

wire netting, I divided the shed into three compartments. I have had small doors made entering into each compartment, and I can thus easily open one pen or more at a time as I choose, and so let the fowls have free access to the barnyard on fine days during the winter, where they will keep themselves busy scratching for food, and thus have plenty of exercise, something that is very essential to successful poultry-raising.

The principal food that I use is clean wheat, with an occasional feed of meat of some kind. I always supply plenty of pure water, and grit. I keep a sharp lookout for vermin of all sorts,

knowing that these are the worst enemies of the poultry-keeper. By a liberal use of whitewash in which some vermicide, such as carbolic acid, is mixed, and by occasionally dusting the birds with insect powder, I am able to keep my fowls free from lice.

I feel very certain that any farmer who desires to do so may succeed in poultry-keeping. It only needs care, attention, and a study of the habits of the fowls you keep. And if you give them this care and attention, I am sure you will be able to make money out of your poultry—not only some money, but a good deal.

THE POULTRY ASSOCIATIONS OF ONTARIO.

[EDITORIAL.]

There are two poultry associations in this province which receive grants of public money, these grants together amounting to \$1,400.

The object of the Government in bestowing these grants is to promote poultry-keeping as a profitable industry for the people.

Poultry *fancying*, though a very pleasant amusement for those who are fond of it, is not an occupation that governments or legislatures can reasonably be expected to encourage by grants of public money.

But *poultry-keeping*, carried on with a view to the production of eggs, chickens, and hens, as food products, is an industry the proper development of which is of vast importance to the country, and therefore one that governments are bound to encourage in every possible way.

With respect to the two poultry associations above referred to, while the fullest credit should be given to them for what they have heretofore done to promote poultry-keeping as an industry, yet it must be said that if they are to continue to receive large grants of public money they must make a more adequate return for it than what they have hitherto done in the shape of a wider and a better educational work, and of a larger and more persistent encouragement of the breeding of what are known as the utility birds, as distinguished from fancy fowls and pets.

This failure on the part of the associations to return to the people a larger measure of value for the money which is paid to the associations out of the public chest has been pointed out to them many times already; and so far as the Poultry Association of Ontario is concerned a decided step towards improvement was taken when Mr. Browne was appointed its permanent secretary in 1892.

But Mr. Browne is only an executive officer, and can do nothing more than carry out the policy which his association lays down for him. He cannot amend or improve that policy; any amendment or improvement must come from within the association itself.

Though it is true that since Mr. Browne's appointment the executive work of the association has been faultless, the policy of the association remains to-day pretty much what it has ever been, namely, the giving of a great many prizes for fanciers' fowls and pets, in which the competition is small, so that large sums of prize money are won by a few people who keep a great variety of highly bred fancy poultry; while the great mass of the poultry-keepers of the province, the people who really maintain the poultry industry of the province, and whom alone the province has to depend on if poultry-raising is to be developed into the industry it ought to be, have to submit to a very much more crowded competition, and be content with prize money that in the aggregate is very little more than that offered in the ornamental and fancy classes.

Looking over the premium list of the Ontario Poultry Association for 1897 we see that \$652 of prize money is offered for the encouragement of the breeding of fanciers' fowls, such as games, bantams, polands, etc., and of pigeons, rabbits, and caged birds; while only \$763 50 of prize money is offered for the encouragement of the breeding of all the utility breeds of hens, all the breeds of ducks, all the breeds of geese, and all the breeds of turkeys. The breeding of the one lot is no more deserving of encouragement on the part of the Government than is the breeding of dogs or cats; in fact, the breeders of feathered pets and of furred pets should be put upon exact-