

## AROUND THE SHOWS.

BY L. G. JARVIS, JUDGE.

*The Ontario.*

**A** FEW notes on the classes allotted to me to judge at the late Ontario Show.

Barred Rocks—A strong class and some very fine specimens shown. First cock very even in barring, with fine rich colored shanks, over standard weight, slightly off in breast shape, but a grand bird; 2nd and 3rd good in color; hardly as good in body shape, but good specimens. First and 2nd cockerels extra good birds; 2nd crowding closely for first place, several other cockerels also good. Winning pullets very nice in color and shape, 1st and 2nd hens extra good, several birds left out fit to win in strong company. Houdans very good, and winning birds evenly marked, with clean black and white shank evenly mottled. The cockerels rather dark on back and tail for exhibition birds, will make better cocks. First pullet a gem, but a little too much white in crest. Minorcas, black out in full force, and some grand birds, all winners very free from purple in plumage and good size and all Minorca in shape. Whites not a large class, several extra good birds but not in good show shape, rather dirty in plumage; one very nice hen died before being judged. Spanish, a grand lot. Cockerels extra fine with lustrous plumage, and very shapely combs, the best specimens we have seen for years. Hens and pullets, good size, and smooth in face, and very free from purple in plumage. Cockerels only fair, 1st a large bird with fine symmetry and rich in lustre of plumage, face a little puffy; 2nd rather small comb not evenly serrated, fine in plumage and smooth in face, tail a little upright; 3rd very rough in face, no doubt an aged bird, not in good show shape. Dominiques.—Only a few shown, a few good specimens. Dorkings, a good class, especially silver greys, competition very keen in both colored and silver varieties. The females in both the above varieties as fine as I ever judged, nearly all over standard weight, and grand in color. In males I would like to see the combs a little smaller and finer in texture. On the whole the Dorkings were extra fine. Buff Rocks, a great improvement on former years, both in quality and quantity. All winners very fine specimens and several left out, grand birds. Polands—Not as many on exhibition as usual, but in quality good; nearly all prizes going to McNeil and Bogue. Water fowl—The best exhibit in this class that we have seen for years at the Ontario, every variety represented, and in Pekin and Rouen varieties it took

considerable time to place the tickets. Turkeys, out in full force in bronze and white Holland varieties, some splendid specimens were on exhibition. As it is the intention to do away with the scoring system of judging at the next Ontario show, it will be necessary for the directors to consider the advisability of providing extra coops for the use of the judges when it may be necessary to place specimens for comparison side by side, and in the same light if they expect to do justice to each and every specimen that may be in competition in the various classes. It will be very difficult for judges to compare birds correctly so far as plumage is concerned in different light, as well as to compare shape, if the birds are cooped a distance apart. At the show held in Madison Square, New York, the same inconveniences would not arise as every part of that building where the fowls are shown has the same light and lots of it, and only one tier of coops not one coop on top of another to interfere with the light as is necessary in providing sufficient room to accommodate the number of entries that we have at the Ontario show. I think the management will see the advisability of providing a few extra coops. I also think that all specimens in the weight classes should be weighed, as is done in the scoring system, so that specimens up in weight, everything else being equal, may receive their just due.

*Owen Sound Show.*

The exhibition held in Owen Sound the week following the Ontario show, was in every way successful. The management was good as well as the accommodation. The officers and directors are very obliging, and know well how to run a show. They have had a great deal of experience on that line and exhibitors who have ever shown birds here have always expressed a desire to exhibit them again. We hope in the near future to see the Ontario held in this place. I think the people of Owen Sound who have for so many years contributed so heartily to their local show deserve at our hands every consideration that may be in our power as members of the Ontario, and we feel assured that the Ontario show could be run successfully by the local management, as well as proving a stimulus to the fanciers and farmers in that section of the country.

*Seaforth Show.*

The local show held at Seaforth, considering the state of the roads and the extremely cold weather during that week, might be considered very successful. The building was rather small for the number of birds shown and for the accommodation of the public, yet the light was fairly good, and the show went off very satisfactorily. A few of the