

death. Where these outward symptoms are present it may generally be taken for granted that the birds are affected with tuberculosis. As is well known, this is a contagious disease caused by the micro-organism tubercle bacillus. It is sometimes known as "consumption," and another name for it is "spotty liver," owing to the fact that this organ is frequently affected, and the disease can easily be seen on post-mortem examination—the liver presenting a spotted appearance. The spots, which are white or yellow in colour, vary in size from a pin's head to a large pea. In some cases the liver may be greatly enlarged, even to twice its normal size. The symptoms generally shown are a listless appearance and a gradual wasting, the latter condition being especially seen in the shrinking of the muscles of the breast, leaving the breast-bone practically devoid of flesh and standing out as a sharp ridge. The wings and tail droop, and the face and wattles become pale and flaccid. Towards the later stages of the disease a yellow or greenish diarrhoea is frequently present, accompanied by lameness, generally on the right leg. In some cases the disease runs a rapid course, and the fowl may die in a few days from the first appearance of the symptoms, while in others the bird may linger for weeks and even months, becoming more emaciated as the disease progresses.

Tuberculosis is one of the most serious diseases affecting poultry, as, in addition to its fatal nature, it can be so easily conveyed from one bird to another. The droppings of a diseased bird contain enormous numbers of tubercle bacilli, and it is easy to understand how food, &c., may become contaminated and a healthy bird become infected. There is no cure for this disease, and the only way of checking it is to prevent it. The first essential in its prevention is to breed birds with the desired constitutional vigour, so that they may have the power of resistance should they come in contact with the infection. Once this disease makes its appearance, and the flock is not a large one, the quickest and best course is to kill off all the birds in the affected pen. Where the flock is a large one, and it is not practicable to destroy them all, drastic measures of suppression are most necessary. All suspicious cases should be isolated at once, and any showing definite symptoms should be killed and burnt. No sentiment should be allowed to enter into this matter. The healthy-looking birds should be at once removed to fresh quarters which have been thoroughly cleaned out and disinfected. The houses where the infected birds have been kept should be well cleaned out (all litter and loose material removed) and sprayed with a strong solution of sheep-dip, while the runs should also be turned up, heavily limed, sown down