

THE CANADIAN POULTRY REVIEW

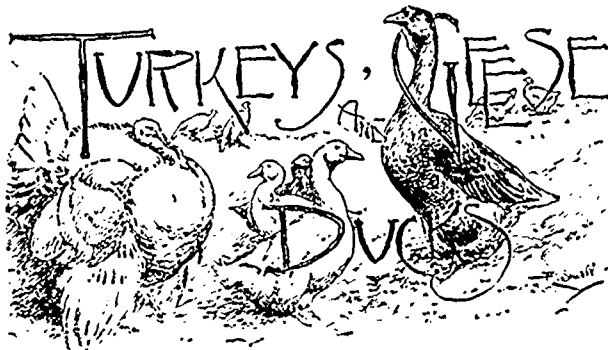
DEVOTED TO POULTRY, IN ALL ITS BRANCHES

For the FANCIER, the FARMER, and the SMALL BREEDER

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GOOSE BREEDING.

(Continued.)

EDITOR'S NOTE.—We are indebted to Mr. A. A. Brigham, Ph.D., director of the Rhode Island Agricultural Experiment Station, for advance proofs of this most valuable and comprehensive article on Goose Culture, and also for procuring for us duplicates of some of the engravings to be used in connection with the Report. The copies of REVIEW containing this series of articles should be carefully preserved for future guidance. The first part appeared in November, 1898, REVIEW

At this time, the more freedom they can have the better, as it gives them exercise, and access to a small pond, brook, or spring hole, gives the best possible accommodation for them. If no pond hole or body of water is accessible, the large half barrel or tub sunk in the ground in the yard and kept filled with water should not be forgotten.

The amount of green food or roots, the variety and quality of the grain food given, with attention to a proper supply of shells and grit, will largely influence egg production.

Most breeds of geese lay frequently from 10 to 20 eggs, when they want to sit. After a goose has been a day or two on the nest, she can be taken off and put in a coop, which should be large enough so that she

can stand erect. If she is confined here, at a little distance from her mates, she will usually abandon the idea of sitting after five or seven days, and when released will shortly begin laying again. Some breeders make a practice of allowing the geese to sit at the end of the second litter, while others break them up again, and usually obtain a third litter of eggs. The number of eggs laid, however, in the second litter, is usually smaller than at first, and less are usually laid in the third litter than in the second. Toulouse geese are less likely to become broody, and sometimes they will not manifest any desire whatever to sit. When each goose has her own nest, she can easily be set at the end of the second or third litter, as desired. At this time the goose plucks off more or less down from her breast, with which to line the nest and cover the eggs whenever she leaves them. It is better that one person should care for the geese regularly, and he should be quiet and gentle in his movements, so as to gain the confidence of the flock and make them as tame as possible. The advantage of this will be evident when the geese wish to sit, during incubation, and while the goslings are small. A quiet, docile goose does better than a shy one.

CARE OF EGGS AND HATCHING.

The eggs should be gathered as soon after they are laid as possible, to avoid their being chilled. They should be kept in a moderately warm place, not too dry, and should be turned over every day until set. It is well to mark the date upon the shell of each egg as laid, and, as before stated, also the number of the colony, and the name or number of the goose which laid it, if possible; in setting eggs, one can then pick out those first laid. The sooner they are set after