

TORONTO POULTRY SHOW.

(Specially reported for FARMING.)

The show of poultry held in Massey Hall, December 16 20, under the auspices of the Toronto Poultry, Pigeon, and Pet Stock Association, was in every way a credit to the Dominion and to the association. It certainly eclipsed any other exhibition of a like nature ever held in Canada. Heretofore the Poultry Association of Ontario (which obtains a yearly grant of \$900 from the Government) held first rank with 1622 entries, but this record was beaten by 27, there being a total of 1649 exhibits, and this, too, without one single entry from that great poultry centre—London.

The show was also a financial success. The balance certainly will be small, but the association have the satisfaction of knowing that they now own, absolutely, sufficient excellent coops to accommodate over twelve hundred head of fowl.

The exhibition was formally opened on Thursday, at three o'clock, by the Hon. John Dryden, Minister of Agriculture for the province. He made a very happy and instructive address. He said that the Government were very anxious to help such a deserving branch of agriculture as the poultry industry is bound to become. He was followed by Mr. Thomas A. Duff, Toronto, with a lecture on "Money in Farm Poultry," which seemed to be appreciated. At its close Mr. Duff was waited upon by several ladies and gentlemen, and requested to give an address at some future meeting of the association which should be open to the public. This he agreed to do.

The judging was done by Mr. L. G. Jarvis, O.A.C., Guelph, and Thomas A. Duff, Toronto. Mr. H. B. Donovan, of the *Canadian Poultry Review*, Toronto, placed the awards in the varieties of bantams, in which he was not an exhibitor. Mr. J. B. Johnson and J. Bertie judged the pigeons and canaries.

We have never seen a show where here was less dissatisfaction. Everyone seemed pleased.

The magnificent "Walker" cup, kindly donated by Hiram Walker & Sons, Limited, Walkerville, for the best pair of birds in the show, was won by that veteran fancier, Mr. Wm. Main, Milton, with a black and red game cock and hen. The sketch by L. Sewell, for the best bird in the show, the present standing of the breed to be considered, was won by the president, Mr. R. H. Essex, Toronto, with a Buff Plymouth Rock cockerel. The P. W. Ellis & Co., Toronto, combined gold and silver medal for the best cock, hen, cockerel and pullet in the show, was won by Dr. A. W. Bell, Toronto, with Partridge Cochins. The J. W. Johnston, Toronto, silver cup, for the best bird in the largest class, was won by Messrs. Spry & Mick, Toronto, with a Buff Leghorn cockerel. The "Wagner" cup, donated by Mr. C. F. Wagner, Toronto, for the best six Buff Leghorn pullets with the best under color, was won by Mr. G. Berner, Toronto. The "Bedford" cup, for the best Buff Leghorn cockerel, owned and bred by exhibitor, is in dispute. The special for the best Minorca in the show was won by Mr. R. Durston, the popular secretary of the Toronto Poultry Association.

The special for the best Barred Rock was won by Mr. John Chambers, the park commissioner of Toronto.

There were a large number of other valuable specials, but space will only permit us to mention one more, and that is the "Hazelton" special for the best White Wyandotte exhibited by a lady, and which was won by Mrs. J. H. Shales, Toronto.

Buff Leghorns were the banner class of the show, there being forty-two pullets alone. The bulk of the prizes were won by G. Berner, G. Whillans, C. F. Wagner, Spry & Mick, Toronto, and Henderson & Billings, St. Marys.

Barred Plymouth Rocks were simply magnificent: the winning cock owned by R. Downes, Toronto, the hen owned by John Chambers, Toronto, the cockerel owned by A. H. Lake, Toronto, and the pullet owned by J. E. Bennett, Toronto, being simply grand, and fit to win anywhere.

Light Brahmas made the largest class seen in Canada for very many years, the principal winners being Dr. Hutton, Welland; W. E. H. Massey and J. Brown, Toronto.

White and Buff Plymouth Rocks made very large entries of excellent birds. The principal exhibitors were: T. Rice, Whitby; J. A. Pearson and Barker & Muir, Weston; R. H. Essex, Charles Bonnick, J. Brown, Toronto; and Henderson & Billings, St. Marys.

Black Minorcas were quite up to the mark, the winning cockerel and hen being grand specimens of this noble breed. The chief exhibitors were: T. J. Senior, Hamilton; R. Durston, C. J. Daniels, J. S. Carter, J. Dundas and R. Hamilton, Toronto; also J. F. N. Kennedy, Cedar Grove.

White Minorcas were fairly numerous and of fair quality. The special for best collection was won by J. F. N. Kennedy, Cedar Grove.

Cochins made a splendid showing, Dr. A. W. Bell, Toronto, and J. Foster, Brampton, being the principal exhibitors.

Black Langshans were as good as we have ever seen, and were out in very great force. The principal winners were E. Dewey, Toronto; J. Foster, Brampton, and Hill & Holton, Hamilton.

Wyandottes of all kinds were very numerous. In silvers Mr. Jacob Dorst, Toronto, won nearly all the prizes in keen competition. In buffs there was a decided improvement, the first four cockerels being really grand. Here Mr. Dorst again was to the fore. In goldens Mr. J. H. Magill, Port Hope, had a grand display, one hen being about the best we have yet seen at any show. Blacks showed a decided improvement, and the bulk of the prizes went to Charles Grimsley, Toronto. Whites were out in great force, and when such well-known exhibitors as Mrs. J. H. Shales, Messrs. Charles Massie, Bain and Dorst get together the quality is well known. The winning hen was a real beauty.

Colored Dorkings made about as large classes as we have yet met with, and included several English owners. Mr. John Laurie, Malvern, won the special with this variety for best collection in the English class, Orpingtons included. His winning cock, hen and pullet were very large, and almost perfect specimens of their breed. Mr. J. D. Furminger, of St. Catharines,

was also an exhibitor. His winning cockerel was a good one.

Silver Dorkings made large classes also, the principal winners being F. R. Webber, Guelph; C. J. Daniels, Toronto; E. Brown, Bracondale; and J. D. Furminger, St. Catharines.

White and Broken Leghorns, both single and rose-comb, were very numerous, and the quality quite up to the standard, a White Leghorn cockerel belonging to T. Rice, Whitby, crowding Mr. Essex hard for the Sewell special. The leading winners were T. Rice, Whitby; J. D. Wilson, Chas. Grimsby, and J. Chambers, Toronto; Redwin & Co., Guelph. There were also very large classes of Orpingtons, Javas, Andalusians, and Houdans.

Black Spanish could hardly be improved upon. Mr. F. C. Hare, Whitby, won the bulk of the prizes, but Mr. J. Foster captured the red with a grand old cock bird with about as smooth a face as we have ever seen.

Hamburgs were excellent, Mr. C. E. Smith, Fairfield Plains; W. R. Knight, Bowmanville; E. Brown, Bracondale; J. Foster, Brampton; and W. Turp, Toronto, being the leading winners. There was one really grand black cockerel, just received from England. His lobe was the largest we have yet seen, but we faulted him a little for carrying it too far into the wattle, and also for not having the proper sweep to the tail.

The Games need no detailing when such well-known breeders as Wm. Main, Milton; F. Troth, and Goulding & Son, Toronto; and Bennett Bros., Uxbridge, enter the showroom.

Turkeys were here in very large numbers, the principal exhibitors being John Laurie, Malvern; Wm. Main, Milton; and C. E. Smith, Fairfield Plains. The first named gentleman won the special for best collection.

Geese and Ducks made the largest display we have ever seen at a winter show. The competition in Rouens was very keen, but Mr. W. J. Haycraft, Agincourt, came out on top. He was closely followed by W. Main, Milton; F. R. Webber and John Coulson, Guelph; and W. R. Knight, Bowmanville. Competition was also very close in Pekins, and in this class about the best young duck we have ever met with was exhibited by Mr. W. J. Haycraft, who also won the Toronto Biscuit & Confectionery Company's special for the best collection of water-fowl.

Dressed Poultry.—One prominent feature of the show, and for which the association should receive special mention, was the magnificent list of prizes offered for dressed poultry and eggs. This department has usually been very much neglected at our poultry shows, but there was a splendid entry at Toronto. The sum of \$25 was offered for the six best dressed turkeys of 1897, \$10 for the two best; and \$5 for the best single turkey of 1897, and a like amount for the best turkey of 1896. The winner of this special was a monster, and beautifully dressed. He weighed forty pounds before being killed. The sums of \$6 and \$4 were offered for the best pair of 1897 geese; \$6 and \$4 for the best six chickens, \$2 for the best pair; \$5, \$3, and \$2 for the best pairs of 1897 ducks, and \$5, \$3, and \$2 for the best five dozen hen eggs (double yolks barred). Ex-Ald.

H. R. Frankland satisfactorily judged this class. A noteworthy feature of the association's liberality was shown by the fact that some of the turkeys, geese, and chickens, and all of the eggs, were donated to that praiseworthy charity, the Sick Children's Hospital.

A popular innovation was also created by having two lectures each day. These were fairly well attended, but it is to be hoped that another year a room apart from the poultry will be provided, as it was almost impossible for the lecturers to make themselves heard owing to the noise. Those who spoke were Mrs. J. H. Shales, Thomas A. Duff, W. Barber, R. H. Essex and Charles Bonnick, Toronto; also M. Richardson, Hamilton.

The prize money won by outside exhibitors was paid before the close of the show, and on Monday evening a public meeting was held and the special prizes presented to the successful exhibitors. The president occupied the chair and made the presentations. Each winner was loudly cheered, particularly Mrs. J. H. Shales. Short addresses were delivered by Joseph Foster, Brampton, and Thomas A. Duff, Toronto.

Too much praise cannot be given to Messrs. Essex, Durston, Bell, Whillans, Grimsley, Dorst, and Duff, for the manner in which they worked to make the show a success.

FARMING wishes the Toronto Poultry Association every success, and no association better deserves to be successful.

THE OXFORD FAT STOCK SHOW.

NOTE.—This report was unfortunately omitted in making up last week's forms.

The thirteenth annual Christmas Fat Stock Show, held under the auspices of the Oxford Fat Stock Club, at Ingersoll, was a grand success. The entries this year were more numerous than last year, and the quality and finish of the animals also much superior.

In all there were thirty-five entries of cattle. The centre of attraction, however, was the exhibit of fat stock shown by John Fried & Sons, Roseville. His two-year-old steer, Look Me Over, which was first in his class at Brantford, and was reserve for the sweepstakes, attracted a great deal of attention. Here he won first in his class and the silver challenge cup. Other winners were: Brown & Rutherford, Jas. E. Forden, and John Smith, Beachville; J. F. Wilson, Harry Davis, Woodstock, Wm. Hogg & Son and Wm. Donaldson, Zorra.

There were eighty-six entries of sheep, and quite a number of the good animals present at Brantford were shown here. Good exhibits were made by Wm. Donaldson, Brown & Rutherford, John Hopkins, John Park & Son, Geo. Allen, W. E. Wright, W. H. Beattie, J. H. Jull, and E. Turner. The sweepstakes prize was won by Mr. Beattie's shearling wether, the winner of the sweepstakes at Brantford.

As all the classes in the pig section called for bacon pigs, the judges found forty-three exceedingly good pigs for them to judge. Mr. J. E. Brethour, of Burford, succeeded in capturing quite a number of the best prizes with his purebred Yorkshires. He secured the sweepstakes for the best bacon