

POULTRY DEPT.

Conducted by S. Short, Ottawa

Besides careful feeding, growing chickens require attention to see that they do not become affected with vermin at this season of the year. With the warm weather and plenty of good food, chickens make rapid development and nothing should be allowed to interfere with their progress towards maturity. The two main evils are lice and over-crowding. Lice may be checked and destroyed by the use of powdered sulphur or any of the insecticides recommended by the poultry supply house. Sulphur is cheap and effective. Dust each chick once a week until they are two months old and after that if the birds have access to dry earth or mud they will dust themselves often enough to keep down the lice. Putting sulphur in the dust bath is a convenient way to help keep the birds clean.

Over-crowding will be evidenced by some of the chicks not having down or plumage, all being rubbed off in the scramble for the warmest corner. An inspection of the sleeping quarters occasionally is a wise precaution. If the birds are all spread out side by side, though close together, they are doing all right, but if they are climbing one on top of the other, they are cold and trying to get into the inside place usually in a corner. If this happens the strongest or weakest should be removed and put in another pen. In flocks of 25 or 30 over-crowding seldom happens but with half-grown brooder chicks in larger flocks great care must be taken.

The leaving open of a window or a door a little late in the evening will sometimes do a lot a harm. I remember seeing 14 Leg-horn chicks smothered to death by over-crowding in a flock of about 20 owing to a door being left open an hour late on a June evening last year and more would have been smothered had the omission not been discovered in time.

From experience, supported by the opinions of others who have given the subject some consideration, the writer recommends

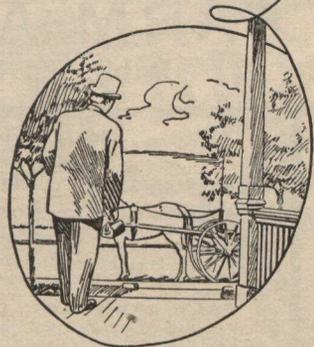
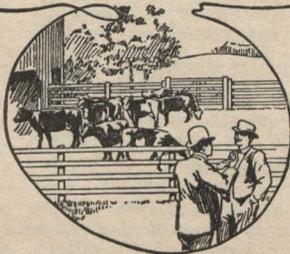
to those who hatch by incubator exclusively, that they hatch the chickens intended for next year's breeding stock by hens. This is a practice that is being followed by most of the careful breeders. It has been found that incubator-hatched and brooder-raised fowl are more given to barrenness or their eggs are more often infertile than the eggs from fowl hatched in the natural way. This is late in the year to make the suggestion, but it is worth remembering for future occasions.

Arsenite of Lime

F. T. Shutt, Chemist, Dominion Experimental Farms

From the number of letters that we have received during the past few weeks from orchardists, more especially in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, it is evident that there is much confusion respecting the preparation of arsenite of lime. As a misunderstanding in this matter might lead to a very considerable loss through injury to the foliage, it is well that one or two of the essential points in the process should be explained and emphasized.

The first step in the process is the prepar-



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