

having your own floor above and the earth floor below. In the summer time your hens can get into this place as it will be shady and cool. This would also, to a large extent keep the rats out. A dog could easily be located there.

Mr. J. H. Saunders.—I do not quite agree with the last speaker in regard to the roosts. According to his idea it would have to be almost a necessity to have the floor slightly rounded, the hens walk on from day to day to fit the feet. He claims the foot is of a little different shape when sitting on anything flat and becomes cramped, therefore I think the floor should be made round. I claim a flat roost is the best as it is more natural for the hen. If they can stand flat all day they can surely sit that way all night.

Mr. Hare.—I think the gentleman has misinterpreted my meaning. I mean that when a hen sits down on the perch her claws contract.

Mr. A. W. Graham—That is right.

Mr. Saunders—I think Mr. Hare is wrong. It is natural that any bird, if you catch hold of it, will put its claws around your finger to hold on by, but I claim if you set it down on the floor it will not turn its toes in under.

Professor Mills—It struck me that the wall of that house (referring to Mr. Wagner's essay) would not be warm enough under ordinary conditions. As I understand it, the wall is just made of perpendicular hemlock with a covering of tarred paper, then hemlock edge to edge and battened. I know the fowl would freeze stiff in Guelph. I want to say one word in defence of our Ottawa establishment and our own. I see the point in the suggestion that the house should be low. I believe it ought to be low, but we at Guelph have found (and they have found the same thing at Ottawa) that we have to build for the public, and we have to make a big hall that people can walk along in order to see the stock. It is difficult then to keep the birds warm enough. We have done everything that can be done to make a warm building and I am not sure yet, with all these large halls and accommodation for the public, that it will be warm enough for the fowls. We have made it as warm as possible. What is the right temperature? Is it proper that water should freeze.

Mr. G. S. Oldrieve—Let it freeze some.

Professor Mills—What temperature when we have it 10 degrees below zero? Is it objectionable to have the temperature below freezing point in the poultry house? I think the lower the ceiling, if you can get sufficient ventilation, the warmer your fowl will be, but when we have to build for the enjoyment of the public we are subject to defeat this end.

Mr. Thomas A. Duff.—I have known the thermometer to register 15 degrees above zero in my poultry house when

it was 18 degrees below outside, yet my Minorcas did not get frosted. I think if the interior of the poultry house never gets below 20 degrees above zero you are all right. In regard to Mr. Hare's contention that it would be better to have the roof of a poultry house sloping to the south instead of to the north, my opinion is that it is better to slope to the north, because a thick covering of snow upon the roof during the cold weather will add much to the warmth of the building.

Mr. Gilbert.—My idea is that the fowl should not roost in the same place where they scratch all day. There should be separate compartments.

As the hour was getting late, it was moved by Mr. S. M. Clemo, seconded by Mr. Massie, that the meeting now proceed with the business part thereof and the balance of the essays, with the consent of the gentlemen who prepared them, be taken as read and published in the Government report. Carried.

The first item of business taken up was in reference to where the next annual exhibition should be held.

Moved by Mr. George G. McCormick that the next annual exhibition of this Association be held in the town of Port Hope, and that it be held for one year only in each place and not oftener than once in every five years. Mr. D. C. Trew seconded the motion.

Moved in amendment by Mr. W. H. Beattie, seconded by Mr. Millar that the next annual exhibition of this Association be held in the city of Guelph.

Considerable discussion took place both in support of the motion and the amendment.

In regard to the method of voting it was moved by Mr. Heimrich, seconded by Mr. Webber that the voting be done by ballot.

Moved in amendment by Mr. Geo. G. McCormick seconded by Mr. Thomas A. Duff that the Secretary call out the names of all the members of the Association and upon their name being called they shall vote in favor of either the motion or the amendment, and that a scrutineer be appointed by Port Hope and another by Guelph to see that each vote is properly recorded. Carried.

Mr. H. B. Donovan was appointed scrutineer for Port Hope.

Mr. Howitt was appointed scrutineer for Guelph.

Upon the vote being taken it was found that a tie existed. The President thereupon gave the casting vote in favor of Mr. McCormick's motion which was carried.

It was then moved by Mr. Millar, seconded by Mr. McConkey that Port Hope be made the unanimous choice of the Association as the place of holding the next annual exhibition of this Association. Carried.