

get when turning them. Practically all incubators, whether the directions say so or not, will give better hatches if a moisture pan is placed below the egg tray. On the ninth day the eggs should be tested, and the infertile ones and blood ring ones removed.

From now on the eggs should be cooled once a day, but only for a sufficient length of time to have them feel slightly cool when against the face. The length of time to cool will of course, depend largely upon the temperature of the room. Avoid chilling while cooling them, as chilled eggs will hatch out a large percentage of cripples. Fill and trim the lamp regularly in the evening if possible. Use only high grade kerosene, and clean off the wire gauze on the burner every few days. The lamps should be filled and trimmed after the eggs have been turned to avoid oily hands coming in contact with the eggs. The egg tray should be reversed every time the eggs are turned. The best way to turn the eggs up to the first test is to take off a dozen eggs and with the flat of both hands resting gently on the eggs give them a rotary movement, thus changing the position and location of each egg.

After the first test the ventilators should be opened gradually to get a larger supply of oxygen. Previous to this the animal life present in the eggs is not sufficient to demand a very large supply of air.

The eggs should be tested a second time on the fifteenth day and all dead germs removed. On the nineteenth day, or as soon as the eggs begin to pip, the moisture pans should be removed and the ventilators partially closed. The eggs should remain undisturbed until all the chicks are out.

There may be a few chicks that require help to get out of the shell, but no help should be given until the hatch is practically complete. A draught of cold air rushing into the machine in the middle of a hatch is always detrimental to the chicks just hatching and should be avoided as much as possible. The chicks that require help to get out of the shell are generally more or less of a weak constitution and usually do not thrive very well. When the hatch is complete, the tray with the remaining eggs and the shells should be taken out and the incubator door left open about a quarter of an inch until the chicks are removed to the brooders. This is known as the "hardening off" process, and seems to be very beneficial to the chicks.

Nature has provided the chick with sufficient food for the first forty-eight hours of its life, so no food will be required until every chick is thoroughly dry and ready for the brooder. An uneven temperature during the period of incubation will lengthen out the hatch and also produce a higher percentage of crippled chicks. Chilling will have the same effect. Jarring or shaking the machine will mean dead germs. Rapid cooling of the eggs during the early spring months, when the incubator room is likely to be cold should be avoided as much as possible. When turning or cooling the eggs, place the tray on the top of the machine or on a table to prevent cooling from below. Placing a