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therefore if a grass run is not available feed the birds lettuce, or something from the garden. We all know how fifty chicks will soon ruin a kitchen garden if given a chance. However, in these days where mesh wire can be bought at any store there is no excuse for giving chicks the run of the garden. I use mesh wire for yards keeping perhaps eight or ten cooped mother hens in a yard, even in early May there is a good picking of grass for the chicks. Then to be sure of my garden I have for years had four feet of mesh wire stretched over the barbed wire around the garden, which is of large size. Where the chickens are older and need more of a run I can safely let them out, knowing the crops will not be gobbled up. I cannot vouch for any incubator flock of chicks not getting an attack of white diarrhea at times, especially if the spring is cold and variable. No doubt chilling will cause this fatal malady in chickens and turkeys. Hen hatched chicks very seldom have this trouble at all. It is most infectious, and all ailing chicks should be placed by themselves; powdered charcoal in the food may help, and tea given to drink in place of water. The sick birds usually die in 24 to 48 hours. I aim to keep the main flock well rather than dose the sick; a pot of boiled wheat well cooked mixed with powdered charcoal, a little fed at the time is helpful, and boiled rice is also good, damp mash of any kind should be avoided—in fact for the first month I feed chicks altogether on a dry ration. The best preventive of this disease, which carries off hundreds of chicks on the majority of large poultry plants annually, is to keep only the best of vigorous stock, never allowing inbreeding. Breeding birds should be wintered where they have plenty of fresh air and exercise. Birds that have laid heavily, during the winter months should not be put in the spring breeding pens, if strong lusty chicks free from disease are looked for.

I need not say that coops and pens and brooders must be cleanliness itself, if vermin and disorders are to be kept away. Insect powder should be freely used on all hen hatched chicks which gather vermin from their mothers quite often. Brooder chicks have an advantage over them here, but whitewash on and in coops and insect powder are simple remedies. After chicks are four weeks old the hopper system of feeding is a good plan, feeding a mixture of crushed grain, bran, charcoal and grit in the food hoppers, placed in colony houses or pens where the youngsters come and go. They will not overfeed on dry mash and make a fine growth on it. I always feed them whole wheat at night, sending them to roost with full crops. Both water and buttermilk are useful as a drink, not forgetting to clean their drinking fountains often, filling them twice a day with pure cool water.

Hawks and crows, skunks and coyotes, and in some places, rats, are all a menace to the growing flock, but the watchful eye of a careful poultry keeper can devise means to outwit, or get rid of these pests.

In conclusion, I do not advise beginners with their small flocks to use an incubator at all unless they have the Leghorn breeds of hens, "nonsitters," then I suppose a machine is a necessity, for this reason alone, I much prefer one of the utility breeds, Barred Rocks, Orpingtons, Wyandottes, or Rhode Island Reds. When a good dinner is wanted a fowl of anyone of these fine breeds makes a delicious meal, while a Leghorn is not worth eating. True they are great egg layers, but the eggs of the utility breeds will average one third larger. Hoping our Canadian hens will so increase in numbers, and efficiency, that in the course of time they will pay off our national debt, "It is up to us".

Every farmer should grow enough horse carrots to feed each horse about 1 1/2 pounds each night. It will prevent and cure chronic cough. It keeps the horse in good health throughout the long months, when Western horses are so liable to get out of condition through inaction and the feeding of rough hay and irregular meals.

A good cure for heaves if not too far advanced, is to put one teaspoonful pulverized blood root every night in feed. Follow up till cured.

Classified Page for the People's Wants

IF YOU WANT TO BUY OR SELL ANYTHING IN THE LINE OF POULTRY, FARM PROPERTY, FARM MACHINERY, OR IF YOU WANT HELP OR EMPLOYMENT, REMEMBER THAT THE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENT COLUMNS OF THE WESTERN HOME MONTHLY ARE ALWAYS READY TO HELP YOU ACCOMPLISH YOUR OBJECT. COST 3c WORD, MINIMUM 50c. CASH WITH ORDER.

Poultry

ROSE COMB RHODE ISLAND REDS—Good laying strain. Eggs, \$1.50 per 15. \$7.00 per 100. John Driedger, Box 140, Winkler, Man. 5-17

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