POULTRY

PREVENT SPREAD OF DISEASE OF CHICKS

The method of spread or transmission of white diarrhea is well known. That method is this: Chicks that survive the white diarrhea, contain the organisms in their bodies and a certain percentage of the eggs laid by that hen when grown are infected before hatching. The chicks come out of the shell with the disease and immediately show symptoms of white diarrhea and this spreads through their first four days of life to all the other chicks in the flock. During the first four days of life, if one chick comes out of the batch infected, others of that particular batch will become infected.

Prevention consists in hatching chicks from eggs free from infection. If your chicks get the disease, treatment is practically useless. Attention would be better given to prevention than to treatment. Kill all noticeably diseased. Remove all free from disease away from infected premises.

The only satisfactory method of determining whether a hen is infected is by means of blood test. Draw a small vial of blood from each hen that is to be bred from. The college is testing blood free of charge at the present time and will soon have a bulletin available explaining this method.

The proper time to test for white diarrhea is in the fall after culling. Test all hens you propose to keep over for breeding purposes. One test may not eliminate all disease. Test at least every year, or every six months, until you know they are free. Do not add to your flock any bird you do not know to be free from this disease.

All may soon be forced to test as people are going to stop buying indiscriminately from hatcheries or breeders whose eggs come from unknown, untested stock. They will buy from the hatchery that tests the hens that lay the eggs. The blood test is the only means at all satisfactory for the elimination of white diarrhea, as it eliminates the hen that lays the eggs that are infected.—Dr. H. E. Newsom, Pathologist, Colorado Experiment Station.

Convenient Nests Easy to Keep in Good Order

Good nests are easy to clean and easy to get at when collecting eggs. They are most convenient to reach when located under the dropping boards or on the side walls. Unless the dropping boards are at least four feet from the floor, the nests should not be under them.

There should be one nest for every four birds in the pen. A box 12 by 12 inches is the most suitable size for the average bird. A 1 by 4-inch piece placed about four inches in front of the nests will give the hen a place to step from into the nest. By hinging this strip it can be used to close the nests against pullets in the fall and the broody hens in the spring.

The New Jersey experiment station ranks nesting materials in the following order: hay, shavings, sawdust and straw. To make cleaning easy, they suggest building nests in sections 12 by 12 by 16 inches, with a strip in front of 1 by 4-inch material to hold in the nest filler and a similar strip for the back of the nests. This sets on a platform the width of the nests and as long as the row of nests is to be. The nests are covered with a top of matched lumber which answers for the platform for the second tier of nests. When it is desired to clean the nests, they are simply pulled off the platform and all the nest material falls to the floor. These nests can be used either under the dropping boards or on the side walls.

Chicken Lice Destroyed by Dipping in Solution

Chicken lice can be easily destroyed by dipping the birds in a solution of sodium fluorid and water. Five ounces of sodium fluorid dissolved in a tub containing five gallons of water will be sufficient to treat 100 adult birds or twice that number of chickens ten to twelve weeks old. Every bird on the place should be drenched in this solution to entirely eliminate poultry lice for the next few months. Select a warm day and dip the birds early in the forenoon.

Meat in Growing Mash

Do not feed over 10 per cent meat in the growing mash, as a high protein ration will mature the pullet instead of developing growth. Thirty-five pounds of cornmeal, 25 pounds bran, 25 pounds middlings, 10 pounds meat scrap and 5 pounds bone meal is suggested. Milk may replace the meat, but do not leave out the bone meal, particularly in this case.

Remedy for Scaly Leg

Scaly leg is a common summer disease among poultry. It is caused by a small parasite that burrows into the scales of the bird's leg causing them to protrude. One good way to cure it is to fill an empty fruit can with coal oil and keep the legs of the bird immersed in this for a few minutes. If this is done twice a week for a month it will usually kill the parasites, but it is well to supplement this treatment by using lard as an ointment for the legs



RECORD DISASTER YEAR KEPT RED CROSS BUSY

In 192 Places in United States Its Relief Operations Cost $737,603.

One hundred and ninety-two disasters resulting in 735 deaths and injury to 1,932 persons, rendering nearly 44,000 homeless and causing property losses estimated at more than $44,750,000, established a new record in the United States in the year ended last June 30, according to reports of the American Red Cross. In all of these disasters immediately relief activity was applied by the Red Cross, which expended $737,603.37 through the national organization and the local Chapters in assisting stricken communities.

As the nation's chief relief agency whose service covers over 43 years, the Red Cross is expected to be on duty almost as soon as disaster strikes any locality. This trust and confidence is amply justified by the increasing equipment of the Red Cross, which recently organized a mobile disaster unit of experienced workers ready in all parts of the country to respond on the instant to a call for active duty. This unit is capable of operating in several disaster areas under one general direction, and recently was at work in seven communities in five states at the same time.

Ability, alertness and increasing skill of volunteer workers in more than 3,500 Chapters are reasons for the preparedness of Red Cross for disaster operations, be the call for a disturbance in a restricted local area or for millions in relief funds for a staggering catastrophe such as the earthquake in Japan.

The Red Cross, however, is far from being self-satisfied, for the organization is giving the most serious consideration to measures for preventing disasters. Its relief administration and rehabilitation policies have won for it nation-wide regard. That this important work can always measure up to every demand needs the continued support of the American people through Red Cross membership. The annual enrollment will begin Armistice Day, November 11, and every American is urged to join or renew membership in the Red Cross.

Help yourself by helping others with your dollar Red Cross membership. The dividend in good works is guaranteed.



JUNIOR AMERICAN RED CROSS ARMY 5,596,663

Children of 29,942 Schools Now Enrolled in Movement of Service to Humanity.

The American Junior Red Cross, which was organized as a children's auxiliary during war-times especially to help the young refugees in Europe, and to exemplify in peace-time the Red Cross ideal of service, has now a membership of 5,596,663 in the schools of the United States and the insular possessions.

This Junior movement gives opportunity for the children to share in Red Cross effort parallel to that of the parent organization. Juniors are therefore identified in varying degree with the health services, disaster relief work, salvage and other suitable activities of value to the operations of the Red Cross.

It is a valiant host marching on under its "I Serve" banner in the cause of happier childhood everywhere and particularly wherever the American flag flies. The enrollment embraces 29,942 schools and 147,486 school rooms, a gain over 1923 of 5,655 schools and 22,414 school rooms. The year's gain in membership was 769,402 children, or nearly 80,000 for each month of the school year.

The educational and social values of the Junior Red Cross movement is thus evidencing the firm and cordial endorsement of school authorities. The government has added the weight of recognition by extending the Junior Red Cross in the schools for American Indian children. The American Red Cross is also planning to develop the Junior program in 600 rural schools in isolated sections.

There is no abatement of the exchange of correspondence between schools in the United States and schools in the insular possessions and foreign lands. During the year the Junior Red Cross in part supported operations in twelve European countries. It is a potent influence for the cultivation of international good will and its example has been the means of stimulating the formation of Junior Red Cross societies in more than thirty countries.

RED CROSS RAISES $10,000,000 IN 21 DAYS FOR RELIEF

Terrible catastrophes, such as the Japanese earthquake, prove the wisdom of the people in maintaining the American Red Cross as their national and international relief agency. The readiness of the Red Cross for duty in the greatest of emergencies was also proved by test.

The record shows: Sept. 3, President Coolidge assigns the duty of raising $5,000,000 to the American Red Cross; Sept. 4, Red Cross Chapters in over 3,500 communities given fund allotments; Sept. 12, fund totals $5,563,000; Sept. 17, fund nearly $8,000,000 and President announces formal closing of campaign; Sept. 27, fund passes $10,000,000 mark.

In 21 business days the Red Cross doubly performed the duty entrusted to it—all the while keeping a steady flow of relief supplies going out from many Pacific ports to the stricken areas in Japan. Thus was the confidence of the American people in their Red Cross justified and the wisdom of Red Cross preparedness to cope with an unprecedented relief emergency confirmed.

FIVE LUMPS OF SUGAR

By ALBERT W. TOLMAN

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IT WAS raining that tropic noon on the northern horizon up toward Mindoro, as if misty fingers were sponging the color from the fringe of the copper sky. The five castaways in the typhoon-battered dinghy looked at the bronze splotch thirstily, picturing heaven beyond those low clouds hovering vaporously and benignantly over the unseen land where men had food to eat and water to drink and trees to shade them from the sun.

Ah Sing, the Malay steward, was busy with turned back in the bow; the four whites gave him no heed. Soon he faced them, a small sack in his hand, his black eyes glittering snakily under his low yellow forehead.

"It is better that one should die than five. Meat and drink are ours, if we will. In my country we gamble with lumps of sugar, that man winning or losing on whose lump a fly shall first alight. It is a fair game, even though used by dogs like myself, unworthy to lick up the crumbs from white men's tables."

His thin lips sneered venomously. His eyes shot glances of baleful fire. From the sack he shook into his flat palm five sugar cubes, the last of their dwindled rations.

"Let us play this game, each staking his life on the lump he chooses. Allah will send a fly, and the man on whose piece it first sets foot shall yield his body as food for the rest."

The whites shrank from him in disgust and horror, but the tempting Malay voice purred on:

"It is free and fair; no man shares, unless he risks; no man risks unless he wishes to share. His risk is one to four; his chances of sharing are four to one."

Dead silence brooded over the boat. The brains of the men were boiling in their skulls, their throats were parched, their blood was thick. For days no food or drink had passed their lips. They stared dully out across the pale blue sea. Behind the dinghy trailed a patient black fin, waiting, waiting.

Ah Sing's eyes gleamed furtively, as he watched them pondering. With a swift gesture he plucked a cube from his open palm.

"I will take the first."

He extended his lean hand to the others, his voice vibrant and masterful.

"Choose."

Cracked lips growling assent, they chose mechanically with averted faces. Ah Sing's steady fingers placed his lump on the thwart, and each white followed with him with tremulous hand, knowing that he might be sealing his own death warrant. They they waited, intently, hungrily, jealously, fearfully, fiercely, feeling their lives shrink to the compass of the brittle cubes they watched.

Out of nowhere appeared a fly, and alighted on the gunwale. Its wings were burnished, its body bottle green, its eyes like points of fire. To one of the five it was the angel of death, sent by Allah or the devil.

Abruptly it sprang into the air, and hung above the thwart with fanning wings. No one breathed. For a moment it hovered over the steward's lump, and his yellow face blanched ashen. Then it darted down upon the captain's.

The others turned sickly, but the Malay, uttering a cry of savage joy, drew his needle-pointed knife, and with teeth bared crouched for the spring on his chief. Suddenly the mate regained his voice.

"Seize that man!" croaked he; and a sailor wrapped his gaunt arms about Ah Sing, and held him, struggling and furious.

The mate picked up the steward's lump; on the thwart beneath lay a dark moist spot. He smelled the cube, then turned in wrath on the writhing Malay.

"This lump has been soaked in kerosene. No fly would alight on it, even if he were starving."

With cries of rage the others threw themselves on the traitor. But he flung them off, menacing with his keen blade, and went headlong overboard. The black fin astern slid up alongside and disappeared in a flurry of foam, leaving a slowly spreading stain of blood.

The four, breathing hard, questioned one another with their eyes. The mate answered for all:

"No; we'll die like white men."

He flung the lumps into the sea. The hours dragged by, silent, hot and leaden, each bringing nearer insensibility and death.

It was raining again at sunset up toward Mindoro, but the men in the dinghy did not heed it. A short, fat steamer, throwing black smoke, was wallowing toward them; and that was heaven enough.

Greater Than Solomon

According to Phoenician tradition, Solomon was not the wisest man who ever lived. The Phoenician claim is that Abdemon of Tyre was not only able to solve all the riddles proposed by Solomon but gave the latter problems which the king of Israel was unable to cope with. Solomon, so the story goes, had worsted Hiram, king of Tyre, in a battle forfeit. To vindicate the honor of his country, Abdeman entered the lists and won back all the money Hiram had lost, and a great deal more.

LIVE STOCK

ABORTION IN SWINE MAY BE CONTROLLED

The following suggestions for the management of a herd of swine in which infectious abortion has broken out are based upon practical experience. By putting them into practice it is believed the disease may be brought under control in the shortest possible time, according to the Wisconsin College of Agriculture.

1. Remove aborting sows at once from contact with other sows and gilts.

2. Collect and burn aborted pigs' afterbirths and all contaminated feed and litter.

3. Find out whether the abortions were caused by abortion germs by having blood samples tested to detect evidence of the disease.

4. Consider the herd infected if any of the blood samples are found to react to the test for abortion.

5. Divide the non-reacting sows into as small groups as possible.

6. Disinfect the hog houses by thoroughly saturating the floor, walls and troughs with a coal-tar disinfectant prepared and applied according to directions of the manufacturer of the product.

7. Sell for slaughter grade sows which abort as soon as their condition will permit, as such animals will scarcely pay for the trouble of treatment.

8. Postpone breeding sows that have aborted until they have passed at least two heat periods.

9. Keep a special boar for the aborting and infected sows. This, of course, is impractical except in large herds.

10. Provide a clean boar for all sows that show no evidence of infection.

11. Ask your veterinarian to secure vaccine from the college of agriculture to vaccinate all open sows and gilts that have not aborted, in order to prevent them from contracting the disease.

More Careful Study of Feeding Problem Needed

A litter of twelve pigs, six and six, on one sow is a heavy drain, so B. W. Fairbanks, live stock extension specialist, told a western slope farmer who showed him the pigs, which had been sired by a pure bred Duroc of excellent breeding. They should have been weaned late in June, but were still on the sow July 10. Starting them on grain before weaning was advised; a little corn, some shorts and plenty of buttermilk and pasture for exercise. Then after weaning feed a mixture of corn, 40 pounds, oats 30 pounds and middlings 30 pounds. This should be hand-fed until the pigs get up to 150 pounds. After that a self-feeder may be used.

Another litter of eight, from a pure bred sire, was looked over. Here the problem was of another sort. These pigs had evidently been weaned too early, at seven weeks. They should have been left with the sow at least another week. They were being fed middlings and skim milk and they weighed only half a ton, when they should have been well beyond that point in order to stand any show for a ton-litter contest prize. Here the trouble was underfeeding.

"The ton-litter contest emphasizes the need for more careful study of the feeding problem," says Mr. Fairbanks. —Extension Service, Colorado Agricultural College.

Ventilation for Hogs

The average hog house has doors along the side and a cupola at the top which is supposed to take care of any necessary ventilation. Cold air coming in at the doors strikes the hogs direct and continues to pass over them in a current frow door to ventilator. When the doors are shut there is no intake of fresh air, steam collects, and when the hogs go out on the feed floor they very easily take cold.

Hogs Avoid Flu

It is a striking fact that hogs following steers and that sheep in open sheds are seldom if ever affected by swine "flu." Inquiries come in asking why the disease does not spread to other herds which are just across the fence. In nine cases out of ten the herd not affected is being housed in open sheds with steers or else they are in properly ventilated houses which have plenty of bedding.

Housing Live Stock

Three classes of live stock which need to be housed with special care in the Northwest states are the young pigs, young calves and the milk cow. A good stock barn should be dry, reasonably warm with a uniform temperature, well lighted, well ventilated, and sanitary.

Importance of Boar

It is important to keep in mind the fact that the boar is just as important as the sow, for the brood sow can only farrow a certain number of pigs during a year, or life, while the boar will probably sire hundreds. Especially is this true in a large herd and the condition in which the boar is kept, especially during the breeding season, will have a very important bearing on any breeder's success in the production of pork or breeding swine.

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