

Care Of Baby Chicks

By C. C. GAMBILL

"I am asked almost every day, 'How shall I raise my baby chicks?' or 'Do you have any literature on how to care for baby chicks?' Most of the books I have read on how to grow chicks, especially directions put out by medicine companies, are not practical for our method of growing chicks and therefore are misleading.

In dealing with this subject I shall only touch on a few of the most common problems that the ordinary poultryman should understand.

Several days before your chicks arrive thoroughly clean your brooder house; begin at top and brush down all dust, dirt and filth; sweep the floor and use a hoe to scrape off any old droppings that the broom won't dislodge. After you have swept out your house clean, wash the floor and sidewalls with a solution of Red Devil Lye and boiling water, 1 lb. lye to 15 gallons water. After the floor has been scrubbed spray the entire house with some good disinfectant. Clean the walk and steps to the brooder house, and put an old tow sack wet with spent motor oil and kerosene on outside the door; wipe your shoes on this each time before entering house.

After your house has dried out you will next put down 3 inches of litter on the floor; there are several different types of litter, anyone of which can be used satisfactorily; peat moss is perhaps best, but crushed corn cobs, dry shavings (white pine preferred) lespedesia or alfalfa hay, peanut hulls—any of the above make satisfactory litter. Cut up wheat straw makes good litter but there is danger of its having mould that might cause the chicks serious trouble.

After you have put down your litter spread over the top of it a coat of old newspapers, or at least enough for all the chicks to eat off of; it is better to cover the entire floor; this prevents the chicks from eating the litter on the floor. If the chicks are very hungry when first set out of the boxes they will eat the first thing they come in contact with.

Next, build a fire. If you use an ordinary wood burning coal or oil brooder, familiarize yourself with how to regulate it. Place a thermometer at the out edge of the hoverer 3 inches from the floor and regulate the temperature to 95 degrees the first week. Cut down 5 degrees each week.

If you use a furnace for heat keep the heat same as with hoverer, 95 degrees at the place where the chicks bed down for the night. If you use an ordinary brooder with a hoverer it is best to enclose it at a distance of a few feet from hoverer so that the chicks won't get away from hoverer for first few days.

Next go over your equipment. If you are using old equipment scald it thoroughly and let it dry. You will need 3 Mason Jar fountains to each 100 chicks. You will need 1 inch of feeding space to each chick. This is sufficient for the first two weeks; at that time increase feeding space to 2 inches for each chick and replace the jar fountains with large fountains, 2 gallons or larger, and be sure to have plenty of them.

Examine carefully the room ventilation to see that there are no drafts, that the room temperature is correct, that feed and water has been placed in lightest places in the house.

Your careful preparation of your house and equipment before the chicks arrive will play an important part as to the number of chicks you raise.

"How many chicks should I put in a house of a given floor space?" Not over two to the square foot of floor space; a house 12x12—144 square feet, should not have over 275 chicks and 250 would be better. Crowding and lack of feeding space is one of the contributing causes of failure in raising baby chicks.

"What age should the chicks be at first feeding?" From 12 to 72 hours old, about 48 hours preferred.

"How much feed will be required to grow a chick to broiler size (about 12 weeks old)?" About 10 pounds.

"What shall I put in the drinking water?" If the chicks are normal, healthy chicks they will not need anything in drinking water; if some of the chicks develop bowel trouble it may be necessary to use some kind of a chick tablet to check diarrhoea. Remember that nothing will take the place of sanitation. Hot water is cheap; use plenty of it and thoroughly scald your drinking vessels each day, and above all keep your house and litter dry. Don't fill your fountains inside the house; take them outside and be careful not to spill water in taking them out and in. Germs multiply rapidly where there is moisture. Keep house bone dry. Each week spray house good and put down a light scatter of clean litter. Clean the house as often as it is dirty.

Remember that a chick will not thrive in filth, and that rigid sanitation is the watchword of the successful poultry raiser.

"What shall I feed my chicks on the first feed?" We believe the safest thing to feed a baby chick on the first three days is baby chick scratch. When you take chicks from boxes put them down on papers and scatter a light feed of high grade baby chick scratch made from yellow corn and wheat; give the chicks what they will readily eat the first three days; gradually change to chick starter; be sure it has buttermilk and cod liver oil.

Keep in mind that a chick will not do well when it is uncomfortable; the first three or four days are the critical time and you should see to it that your brooder maintains as near as possible the same temperature day and night.

If you let your chicks chill or overheat you will likely have trouble with them throughout their growing period. If you have trouble with your chicks, if they are not doing well or are sick, call your hatcheryman; he will help you correct the trouble.

"What shall I feed my chicks after they are started and begin to grow?" If you are raising broilers, they will probably make more pounds if fed on starter the first six weeks and then change to grower and not feed any scratch after the first three days.

If you are raising pullets give them a ration of about half scratch and one-half mash. Give plenty of good clean grit and oyster shells. If possible let the pullets have free range, with plenty of grass, or other tender green feed. If you have plenty of Blue Grass you need not worry about your green feed any season of the year.

If you do not have suitable grass for your pullets or hens, wheat, barley and oats, 1-3 each, make a good green feed. Sow at the rate of 3 bushels to the acre.

There are many diseases that young chicks are subject to, but coccidiosis is the most common and the most destructive. Chicks may take it at any age from one week old up to 16 weeks, but the most common age of attack is from 3 to 6 weeks. There are several forms of this disease but only two are common here—the bloody kind is easily noticed as blood passes freely from the chick and unless treatment is given immediately the chicks will die rapidly; the other type is not so easily diagnosed. The chick becomes listless, eats very little, sits around, and the feathers have a rough, ruffled appearance. The droppings are usually white and ropy, sometimes foamy yellow. At the first symptoms of the disease, take all feed away from them and give them Epsom salts at the rate of one tablespoonful to a gallon of water, and in the meantime go to your hatcheryman and get medicine. Clean the house as often as every other day and clean up premises. Don't try giving home remedies, such as baking soda, vinegar, raw buttermilk, etc. Sometimes these remedies work but too often they fail. Chicks are chilly with this disease; give them heat if they appear to need it, even though the weather is warm.

Notes On Second Apple Cover Spray

By C. E. VanDeman, in charge of Apple Research Laboratory. In many apple orchards worms have already hatched and entered the young apples. Due to the unusually hot dry weather during April the codling moths have laid their eggs earlier and in greater numbers this season than during the past four or five years.

The young apples are growing very fast this spring and this means that they outgrow the protective coating of spray within a week or ten days. In the earlier orchards of the Brushy mountains, it will soon be time for growers to apply the second cover spray. This should be put on about ten days after the previous spray. Materials to use are 3 pounds of arsenate of lead and Bordeaux mixture 2-6-100 (2 lbs. of blue-

stone and 6 pounds of hydrated lime to 100 gallons of water). The insides and tops of apple trees should be sprayed with extra thoroughness in order to kill the worms when they start to eat their way into the fruit. Apple growers might well adopt this motto: "Let's keep 'em covered."

—BUY WAR BONDS—
Ads. get attention—and results.

WITH THE CHURCHES

Sunday Services At First Baptist Church
At the morning worship service in the First Baptist church this Sunday, the pastor will speak on the subject, "Steadfast Faith and Service". The service begins at eleven o'clock.
"The Ways We Pray" will be the sermon subject at the 8 p. m. worship service.
Sunday school convenes on Sunday morning at 9:45 o'clock, and the Training Union meets at the church at 7 p. m.
The public is given a cordial invitation to attend the services.

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Rev. B. M. LACEY, Rector
Church School and Bible class every Sunday—Mr. H. H. Moorehouse, superintendent.
Vesper Services 1st and 3rd Sundays at 4 p. m.
Celebration of Holy Communion on 5th Sundays at 9 a. m.
Woman's Auxiliary meets 1st Tuesdays, each month, at 3:30.

Interesting Items Summit Vicinity

A very nice Mother's Day program was carried out in the Sunday School at Yellow Hill Baptist church, Sunday. Those taking part in the program were: Misses Inez Phillips, Pauline Phillips, Pansy Woodie, Muriel Michael, and Allene Beshears. The choir sang songs about "Mother."

Mrs. Carr Church and little daughter, Lorraine, visited her parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Watson, Sunday.

Mrs. Mary Spencer and two sons, who reside in Virginia, visited Mrs. Spencer's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Esley Beshears Sunday.

Preaching services were conducted at Yellow Hill Baptist church Sunday afternoon, by Rev. Ed Hayes, pastor of Stony Hill Baptist church. Talks were also made by Rev. Mr. Blevins, who came with Mr. Hayes, and Rev. John W. Church, of this community.

Guests in the home of Mr. N. C. Michael, Sunday, were: Mrs. Guy Phillips and children, Emagene and Madeline, Mr. and Mrs. Coy Church, nephew, Edwin Church, Mr. Atris Greene and daughter, Wilma Dean, Mr. Cleve Hamby, and Mr. Aldren Greene. Mrs. Phillips is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Mikael.

Mrs. Atris Greene and son, Curtis, visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Lee J. Church, and other relatives Sunday.

A daughter was born to Mr. and Mrs. Pressley Church Saturday morning of last week. Both mother and baby are getting along nicely.

CARD OF THANKS

We use this means to express our appreciation to friends and neighbors for their kindness and sympathy during the illness, death and funeral of our dear wife and mother.

CHARLIE WALKER AND CHILDREN.

At Fort Bragg, North Carolina, the climate is so mild that the khaki summer uniform is worn almost as many months of the year as the wool winter uniform.

LARGE CLASS—42 Graduate At Mount Pleasant

The graduation exercises for the Mount Pleasant High School were conducted in the school auditorium on Friday night, May 1st. Members of the class presented a very beautiful and impressive play entitled "Rainbow Trail". In the play interesting and amusing incidents of the history of the class while in high school were brought out. In the last scene were presented members of the class playing their roles in life as they pictured themselves ten years after graduation from high school.

When the play ended and while members of the graduating class were changing costumes, awards

were presented to some of the members of the student body. The medals for perfect attendance were presented by Principal P. W. Greer to the following students: 11-year medal to Dorothy Triplett, Louise Woods, and Alida Barnett; 7-year medals to Selma Parsons, Virginia Miller, Inez Harris, Iris Church, and Edna Church.

Fred Smith, a member of the high school faculty, presented medals as follows: to the best all-around student, Ralph Foster; to the best boy athlete, Virginia Church; to the best boy athlete, Grover McNeill; to the best in scholarship, Moselle Medice; to the best in citizenship, Maxine Huffman; to the one making the most progress in Commercial Training, Muriel Michael.

As the final number on the evening's program, Principal P. W. Greer awarded diplomas to for-

ty-two graduates. The two unusually large graduating classes for Mount Pleasant High School.

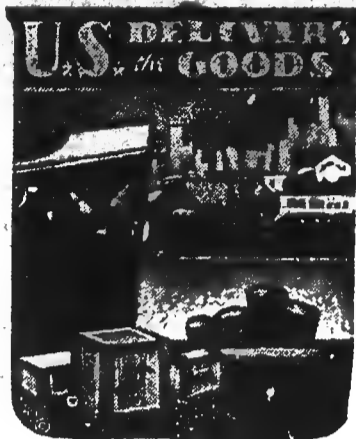
Hayes, Dougherty Damascus Speakers

James Johnson J. Hayes, of Wilkesboro, and Dr. B. E. Dougherty, president of A.S.T.C., Boone, will speak at Damascus Baptist church Sunday, May 17, from 9 a. m. The Damascus church club will render music. The public is cordially invited to attend.

Correction

In the report of court proceedings in this newspaper last week it was stated that Attorney Ralph Davis had been named referee in the case of Jenkins Hardware company versus North Wilkesboro. The case is Jenkins Hardware company versus the town of Wilkesboro.

POULTRY and the WAR



We're all-out to win this war—and Poultry will do it's part. Our armies as well as those of our allies must be fed. We, our poultrymen, are doing our part—hatching healthy chicks—manufacturing poultry feeds and remedies. May we serve you?

BUY U. S. WAR BONDS AND STAMPS

WILKES HATCHERY

"WILKES COUNTY'S OLDEST HATCHERY"

C. C. Gambill, Owner

Tenth Street

North Wilkesboro, N. C.



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