

Poultry Department

MODERN INCUBATOR AND HOW TO USE IT

VERY NARROW MARGIN IN EGG PRODUCTION

By Thomas J. Keenan.

Although the modern incubator can be operated almost anywhere, yet to be most successful it should be located where the temperature is fairly normal. The best place to operate an incubator is often a perplexing question on the farm. A great many find the cellar to be the most suitable place, and it will answer the purpose of a vegetable warmer, without molding. A cold or badly ventilated cellar would, however, be poorly adapted for incubators. Ventilation is an important feature in several incubators. In use, artificial ventilation must be provided, in order that the machines may be furnished with clean, fresh air at all times. It is a common mistake to think that the position of the incubator is such that it will not come directly in the line of a draft nor where the rays of the sun can fall on it.

Against the clamor for cheaper eggs, which was so widespread until mild weather brought thousands of pullets into bearing recently, comes the accurate account of a small poultryman of the Atlantic slope, who writes in the *Atlantic Monthly* for January, 1932. He gives the average cost of his eggs per dozen for each month of 1932 and the average selling price per dozen for each month, which shows the average margin of profit for each month. He gives the average cost of his eggs per dozen for each month of 1932 and the average selling price per dozen for each month, which shows the average margin of profit for each month. In December, 1932, they cost 48 cents a dozen to produce and the selling price was but 40 cents. No doubt the margin of profit was but eight cents a dozen. In January, 1933, they cost 48 cents a dozen to produce and the selling price was but 40 cents. No doubt the margin of profit was but eight cents a dozen. The cheapest production was in April, when eggs cost 15 cents a dozen to produce, and were sold at 25 cents. The heaviest cost per dozen was in November, when they cost 50 cents and the selling price was 55, which was the highest monthly average

price this man received during the year. The average profit per dozen eggs was 15 cents. The average loss was 15 cents. The average profit and loss together, was five and a half-twentieth cents.

While this writer does not philosophize as far as possible on these figures, it is patent to poultrymen that the great advantage of this business is to the fact that the hens that were laying were carrying the feed bill for many that were in the molt and the pullets that had not begun to lay. The non-layers are as much a part of a flock as the layers, and they are just as much in service. They are inevitable. They must be paid for out of the egg-laid or the poultryman loses.

Average cost of producing a dozen

as the use of hot water enables the operator to fill it without danger of the gas expanding and spilling and so allows the machine to heat up more quickly. Next close up the doors and inspect the heating appliances and the regulator. The thermometer is a very important part of the machine, and must be tested for accuracy, or else compared with a second thermometer by placing both of them in tepid or lukewarm water. Care should be taken to see that the water is not too warm. Then test the thermometer by boiling water, as the average thermometer registers but 110 degrees Fahrenheit. Screw the thermostat nut down until the rod almost, but not quite, lifts the piston rod, for which the record was kept, was 28.7-12 cents.

Barred Orpingtons.

Barred Orpingtons have made their entrance upon the stage of poultrydom, the product of the breeding ingenuity of this country. They were first bred in Mass. Mr. Nicholson is one of the well-known breeders of Barred Plymouth Rocks of the east. The Orpingtons are a rapidly expanding breed, and give promise of embracing all the colors of the rainbow, except the blue, in the plumage of fowls. Besides the black, white and buff of the American standard, there are Jubilee Orpingtons resembling in marking the Partridge

bringing the thermometer will be lessened.

Do not put eggs in the incubator when it is first started. Run it for a few days to see that everything in part is in good working order. Read the directions which are furnished by the manufacturer, paragraph by paragraph, and then set the eggs in and at third time, and look carefully for points which may have escaped your notice on the first reading.

When the eggs are set on the machine for a few days and has become familiar with every detail of the management, the eggs may be placed in the machine and incubation started. Do not touch the regulator when you find the temperature dropping, because when the eggs are warmed through it will take time to get it back to normal.

From the second to the nineteenth day, the eggs should be removed from

the machine and placed in a box, lined with clean, dry, soft paper, and covered with a cloth, and placed in a cool, dry place, where the eggs will remain until the time for hatching.

What Causes Roup.

It is a noted fact that where roup has become epidemic among fowls they were crowded in highly ventilated houses, where the weather was very cold and these houses allowed to remain closed all the next day. This creates a miasma which, when the dampness and the house becomes vault.

The Cornish Breed.

The interest that is beginning to be manifested in English Cornish throughout the east savors of an impending boom in this sturdy and utilitarian breed. In

the incubator and turned over every 12 hours. The eggs should be interchanged at each turning so that the eggs in the middle of the egg chamber should be moved to the outside, so that any variation in the temperature may be equally distributed to all the eggs. When turning the eggs, care must be taken that the hands are free from all greasy substances, as they will clog the pores of the egg and affect its hatchability. Although much has been said and written on the subject of temperature in a domestic incubator, poultry manufacturers do not agree on the proper position of the thermometer in the incubator or the proper temperature at which to start the eggs. These are the only points on which the government authorities concede that the regulations are correct. Inquiries are reported to the multiplying regarding the owners of good stock.

POULTRY

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Best pullets for sale. Also fine pen of White Wyandotte

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To Increase Egg Production.
German authorities are laying stress upon a preparation for increasing the egg production of their hens more than 50 per cent. The preparation consists of a mixture of mustard and pepper and is to be fed the hens daily in the proportion of one teaspoonful to six hens, according to reports of poultrymen in this country. The use of mustard and pepper does not give the best results and is not recommended.

title and infertile eggs takes place on the farm. The basic factors responsible for this condition are the hazardous methods of poultry management on the farm.

BLACK Orpingtons for sale; winter layers: Tabor 462.

S. C. CAMPBELL, Burr, \$1.50 per egg. H. Phillips, 1015 1/2 Leas, O. SINGLE Combed Buff Orpington cockerels, 1191 Michigan Ave.

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