

the fowls have access to it at all times. We must also not forget to supply her with lime of some sort to enable her to form the shell of the egg; absence of this is generally the cause of soft-shelled eggs being laid. Old mortar, broken fine, will supply all that is useful in this respect. A constant supply of pure, fresh water must be kept before the fowl, and should be so placed that they cannot scratch dirt into it or wet their wattles when drinking. Now, a few words in regard to the class of stock you keep. It will cost no more in buildings, feed, or time to keep a flock of standard-bred fowls than it does for the common barnyard scrubs, that we see on too many farms, besides the profit on the former is much greater. There should not be any need to have to tell intelligent people of the advantage in keeping standard-bred fowl that at maturity weigh eight and nine pounds, over the scrubs, that, at their best, will only weigh three or four pounds apiece. Besides, practical experience has proven beyond a doubt, that the egg yield from standard birds greatly exceeds that of mongrels. In order to get the best returns from our hens, we should cull out our flocks every fall, getting rid of all birds that have passed their second summer (for after this they cease to lay well), all immature pullets, and birds that have not got through their moulting, to replace which we should have a batch of early hatched and well matured pullets. We will also secure better results by dividing our flock and putting twenty-five or thirty birds in a pen, for hens lay better when in small flocks. Keep no male birds with the laying stock; they are a needless expense, and the hens do better without them.

Lastly, we must have cleanliness in our houses and stock, for, remember that it is much easier to keep lice away than it is to get rid of them after they have once made their appearance, and if your fowls once become infested with lice you need not expect to get many eggs from them. The houses should be cleaned out at least twice a week in winter, the perches and nest-boxes cleaned and coal-oiled, and a little fresh earth spread over the dropping-boards. The house should, if possible, be whitewashed about once a month, with a wash made of unslacked lime mixed with boiling water and about one ounce of crude carbolic acid to every pail of wash. If these details are

attended to we need have no fear on account of lice. Finally, in marketing our eggs observe a little care and attention and you will be well repaid for your trouble by the better prices and better customers you will obtain. Sort your eggs and pack eggs of one size and color by themselves. Do not place any dirty eggs with the clean ones, as dirty ones spoil the effect of a whole basket of nice clean ones. Sell no eggs as fresh that you cannot from your own knowledge absolutely guarantee as such. Be honest with your customers and your customers will be honest with you.

By working faithfully along such lines as I have endeavored to place before you, together with using a little common sense and forethought, I think we would not hear many complaints about hens being non-productive in winter.

BRANTFORD AND GALT.

MR. BUTTERFIELD TO JUDGE BRANTFORD'S WINTER SHOW - AN EFFORT BEING MADE TO FIT BOTH BRANTFORD AND GALT INTO ONE CIRCUIT WITHOUT CLASHING OF DATES.

WILL You please mention in REVIEW that we have secured the services of Mr. Sharp Butterfield for the next show in January.

I notice that Galt and our shows are down for the same week, but there are arrangements being made now so that the two shows will be in the same week; but Galt is likely to close on the Thursday in time enough for the birds to come that night to our show, which will begin Friday morning and continue till Monday or Tuesday night. So exhibitors from the Ontario will have a good week if they will come and see us both; and we hope Hamilton will follow in and make a complete circuit, which will save a great deal of express charges to exhibitors.

J. H. MINSHALL, Sec.

Brantford Poultry & Pet Stock Ass'n.