

eggs are of good shape without any ridges, and that they are the correct colour for the breed. Do not, for instance, use White Leghorn eggs which are tinted or brown in colour. Select only eggs with a smooth textured shell. An egg which is thin in shell will allow more air to pass through than is desirable compared with the other eggs in the machine.

Turning the Eggs

Eggs should not be turned until the third day after setting, and then twice daily until the eighteenth day. Care should be taken during very cold weather not to have the eggs out of the machine at turning time longer than is absolutely necessary. Obviously, this precaution is not necessary where the incubator room temperature is at a reasonable level, and the best incubator rooms are those which are least affected in temperature by outside conditions.

Every care should be taken when turning during the first week to prevent the eggs from being jarred, as the embryo is very delicate and jarring may injure or kill this delicate organism.

Cooling the Eggs

As with all other directions in the handling of incubators, no hard and fast rules can be laid down on the length of time to cool eggs. For the first week very little cooling is required—usually the time it takes to turn the eggs is sufficient—and during the second week the time may be increased to 20 minutes, and the third week to approximately 30 minutes each day. These times apply only for one cooling each day, which should be done in the morning; in the evening the eggs merely require to be turned and placed back in the machine. These amounts of cooling, however, must only be taken as a guide, as the weather and the condition of the air-cell must always be taken into consideration.

Moisture and Ventilation

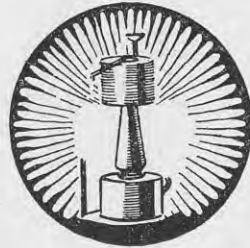
Only a competent man can work these two items to the best advantage, and experience is the only teacher. Usually, moisture should be kept in the moisture tray for the first five to seven days and then removed, and no more should be required until the machine is closed up for hatching on the eighteenth day. If it is found that the air-cell does not dry down fast enough, then it is advisable to reduce the amount of moisture supplied. Aim at increasing the air-cell until it occupies fully one-quarter of the egg at the eighteenth day. Observation, plus common sense, tells the poultryman the best method of working his machine having regard to local conditions.

Hatching

On no account must the incubator be opened after it is closed for hatching, as this will stop the rest of the chicks from coming out. Some people dislike seeing chicks lying on their backs half out of the egg and open the machine to help them. This is a very foolish policy, as the result will be a poorer hatch just for the sake of one or two chicks.

Temperature

The machine should be run empty for approximately one week to make sure that it is regulating correctly. The temperature of the machine when empty, with the thermometer on the tray, should be 100 degrees, and once the eggs are put in and have heated up, the thermometer should register 102 degrees. This should be kept constant for the first week and then in-



THIS STEADY FLAME MEANS LIFE!

The authoritative and informative article alongside reiterates that one of the greatest single factors in securing a first class hatch is the maintenance of steady unvarying warmth at the desired temperature in the incubator. To assure this, wise poultrymen use "Light of the Age" Kerosene, a tested and tried fuel with a world-wide reputation for reliability and even burning in incubators and brooders.

Read what Mr. T. E. Jarman, one of Australia's best-known authorities on poultry breeding, says about "Light of the Age" Kerosene. His exhaustive tests of "Light of the Age" were made in his mammoth 18,000 and 13,000 egg incubators at Nymbodia Poultry Farm, Carlingford, N.S.W. He says:—

"Throughout the twenty-one days' test there was a minimum of wick incrustation and a continued regularity of flame. This clearly demonstrated the superior burning qualities and greater margin of safety of 'Light of the Age' Kerosene."

Standardise on "Light of the Age" in YOUR incubators and brooders and take your hatching troubles off your mind.

"LIGHT OF THE AGE"

A Product of:—

CALTEX LIMITED

(Inc. N.S.W.)

Formerly the Texas Company (Australasia) Limited.



A CHANGE OF NAME ONLY!