrhœa.

The causes of bilious diarrhœa are: Damp soil or a damp poultry house and unsuitable food.

Symptoms.—Green, almost liquid droppings.

Treatment.—Taken in time, diarrhœa is easily checked by a change in the diet, by giving heating grains—such as ground oats and buckwheat—a mash composed of hard-boiled eggs finely minced, cooked rice and cut and cooked vegetables. A little powdered

* Carle Seiler's tablets are made as follows: Take sodium bicarbonate, sodium borate and sodium chloride, of each, 60 grains; sodium benzoate, 4 grains; sodium salicylate, 4 grains; oil of eucalyptus, 2 drops; thymol, 2 grs.; menthol, 1 gr.; oil of wintergreen, 1 drop. Mix and make 12 tablets.