

f) As to the problems of the influence of the external conditions: 1) on the banana 2) on the nematodes, and their common effect on the state of health of the banana plant, only the first has been investigated in Egypt. To it should be added also an exact investigation of the second problem: the study of the external condition and the oecological influence of the nematodes. This problem has until now been entirely neglected but its investigation is very necessary if we wish to find new methods for controlling this dangerous parasite.

g) If the economical calculation of laying out banana plantations for a limited period of 3—4 years will be considered feasible, there will be a possibility of continuing the cultivation of bananas in certain parts of the country (the Jordan valley and coastal plain), but in my opinion the laying out of new banana plantations should be limited as much as possible until the conditions of growth and the general hygiene of the banana plants in this country will be established by accurate and extensive experiments.

### **Decay of Onions and its Control.**

by S. Katzprowsky.

1. The annual damage done to onions through decay in storage is great; at times destroying the entire crop.
2. The yearly import of onions and garlic amounts to L.E. 14,000.
3. Moist decay caused by bacteria destroys stored onions.
4. Investigations were made to determine the causes influencing the percentage of decay in different places and in different years.
5. Flowering, stepping and bruising are determining factors in the percentage of decay in storehouses.
6. Good seeds are to be used instead of sets in order to avoid flowering multiple fruit, and thick necks.
7. Plants should be grown in seedbeds and transferred to the field in rainy days. Description of planting methods that reduces field work is given.

8. Care must be taken not to bruise the onion during cultivations. The method of stepping should be discarded.

9. Special care must be taken during harvesting and drying. Instead of sacks specially constructed crates should be used.

10. Mole and insect control which damage the onion is an important preventative measure.

11. Only ripe onions should be stored.

12. When the onions are harvested not too many coloured scales should be removed.

13. All bruised, thick necked, double and weak onions should be removed before storing.

14. Description of a tray for storing onions arrangement of the trays, and protection from moist air are given.

### **Poultry-Raising in Palestine in 1926—1927.**

by **M. Levin,**

Instructor in Poultry-Raising.

During this year poultry-raising had increased in all the agricultural settlements. The coops were constructed according to our instructions. In the settlements of the Emek there were at the beginning of the year 16,000 fowls, mostly hens. Of other kinds: ducks, geese and turkeys there were less than 10%. During the year 54,000 chickens were hatched and until the 1<sup>st</sup> of October there were about 22,000 adult fowls. In Judea and Samaria there were at the beginning of the year 11,000 and 16,000—20,000 chickens were hatched during the year.

The Breeds:

1) White Leghorn — mostly the result of crossing the Leghorn with the native breeds.

2) Rhode Island Red, also the result of crossing with local poultry.

3) Mixed—mostly native fowls crossed with various foreign breeds.

4) In some places there can be seen also a small number of Sussex (bright-coloured) and white Orpingtons.

The last two breeds have been obtained from the fowls which the Government had imported to Acre, from eggs and