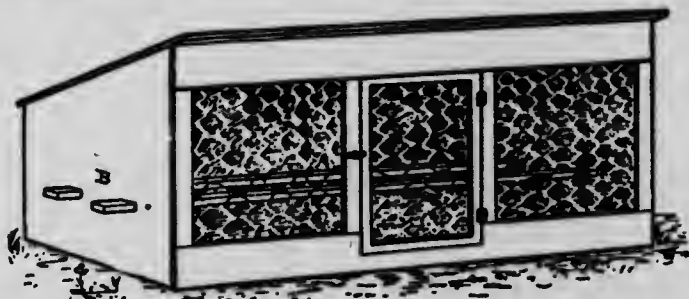


A mash which the author has found to give splendid satisfaction is composed as follows: Two large slices of dry bread, two hard-bolled eggs (shells included), one medium-sized onion, and a piece of charred bone, about walnut size.

The eggs and onions will generally provide all moisture needed to mix the mash. These ingredients are ground up very fine in a meat mincer. Feed this about twice daily; the other feeds to consist of rolled oats, commercial chick-feed, or bread and



B or secondary coop. Dimensions: Length, 6 feet; width, 2 feet 6 inches; height, front 2 feet 4 inches, back 18 inches. A hen's brood of chicks, at about eight weeks of age, should be placed in here from smaller quarters, or the B coop itself makes a splendid coop for hen and chicks from the start. When using the coop for this purpose, the roosts can be removed, and roost-holes in ends covered temporarily with a shingle tacked over to keep out draughts and vermin.

milk. It is not advisable to feed beef-scrap to little chicks under fourteen days old. The chicks need feeding at least four times daily the first month, the amount to be given to be judged by the attendant. By experience and observation, coupled with intelligence, a poultryman or woman will soon be able to give the right quantity desired at each meal. After a month's hand-feeding the chicks can be hopper-fed, as explained in the chapter on feeding.

As soon as the chickens are large enough to do without the mother, say at from five to eight weeks, the hen should be placed back in the laying-house with the adult fowls. When the chicks get too large for the hen coop, which will be in about ten weeks, they are put into B coop. Overcrowding of young stock is to be guarded against, as once they get a set-back in this way it is likely to be noticed all winter. Roup, stunted growth, bronchitis, etc., can be directly attributed to overcrowding during growth.

The B coop in illustration will accommodate twenty chicks until full grown.

The coop should be moved its own length or width about twice weekly, and lime sprinkled on land so used. When moving see that it is placed forwards or sideways, never backwards, as this brings the droppings to the front of the coop. In the case of colony houses, the manure should be collected, and taken away to compost heap, rather than scattered round near the colony houses. The latter procedure has often been the means of spreading epidemics amongst the flocks.

ARTIFICIAL INCUBATION.

While the law of incubation seems comparatively simple, yet the proper application of these principles in an incubator is extremely difficult. It means a well-built case, to withstand both moisture and changes of outside temperature; a reliable and constant source of heat; a uniform distribution of the heat, so each egg gets a uniform amount; a sensitive and reliable regulation; constant ventilation, and the constant supply of humidity, to prevent the excessive evaporation of the eggs, and withal so arranged as not to introduce undesirable factors which work injury to the developing embryo or germ.