

same time, if possible, and where several are sitting in the same room it is well to have the nests covered so that each hen will be confined to her own nest.

The hens should be dusted thoroughly at the time of setting and again just before the chicks hatch; take each hen by the feet, holding the head downwards, and sprinkle lice powder into the feathers and then rub it all around the joints.

Feed the hens on a variety of hard grains and keep clean water before them always.

ARTIFICIAL INCUBATION

Disinfect the incubator before and after every hatch, using a hot ten per-cent solution of a good disinfectant.

Use a well-made, double-cased machine and place it in a fairly cool room, which is well ventilated but free from draughts. Be sure that the machine is set level and run it for a few days to adjust the regulator. Use a reliable thermometer; it can be tested by a druggist. Maintain an even temperature of 103° on a level with the tops of the eggs as they lie upon the trays. The lamp should be filled with oil every morning, after the eggs have been turned, and great care should be taken in trimming rounded corners on the wick, in order to give a broad even flame. Turning the eggs, twice daily, should begin on the third day and continue until the eighteenth day. While the eggs are being turned they may also be cooled, the length of time for cooling extending from two or three minutes on the third day to ten or fifteen minutes on the eighteenth day. The ventilators of the incubator should be kept closed until the ninth day, when they are opened a little at a time until on the twenty-first day they are wide open. It is always best to supply moisture to the machine; beneath the egg-tray keep a pan, nearly the full size of the incubator, filled about one inch deep with water or with sand and water. Test the eggs on the seventh day to remove the infertile ones and on the fifteenth day to remove the dead germs. While the chicks are hatching keep the egg chamber dark by hanging a cloth or paper over the door and keep the chicks up on the tray. The chicks should be kept in the incubator for a few hours after being hatched and if they pant the door should be opened a little to provide ventilation.

REARING

One important factor in rearing chicks successfully is keeping them free from lice. Another important rule to observe is to kill all weaklings at hatching time; it rarely pays to raise them. Always put chicks on clean