

# IMPORTANCE OF DISINFECTING AFTER OUTBREAK OF DISEASE

Practice Not Entirely Appreciated by Stockman and Farmer — There is Also Lack of Information Concerning Practical and Economical Methods of Procedure of Cleaning.

(By GEORGE W. POPE.)

It has been found that the average stockman and farmer does not realize the importance of thoroughly disinfecting his premises following an outbreak of contagious disease. There is apparently a widespread lack of information regarding the germicidal power of various substances, commonly termed disinfectants. There is also a lack of knowledge concerning practical and economical methods of proceeding with the work of disinfection. Moreover, the reappearance of a contagious disease on premises from which it was believed to have been eradicated may frequently be traced to careless or imperfect work in connection with the cleaning and disinfection of the place.

It is but natural to acknowledge the presence of only such objects as can be seen with the unaided eye. Science, however, by means of the high-power microscope, has clearly proved the existence of numerous minute animal and vegetable organisms—and it is a matter of common knowledge that many of these organisms frequently find their way into the animal body and produce disease. It is also well known that these germs vary in form and other characteristics and that for each disease of an infectious nature there is a specific germ.

If these germs could be confined to the animal body and die with it there would be no such thing as an infectious disease. Unfortunately, however, they are thrown off by the animal through the excretions and lie in the earth, in the litter of stables, upon the floor and walls, and in cracks and crevices. Here they may remain and maintain their virulence for an indefinite period, ready at any time to be gathered up by an animal in its feed or to be blown about in dust and drawn into the lungs.

The work of disinfection is based upon our recognition of the presence of disease germs, and disinfection means the act of destroying the cause of the infection. In other words, disinfection is a removal of the cause, and it will be clear to any practical man that in dealing with disease any effort which stops short of a complete removal of the cause is most unwise and unprofitable. To those un-



Applying Disinfectant.

accustomed to the work, disinfection may seem a most complicated process. Any approved method, however, is comparatively simple when carried out carefully, although like many another procedure it is one in which attention to details counts for much. It is important to bear in mind that the causative agents of many diseases are extremely small and may remain for an indefinite time in dust, cracks, and crevices of buildings, so that efforts aiming at the eradication of disease from contaminated premises must be thorough in order to be effective.

In the work of disinfection nature has provided man with a most valuable ally—sunlight. It is well known that the direct rays of the sun are destructive to many forms of bacteria, in some cases destroying them and in others lessening their influence. Thus the importance of well-lighted stables is evident. The dark and sunless building will be a favorable breeding place for bacteria, and the structure which admits the greatest amount of sunlight will be the least favorable for their development. Again, heat will destroy the bacteria of disease. By this is not meant the ordinary heat of the sun, but heat as developed in boiling water or in flame. It is upon this principle that the surgeon before operating renders his instruments free from the possible presence of bacteria by boiling, and it is heat which renders a jet of live steam destructive to bacteria. Sunlight, however, cannot be considered more than an accessory in the destruction of bacteria, while the application of heat in the form of steam or flame is seldom possible. The result is that in the practical work of disinfection we are dependent upon certain drugs, which have power to destroy the organisms of disease.

Such drugs are known as disinfectants, and, fortunately, we have at hand a number that possess the power of destroying bacteria.

Bichlorid of mercury also known as corrosive sublimate and mercuric chlorid, chlorid of lime, formaldehyde, carbolic acid, crude carbolic acid, cresol, and compound solution of cresol, are such drugs. They have only to be brought in contact with the bacteria in order to destroy them.

Before either of the above are used, however, the farmer should study their peculiar characteristics and use the one best suited to his purpose. Violent poison should not be used unless the user of the disinfectant is familiar with it and its results.

In the practical work of disinfection there are three essentials:

1. A preparation of the building that will facilitate reaching organisms of disease.
2. A disinfectant which upon contact can be depended upon to destroy such organisms.
3. A method of applying the disinfectant that will assure the most thorough contact with the bacteria.

## INCREASING THE YIELD OF GRASS

Among Four Chief Essentials are Smooth Surface, Preparation, Good Seed and Fertility.

(By R. B. RUSHING.)

Farmers who content themselves with two tons or less cannot understand how yields of three or four tons even more are obtained. There are, however, four chief essentials; a smooth surface, with even, steady grade, thorough preparation of the soil, and abundance of good, healthy seed and plenty of fertility and to which might be added the proper amount of moisture.

Where land is stumpy or rocky, it may be considerable expense to remove them, but to obtain the greatest amount of grass it must be done. The rocks must either be sunk or hauled away and the surface smoothed so as to give a gentle grade. A little depression where the water can stand may cause a patch of grass to die out and a few patches will kill a hundred pounds of hay.

After this thorough grading the land is thoroughly fitted. This does not mean just plowed and harrowed in the ordinary way. I prefer the use of a cut-away disc, which does the work just the opposite to the turning plow.

The continued working of the soil with the cut-away clears the soil of foul stuff and gives the new seeding a chance. The soil should be worked over with the cut-away and the smoothing harrow many times, not all at once, but continued through July and August. In this way, when ready to seed the soil is certainly as fine as an ash heap.

The seed then should be put on carefully and accurately, so as to have every square inch of surface covered, thus having two blades of grass where one formerly was.

The question frequently asked is: Why is this large amount of potash necessary? No one who has ever used fertilizers on grass need be told that nitrogen gives the grass a rich, green color and makes it grow very rapidly.

Care of the Brooder.

Brush out the brooders every other day, changing the material used in floor covering. This may be of bran, sand, sawdust, or paper, but must be dry. Damp bedding induces disease every time. When it is necessary to wash the brooder choose a warm, sunny day, so that the chicks will not need it, and it can be thoroughly dried before returning them at night. If these conditions cannot be complied with a temporary brooder may be used for the day by means of a box and one or two jugs of hot water well wrapped in flannel, the latter serving the double purpose of holding in the heat and preventing a chick being crowded up and burnt.

Drinking Vessels.

A good way to prevent hens from overturning their drinking vessels is to punch a hole in the side—near the top of a tin pail or old tomato can—and hang it up on a nail driven into the woodwork of the chicken house, about six inches from the ground. Be sure there are no sharp edges to the can or that the head of the nail does not protrude more than half an inch.

## Spring-Cleaning

The Human System Needs It.

Mrs. M. Morgan, 411 4th Ave., E., Brainerd, Minn., writes: "I take from one to two bottles of Hood's Sarsaparilla in the spring to purify the blood just as regularly as I do my house-cleaning, and go around light-footed and light-hearted. I believe it is the best blood purifier known."

Hood's Sarsaparilla so combines the curative principles of roots, barks and herbs as to raise them to their highest efficiency; hence its unequalled cures. Get it today in usual liquid form or tablets called Sarsatabs.

Took an Unfair Advantage.

Doctor Graham, a widely known physician in London, once conceived the plan of burying persons up to their necks in the earth and leaving them there for some hours as a cure for some diseases. George Dyer, it is said, in despair of anyone listening to him read his own poetry, took advantage of the situation of Doctor Graham's patients and read to them all the while they were stuck in the earth.

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Importance of Physiognomy.

"Do you believe a man with a receding chin is likely to get along as well in this world as a man with a chin that projects?" "It all depends upon circumstances. If the man with the receding chin is a son of the president of the company and the man with the chin that projects is merely working his way up from the bottom I should be inclined to feel that physiognomy would not be of vast importance."

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Fundamental Truth.

A thing that is morally right can never be economically wrong.

## Pettit's BEST FOR EYE ACHE'S Salve

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"De hymn goes dat you wants ter be a angel, but ef you had wings right now you'd hire yo'self out as a curiosity in a sideshow."—Atlanta Constitution.

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Well-Ordered Life.

To do with as few things as we can, and, as far as we can, to see to it that these things are the work of freemen and not of slaves; these two seem to me to be the main duties to be fulfilled by those who wish to live at once free and refined, serviceable to others, and pleasant to themselves.—William Morris.

Red Cross Ball Blue gives double value for your money, goes twice as far as any other. Ask your grocer.

Lifelong Eccentric Dresser.

An old man who recently passed away in Whittinsville, Wash., during all the 88 years of his life had never worn stockings—because he hated the feeling of them; nor had he worn anything but a straw hat, summer and winter alike, to keep, as he expressed it, rain and snow from going down his neck.

Windfall in Old Hat.

There is something more than a joke in inheriting an old hat from an uncle. For the recent Mardi-Gras fete, in Paris, a motor bus driver, wishing to "dress up," borrowed from a restaurant keeper an old battered "top" hat, inherited from a deceased uncle. During the festivities, the wearer, in attempting to adjust his wig, knocked off the hat, and to his astonishment it fell nine 100 franc notes (\$180). He hastened to put this unexpected bequest into the cafe keeper's hands.

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Persian Lamb Skins.

The trade in Persian lamb or astrakhan skins centers in Turkestan, and the traders of that country have the entire monopoly of it. They pasture the ewe lambs in immense flocks, and it has been found useless to try to acclimate these animals to any considerable change of climate. If they survive elsewhere, the skin undergoes degeneration and the fur consequently becomes less valuable.—Harper's Weekly.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children during the teething period.

Shibboleth.

Shibboleth, now taken as meaning the watchword or slogan of a particular sect or party, had its origin in the incident recorded in Judges 8:1-16, wherein the word shibboleth was used as a test by the Gileadites to detect their foes, the Ephraimites. The Ephraimites were unable to pronounce the combination sh, and when put to the test called the word "shibboleth," thus betraying their breed, and giving away their case.

Be thrifty on little things like bluing. Don't accept water for bluing. Ask for Red Cross Ball Blue, the extra good value blue.

Not to Be Driven Away.

A little city miss was visiting in the country and strayed out into the field one day where there were a few lambs. Exasperated by the incessant bleating of one of the lambs, she stamped her foot and said: "You can tell your ma-a and your pa-a and your family; I've got as much right here as you, and I'm going to stay—p' there!"—Delineator.

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## WOMAN SICK TWELVE YEARS

Wants Other Women to Know How She Was Finally Restored to Health.

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