

the side of the frame to keep them under. As a rule, after the second night the boards will not be needed. The corners of the house should be well rounded off with fine-mesh wire netting, so that in the event of the chickens crowding into them the ones at the back may obtain fresh air. The floor under the hover should be perfectly dry and well bedded down with thoroughly dry hay, straw, pine-needles, or chaff.

If once the chickens are allowed by improper management to huddle and become sweated it takes a long time for them to recover, apart from making them very susceptible to any passing ailment. It is next to useless taking every care of chickens up to this age and then placing them at such a disadvantage. A fact that should be borne in mind is that the heavy-laying pullet commences her business when about six months old, and to do this and prove a long-season layer she must be well cared for from the very shell.

To make sure of distinguishing different strains and ages the chicks should be marked in the web of the foot with a punch which is made for the purpose, and is obtainable for about 2s. 6d.

A BROODER TROUBLE.

Probably the most serious trouble which affects chickens after being removed from the heated brooder and when from six to eight weeks old is an inflammation of the veins. Its first symptom is shown in the hock-joints, which become green in colour. A gangrenous swelling follows. In a few days the wings become affected in a similar manner, and later the neck and head swell. As a general rule, when the trouble reaches this stage death is not far off. It is usually caused by overcrowding, damp quarters, and insufficient ventilation, while it is sometimes brought about by using damp bedding, which heats and brings on a sweated condition. Like most chicken troubles, there is no cure for this one. The remedy is merely a question of prevention, the chief essentials of which are avoidance of overcrowding, provision of ample ventilation under the hover, keeping the quarters clean and dry, and moving everything that tends to create a moist atmosphere.

TABLE POULTRY.

Those breeders who have hatched a large number of chicks this season will find it profitable to give the cockerels the very best of attention. At the present time the demand for high-class or even medium-quality table poultry is far from being met, and exceptionally high prices are ruling. There is probably a greater