

In the Poultry Yard

Poultry at the Canadian National

The show of poultry at the Toronto Exhibition this season was larger and better in quality than in any previous year. All the coops were crowded, some having three and four birds in them. Through the centre aisle they were three tier deep, the upper tier being so very high that visitors could not see the birds to any advantage. Exhibitors made a lot of complaints about the treatment they received from the show management, but having better accommodation for their birds, after going to the trouble of sitting them for the show, which is no easy task at this season of the year. In sending birds to show like the Canadian National, the prizes are by no means the chief object to be attained. Exhibitors like to have the thousands of visitors look over their stock and judge for themselves as to their quality.

How often we see new exhibitors sending stock to a large show like Toronto where the entries number in their class from 100 to 200 and not winning a prize, never showing again, thinking their stock is very inferior, when often they are quite as good as the winners, but not in the pink of condition at the show. Never be discouraged, if at first you do not win try, try again. Every breeder knows that the Canadian National requires special efforts to get stock in prime condition. Young stock have to be hatched in January or February, when it is most difficult to raise them, and the old birds commence moulting about show time. After a person has succeeded in getting over these difficulties and sends his birds to the show he wishes to have them placed in suitable coops, not cramped up in small compartments, as many were at the National this year.

As in former years the utility classes were largest in numbers, the White Wyandottes coming first with 154 entries, and certainly made a grand exhibit. Nearly every bird was pure white, which made it very difficult for an inexperienced breeder to tell the difference between the ones with tickets on and those that did not have any. The winners were birds which conformed most to the true Wyandotte type, low set, blocky birds, many of them being very short on leg and almost as round as a ball. The chief exhibitors and winners were John S. Martin, Port Dover, and Mrs. W. D. Dawson, Davisville, the prizes being pretty well divided between them. The White Wyandotte Club gave special ribbons to their members who won prizes. The Buff Orpingtons were next to head the list in numbers, there being 138 birds. This variety has made wonderful progress in a short time. Only about eight years ago were they put on the lists, and we find many choice colored specimens on exhibition. The judge, Mr. Richard Oke, of London, paid special attention to the type as well as color. Many of the breeders of Orpingtons are losing sight of the Orpington type, getting birds with long backs and legs, more the shape of the Rocks than Orpingtons. Among the chief exhibitors in this class were J. W. Clark, Cainsville, winning first and second coops, sixth cockerel, and medal for best collection. Mr. R. Barnes, Toronto, winning first cockerel, first pullet, grand goose, and Mr. H. A. Hoffman, Ridgetown, won first hen, fifth cock, fourth cockerel. Mr. Webster, Whitby, won second hen, fourth

cock, on good low-set birds. Mr. S. Neates, Brantford, won third cock, and third cockerel. Mr. Floyd, of Toronto had a fine pullet, well matured, winning second. C. J. Daniels won second cockerel. Mr. P. E. Aird, of Montreal, had a big string up, and got his share, winning third pullet, fifth cockerel, third hen. The Humber Hill Poultry Farm had a large exhibit out.

The Black Orpingtons made a good showing this year with 71 birds. The chief exhibitors were Mr. Snider, of Niagara-on-the-Lake; C. J. Daniels and Humber Hill Farm, the prizes being divided among them. The White Orpingtons numbered 22. The exhibitors were Snider and Roberts, of Hamilton, and Humber Hill Farm. Mr. Snider, of Niagara-on-the-Lake, had on exhibition some Jubilee Orpingtons, Spangle Orpingtons and Buff Orpington Ducks, the first time shown in Toronto.

The Barred Rocks were out 101 strong. Some of the best specimens that were ever shown in Toronto were to be seen in the coops of Mr. Newton Cosh, Port Dover, Ont. He won first and second hen, first and second cockerel, first pullet. J. K. Millard, Dundas, won first cock on a beautiful colored, grand shaped bird. J. R. Boyce, London, won second and third coops of extra good quality. A new exhibitor from Waterloo, Mr. G. F. Holden, won second pullet and third hen. His stock were well up to the mark in shape and color. In Buff Rocks there were only 13 birds. Mr. R. Boyce, London, and J. A. Harrison, Crosshill, had the prizes between them. The White Rocks were out in good numbers, being 112 strong. The White Rock men had some American opposition in the person of S. M. McQuillande, of West Hartford, Conn. He did not forget to let the public know he was from the U. S., for on his coops could be seen flying the Stars and Stripes, although one of the most noted breeders in the U. S. He did not carry away all the prizes, for Mr. Laurie, Drumbo, won first hen, third cock; F. Berner, Toronto, won second hen, first cockerel and medal for best collection. P. Dill, Seaford, got second cock. J. C. Carroll, London, first cock. We welcome our American breeders at our shows, but want them to understand they cannot make a clean sweep from our breeders here.

The White Leghorns made a good showing, but not as large in numbers as last year, there being 94 this season. Among the chief exhibitors were Jas. McCormick, Brantford, winning first pullet, second cock, sixth cockerel. Mr. M. Palmer, Toronto, won first hen, second cockerel, fifth pullet. Geo. Ardagh, Toronto, won first cock; T. Rice, Whitby, first cockerel, fourth pullet, first hen. Brown Leghorns were few and strong. The chief exhibitors and winners were Geo. Henderson, Hamilton, getting the lion's share of prizes. Mr. F. W. Krowse, of Guelph, had some good birds, as also did T. Stroul, of Inwood.

Black Minorcas were 75 in number. The chief exhibitors were J. C. Minchall, Brantford, winning first cockerel, first, second, third pullets, second, third, fourth coops, second, third, fourth hens. H. Dunn, of Toronto, won first cock, first hen, sixth cockerel, sixth pullet. T. A. Faulds, London, won third cockerel, and fifth, sixth hens.

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The White Minorcas, as usual, were small in numbers, only 11 birds could be seen.

The Light Brahmas and Dorkings made a good showing, though somewhat smaller in numbers than usual. The Buff Cochins and Langshans seem to be getting scarce every year. The Hamburgs and Polas are making a good display, and seemed to attract the attention of many of our city cousins, who admire the large crest of these varieties. Along the back row could be seen the different varieties of Game. Some of the Fyle and Duckwing Game seem to be getting longer in the legs every year. If the breeders continue along this line it will be difficult to distinguish them from cranes.

The ducks, geese and turkey corner was pretty well filled, as usual. Among the chief exhibitors of ducks and geese were Mr. Till, of Doon; George Colwell, of Paris, Ontario; W. H. Laurie, Maple, while Mr. W. H. Beatty, Milton Grove; S. Douglas & Son, Mitchell, and W. J. Bell, of Angus, were the chief exhibitors in Turkeys.

In the first wing could be seen the Bantams of all varieties. At the lower end were the rabbits and guinea pigs for the boys.

The pigeons and canary compartment was well filled with birds, and was crowded all day by the many admirers of these pets. In the centre of the buildings were located the incubator people. Mr. C. J. Daniels was at his old stand with his Model incubators and brooders in operation. To his left was the Regal incubator, made in Brampton, a machine very much like the Model. Across the aisle was the Jewel incubator in operation. This machine is made in Allentown, U.S.A., and was doing good work at the Fair. Next came Mr. A. J. Morgan, London, with his display of books and poultry supplies. Next to him was the Paragon incubator. Brooder, made in Buffalo. The man in charge claims great things for his brooder, and is sending one to the O. A. C. where he hopes to learn its merits from Prof. Graham.

The dressed poultry exhibit was almost a failure in the Dairy Building. The management will have to increase the prize money in this branch before any quantity of dressed poultry will come forward at the Fair at this season of the year. J.W.C.



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