

In starting the machine run it for several days without the eggs so as to insure good regulation and when the eggs are put in get the temperature up as soon as possible. If hatches are slow in coming off, raise the temperature in succeeding hatches and vice versa. It is a good plan to have an extra thermometer on hand in case of an accident and thermometers should be tested each spring before the incubation season.

*Moisture.*—Climatic conditions in most parts of Canada are such as to make it advisable to supply moisture. A relative humidity of from 50 to 60 inside the egg chamber gives most satisfactory results. Moisture checks the undue evaporation of the eggs and as a rule the more ventilation that is given the more moisture will be required. When there is no hygrometer to register the humidity a fair indication of the proper amount can be ascertained by watching the air cell. At the first test on the 7th day, the air space ought to be about  $\frac{1}{4}$  the size of the egg and on the 16th day about  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Moisture can be applied in a pan beneath the egg tray, or in some makes of machines a wet sponge can be placed above the hot air pipes with satisfaction.



PLATE 2.—Unsuitable Eggs for Hatching.

Eggs that are long, round, or with wrinkles and ridges as shown in this plate should be discarded when selecting for incubation.

As a rule if at hatching time the chicks are dried up and the air space large, too much ventilation has been allowed or not enough moisture given or both, and if on the other hand the chicks are as if drowned and a very little air space is seen, there has been too little ventilation or too much moisture or both.

*Cooling and turning.*—From the second day to the seventeenth, the eggs should be turned twice a day and cooled once, in very warm weather they may be cooled twice. No stated time can be given for cooling, so much depends upon the temperature of the room and the ventilation and moisture given. In turning it is not necessary to turn each individual egg over but rather to shuffle the eggs and in doing so work these at the outside to the centre and vice versa.

*Testing.*—Usually two tests are sufficient, one for fertility and one for dead germs. The test for fertility should take place on the 7th or 8th day of incubation. At this