

POULTRY.

(Under this heading, all questions relating to poultry will be answered.)

THE Washington Poultry Journal, of Seattle, for last month, contains a force attack on a prominent director of the Nanaimo Poultry Society. We expect the feathers will fly when the Nanaimo club issue their proposed poultry paper. The judging of Theo. Hewes at the last Seattle show was the primary cause of the row. We like to see a display of good healthy rivalry, but we think a poor policy and very detrimental to poultry interests for one society to try and build itself up at the expense of another.

We hear very discouraging reports from parties who received eggs from back east. One got two chicks from ten settings, another got none from two settings, another five from two settings, and so on. The best success we have had reported is eighteen from thirty eggs, but five of them took twenty-six days to hatch. It is not advisable to send early orders to the east, owing to the cold weather, the eggs are not generally fertile enough to stand the long journey. Sending away for eggs is a poor business at best, and if people must have imported stock, we would strongly advise them to get the birds.

The eggs that are to produce the prize-winning birds in the Leghorn classes at next winter's shows should be set during the coming three weeks. In mating the hens for the white variety, the breeder has a comparatively easy task, as he has merely to select birds with good head points, good station and pure white plumage. The Brown Leghorn breeder, however, has a far harder task, and as this breed is evidently the favorite in this city, we furnish a few hints for the guidance of the uninitiated. The standard calls for such unnaural color and markings in the shackle and saddle of the male that for years past there have been no proper specimens exhibited. Breeders found it an impossibility to produce good pullets and cockerels from the same mating, and it is only within the last two or three years that proper colored cockerels have been seen. These are bred from hens that are badly off color, being very dark in breast, with more or less black showing, the cushion being almost black with a distinct greenish sheen, and the neck hackle very densely striped with black. They should be mated with a cock as near standard as can be obtained. The neck hackle should be a rich red with a distinct black stripe down the centre of each feather, and the saddle should match the hackle.

To get exhibition pullets we need another pen. The hens should be the regular standard color, light salmon breasts with no black spots, hackle distinctly striped with black and cushion minutely pencilled, showing no black bands or splashes. The cock to mate is much lighter in color than a standard male. The striping is almost entirely wanting in the hackles, and he generally has a little brown or pluff. The above matings will produce respectively exhibition males and females, but the breeder must be careful not to mix the strains, or he will never be able to tell what his stock will breed.

A fine insect powder is made by mixing carbolic acid with powdered sulphur, taking care not to use enough acid to make the sulphur wet. Put this in the nests and sprinkle the chicks with it at night.

THE KENNEL.

HARRY WRIGHT has imported a pair of beautiful Italian greyhounds of the choicest breeding. The dog is full brother to the well-known Eastern winner Byron, and the bitch is a daughter of Byron. They are perfect models of grace and beauty and if they can stand our climate will no doubt induce further importations.

The St. Bernard puppy, Princess Victoria, has just recovered from a two months siege of distemper. At seven months old she weighs 91 pounds, and as she is now feeding well we expect to chronicle her 9 months weight at 140 pounds at least. The English champion, Princess Florence, weighed 169 pounds at 9 months.

It is not generally known that salt is an excellent preventative of distemper, and that dogs that have access to salt water rarely take the disease. Cough syrup is also a splendid thing to give the dog at the beginning as it clears the head and also destroys the germs in the dogs stomach.

The daily papers have lately contained several advertisements concerning stolen dogs. We hope the dog fanciers here are better protected than they are in Ontario, where it seems a man's only remedy is to steal his dog back, as is shown by the following from the *Kennel Gazette*: "A deputation consisting of Dr. McCully, and Messrs. David Kennedy, W. B. Fraser, and Joseph Morgan, and introduced by Mr. Tait, called upon the Ontario Government recently and asked that dogs be declared chattel property. They are chattels when imported, and the duty has to be paid, and when they commit depredations, but when stolen there is no redress, except a writ of replevin, which is nearly useless. They asked for a declaratory statute making dogs chattel property, so as to bring thieves under the Dominion criminal law. As Mr. Tait remarked, the dog is a chattel when it counts against the owner and he should have the benefit of it when his property is stolen. Sir Oliver Mowat replied that the case was new to him and that there seemed much force in what was said. The matter would be considered. Mr. Frank W. Stanton, of Quebec, late of Toronto, referring to this matter writes under date of March 22nd. "Your article in the *Gazette* of this month entitled 'Dogs as Chattels' has attracted wide spread attention, and I sincerely hope the movement will be kept up until such time as a law is passed making dogs chattels. In my own case, my Irish Terrier, Miss Stout C. H. O. 1638, has twice been stolen, and is 'out of sight' now, and although I have a fair idea of where she is, I cannot recover my own property unless I steal it. This is evidently a great mistake, and should be rectified legally at once."

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