

laden with dew in the morning. When the hen is confined in the coop the chickens can be allowed their liberty. They will thus be encouraged to take exercise.

When the chickens have been out of the shell for thirty-six hours give them stale bread soaked in milk and squeezed dry, occasionally providing them with rice that has been boiled in milk. Oatmeal, broken wheat, barley-meal, and maize-meal may also be given. The food must be mixed to a dry consistency. It is a mistake to force the young ones to eat. The hen knows better than you in this matter. Food should be supplied frequently, but in small quantities, during the first few days. When the chicks are four weeks old feed three times a day with broken grains. At this stage the birds will commence to wander if they have free range, and will generally only come home to the morning and evening meals. Clean water or milk should be given from the start, while an ample supply of grit is essential for both old and young stock. The young ones, as indeed the old, apparently find the green stuff they require better than can be supplied in an artificial manner. The less coddling turkeys receive the better—free range is imperative. When the red head is beginning to show the birds should be fed away from the homestead—this in order to induce them to take as much exercise as possible. Turkeys do not require houses to sleep in, low broad roosts outside, preferably in the shelter of trees, being all that is necessary.

POULTRY IN NEW ZEALAND.

By the courtesy of the Government Statistician, Mr. M. Fraser, the figures giving the number of poultry in the Dominion obtained at the late census are published herewith in advance of the public issue of the complete figures by the Registrar-General. The figures show that the poultry of the Dominion have increased during the past five years by over half a million head:—

Provincial District.	Geese.	Ducks.	Fowls.	Turkeys.	Other Poultry.	Total Poultry.
Auckland	5,044	107,177	783,363	40,103	2,295	937,982
Taranaki	3,014	21,332	158,450	6,750	429	189,975
Hawke's Bay	2,157	18,760	171,009	7,798	707	200,431
Wellington	10,406	65,684	504,090	17,025	690	597,895
Marlborough	1,941	5,583	64,846	2,413	58	74,841
Nelson	2,971	15,431	184,636	3,053	326	206,417
Westland	990	4,369	36,186	84	25	41,654
Canterbury	8,529	48,957	679,835	9,719	793	747,833
Otago—						
Otago portion	6,210	25,698	428,899	9,289	218	470,314
Southland portion	4,049	16,172	202,731	1,650	13	224,615
Totals, 1911	45,311	329,163	3,214,045	97,884	5,554	3,691,957
Totals, 1906	44,300	281,999	2,784,269	77,101	3,935	3,191,604