

steadily gained in popularity until to day it stands at the head as one of the best if not indeed the *very best* fowl we have. There certainly is no breed that will lay as many eggs as the Langshan and none that can equal it as a table fowl. They are perfectly hardy, will stand any amount of cold and will still keep up the supply of eggs. The chicks are hardy are not subject to diseases and mature very early. I have had Langshan pullets lay at less than four months old; they make excellent mothers but are not persistent setters; are good foragers, and in my opinion they are the handsomest fowl in the whole list. As I have before stated the Langshan has been mixed up with the Black Cochins, and it is a fact that is to be regretted, that there are to-day many breeders who offer this "mixed" stock for sale as pure Langshan stock. Many honest breeders do this through ignorance of what a pure Langshan should be. They bought it for the pure article, and sell it for such, and breeders are not so much to blame for not being able to see the difference between the pure and the impure.

When judges (*i. e.*, men who call themselves such) will give prizes in our exhibitions to birds with yellow feet and skin, middle toe heavy feathered and Cochins build, as Langshans, and the same to birds with pink feet, outer toes scarcely feathered, white skin and a Langshan in every way, as Cochins, as I have seen done repeatedly, I believe that not over one setting of eggs in every twenty-four sold for Langshans are really pure, I have been to much expense in the past two years to satisfy myself on this point, and the result has led me to the above conclusion. I found breeders who were claiming to breed the pure "Croad" strain, to own and breed from nothing but a mongrel Cochins, and in many instances the breeder was perfectly honest in his belief of the purity of his birds, having, as he said, bought of some breeder who claimed his birds to be pure. It was this state of affairs that first suggested the idea of forming an American Langshan Club, and which, I am pleased to state, has done, and is still doing a grand work for the breed and for the breeders. Every breeder of pure Langshans in America should become a member of this club, for in helping that you are helping yourselves. Let me add just another word. I do not wish it to be understood from the above article that I consider the Langshan the only good fowl we have; far from it. There are many other breeds that have very good qualities, and with some stand even ahead of the lordly Langshan. There is no one breed that is adapted to all climates

and conditions—some might object to the color, others to the feathers on their legs, and so on, but for me the Langshan is the fowl. The pure Langshan fowl should be of a beautiful glossy black throughout, with a bottle-green lustre which is very hard to describe, but which, when seen in the sun, is almost dazzling in its brilliancy. The male bird should have rather small head for so large a bird, horn color, well curved and stout at the base; a bright red face and a dark hazel eye. The comb should be straight, evenly serrated, with no side sprigs; the neck should be well arched, with a full flowing hackle which reaches well down over the shoulder; the back short, wide, and rising from the middle thereof to the tail. He should be well supplied with an abundant saddle flowing well over the sides, breast should be full and well rounded body deep and thick, wings medium size folded close to the body, and the point tucked well up under the saddle. This is very essential, as it gives a wider look to the back. The tail must be large and well spread at the base with sickle long, and corresponding side sickles, the whole tail carried well up, but not so high as to be what is termed "squirrel," fluff full, legs medium length, well apart; thighs, strong, shanks, comparatively small, and feathered so as to cover the outer toe,—in color, a bluish black with a pink line down the outside under the feathers, and the toes should be long and slender—outer toe well feathered, none on other toes, bottoms of the feet and webs between the toes, pink. The standard weight for cocks is 10 pounds. Cockerels 8½ pounds.

The hen should resemble the male in color, except she will not have so brilliant a plumage. Comb should be small and straight. Back short with cushion rising well up to the tail, which should not be carried so high as in the males, but with feathers standing well above the cushion. Legs and toes of hen same in color and feathering as the male. The under color of both should be black or a very dark slate. Standard weight for hens, 8 pounds, pullets, 6½ pounds.

A. A. HALLADAY.

Bellows Falls, Vt.

The illustration is kindly loaned us by E. P. Kirby, of East Chatham, N. Y., one of the most prominent breeders of this excellent fowl. His stock has the unequalled record of never having been beaten in the show pen.

TO THE DEAF.—A person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies to NICHOLSON, 30 St. John St., Montreal.