

ly the same footing; while the breeding of the utility breeds of hens, and of ducks, geese, and turkeys, is an industry which every farmer in the country does to some extent participate in, and is to some extent also dependent upon for his living; an industry, too, which with proper encouragement might very easily become a hundred times of greater magnitude and importance than it now is.

Instead of public money being spent on these two distinct classes of objects in sums which are nearly equal, if any at all is spent for the encouragement of the breeding of fancy and ornamental fowls and birds it should not be more than one-tenth of what is spent for the encouragement of the breeding of fowls that are in universal use for the production of food products.

Moreover, in educational effort, that is, the dissemination of information with a view to the development of the poultry-keeping industry, which ought to constitute a large portion of the work of the associations, they have as yet accomplished but little. The reports issued from year to year have only during the last two or three years begun to contain any information other than lists of prize-winnings and the official minutes of meetings; and even in these latter years the improvement has, we doubt not, been wholly due to the fear of the loss of the Government grants, and not to an awakened public spirit in the members. The names which figure so conspicuously in the prize lists as those of successful breeders of fancy fowl are, with few exceptions, wholly absent from the reports as the contributors of information that might help to forward the poultry industries of the country.

The Government has treated these associations handsomely. Besides its annual grant of \$1,400, and the publishing of the annual reports, it contributed last year, to the larger of the two associations, the sum of \$500 for the purpose of providing the association with new coops.

What did the association do in return for this liberality? At the first subsequent meeting of its executive, in September of this year, it increased the number of ornamental classes to which prizes should be given by ten—magpies, lop-ear rabbits, turbits, buff Pekin bantams, game bantams, etc., etc., allotting prize money therefor to the amount of \$84. At the same time it showed the measure of its appreciation of the practical side of poultry-keeping by donating to the Provincial Fat Stock Show a grant of \$10 for the encouragement of the breeding of fowls for market purposes, as follows: for turkeys, \$3; geese, \$3; ducks, \$2; and hens, \$2.

Thinking people need only to have these facts

brought to their attention to be convinced at once that some change must be made. Some decided improvement must be shown in the policy which the associations adopt in regard to the encouragement of the breeding of utility fowls of all classes, and in regard to the education of the people in improved poultry methods, etc., or the Government will be taken sharply to task for its continuance of its grants to the associations.

An obvious beginning in the way of improvement is suggested by the recently proposed and now soon-to-be-accomplished reorganization of our dairy and creamery associations, by which there will be two butter and cheese associations for the entire province, one for eastern Ontario and one for western Ontario. Similarly, the two poultry associations of the province should be reorganized, so that they may be equal in scope and function, one of which should comprise the whole of the eastern part of the province, while the other should comprise the western part.

But, as in the case of the dairy associations it is proposed that, for purposes common to the whole province, there shall be a joint central executive board representing both east and west equally, so for the poultry associations there should be three officers taken from the eastern association and three officers taken from the western, and these together should form one joint central executive board, which should have full control of all poultry matters relating to the province as a whole.

And, just as it is proposed in the dairy reorganization, so should it also be in the proposed poultry associations, namely, that there shall be *one permanent secretary*, who shall be secretary for both the eastern and the western associations and for their boards, and also for the joint central executive board. This secretary should practically be the nominee of the Government, so long as the Government continues to aid the associations by grants of public money; but, of course, the nominee should be one that both associations could accept.

We refer our readers to the account of the proposed dairy reorganization, which appears on page 375, for arguments and illustrations why the plan should commend itself to the good sense of every man interested in the dairy industry in the province. And we feel sure that, on reading that account, our readers will see that a similar plan of reorganization will equally recommend itself to the good sense of all poultrymen in the province.

Were such a reorganization of the poultry associations accomplished, and should the new associations give to the utility fowls their due