

due to ill health, but hope for a speedy recovery. Lady fanciers in Canada are all too few to lose any.—ED.]

ESSAY READ BY MR. JNO. McCLELLAND, PETERBOROUGH.

BEFORE THE WEST PETERBORO FANCIER'S INSTITUTE.

MR. McCLELLAND, said the value of poultry and eggs exported annually was \$1,854,241. As to profit, he said everything depended on good management, the proper housing, sheltered from the north with a good light, and, if possible, an earth floor; if boards, covered with earth or sand. Ladder perches should be dispensed with altogether. The perch should be on a level. A drop board is sometimes put under the perch 6 or 8 inches, leaving space under the board to give room for nests. Instead of having the drop board flat, two 14 inch planks might be used and shaped like a trough. He suggested that the bottom of the trough be dusted either with road dust or slacked lime. That helped to prevent vermin, one of the greatest troubles in poultry raising. A great many people complained that their fowl laid no eggs and were not fat enough to kill. Underlying this was the question of vermin. The food that should produce eggs and fat went to feed this vermin. Poultry manure came very near to the value of Peruvian guano, and was sold for manufacturing purposes also. If it was packed properly and kept free from dust it was a source of profit. Referring to the comparative prices of beef and fowl, the price of the latter was 50 per cent. higher. He held that poultry was the best paying stock on the farm. A hen will lay from 15 to 20 dozen eggs a year, which at 15c. a dozen comes to \$2.25 for 15 dozen. It is estimated that a bushel of corn will keep that hen a year if well looked after in other ways. A bushel of corn will cost 84c.—a clear

BALANCE TO PROFIT.

He quoted from a report of Mr. Whiteman, of Fitchburg, showing a profit of

over \$4 a head per year on his poultry. Another gentleman reported a profit of \$5.15 per head. Regarding feed, it is estimated that a dozen eggs will weigh a pound and a half. It will require 2-1/16 pound of corn to raise a pound of eggs, while pork requires 5 1/8 pounds to the pound of pork. In other words, a bushel of corn will raise 11 pounds of pork, which at 8c. a pound will give 88c., leaving a profit on a bushel of corn (at 84c.) of just 4c. Compare that to poultry and you will see the difference. The nutritive value of eggs and the cheapness of their raising was scarcely recognized. If the food value of meat and eggs was compared it would be found that the latter were far ahead. A good fowl was as easily kept as a cross-bred. Their eggs sold as well, for breeding far better, and as stock often ten times greater than the common breeds. Mr. McClelland gave instances supporting his statement. He would recommend a man to stick to one variety. Poultry to be well marketed must be fat. The secret in getting them [fat was in looking after them. They may have been fed extravagantly, but they were infested with lice and that was where the food went. For marketing the better plan was to not feed from 15 to 24 hours before killing so that their food may be well digested and they will look better. A secret in marketing was to make a good appearance. He recommended that they be plucked dry. If scalded it

DESTROYED THEIR APPEARANCE,

and the fowls would not keep. The body should not be allowed to cool before the feathers are taken off, which can be done then as easily as if scalded. In marketing to a distance the head and feet should be left on, the feet and wings drawn close to the body, and packed in straw, breast down. In no case should the feet be taken off turkeys. In fact it would make all fowl more presentable, and if this was adopted the farmers would reap the reward.

MR. BELL asked if he recommended corn as an egg producer.

MR. McCLELLAND said corn was good for fattening, but for egg producing mixed food was better. In winter time warm feed in the morning was a good thing. Poultry should be watered well and regularly, and in the winter a little iron mixture kept the fowls in good health. Milk given to fowls would make them produce more eggs in summer than they otherwise would. MR. F. J. BELL asked what breed he would recommend.

MR. McCLELLAND replied that it was a question of choice, but Dorkings was a good breed.

In reply to questions as to how to exterminate lice, he said he would first whitewash his house and then inject into the feathers of each one a little German insect powder. Sulphur was good, but not up to this powder. The use of carbolic acid or petroleum acted as a preventive.

He recommended the perches not to be too high, the drop board probably 16 or 18 inches above the floor and the roost 8 or 10 inches above that. Regarding the temperature, he said the house should not be kept too warm, for that bred diseases.

The convention adjourned till evening—

REPLY TO MR. DILWORTH.

Editor Review:—

Please allow me to say a few words on Mr. DILWORTH's article in March REVIEW on the Ontario Poultry Association. He says it "has been a failure financially," in this I agree with him. That it has been so, is a burning shame, when we consider that other shows stand on their own foundation, and in most cases pay in full, while the Ontario has an annual grant of five or six hundred dollars. But with regard to the last show held in London, the chief cause of failure seems to be one over which the management had no control,