

run, we raised 90 per cent. of chicks in it, but have not one of our chicks alive left with hens hatched in June and July.

Friend Peters has exceptional advantages with his 30 acres of short hay, we have during gardening season 80x8 ft. divided into four pens and runs, have pullets and cockerels parted. By digging the runs weekly, a liberal supply of earth on boarded floors (raised from the ground) dust baths, daily cleaning out, and weekly oiling of perches, our fowls and chicks thrive immensely, so much so, that our oldest chicks are as big as their parents. Now our appliances are all got up with the view of simplicity, cheapness and efficiency, and we have so much confidence in them that we have come to the conclusion that after the hens have laid the eggs, we want no more of their help to hatch or raise the chicks between January 1st and December 31st.

PURE-BRED versus COMMON FOWLS

BY PEA-COMB.

(Conclusion.)

We have considered utility fowls in about every position they can be viewed from, and I think it will be pretty generally admitted by those who have taken the trouble to wade through these rambling articles, that the thorough-bred fowl takes first place every time, either as layers, broilers or roasting fowls, although it is admitted that some mongrel hens may beat their thorough-bred rivals in any capacity, still such hens are few and far between.

The great advantage possessed by thorough-bred birds is "uniform excellence" and special adaption of the several breeds considered for the purposes mentioned, each breed in its special sphere completely eclipsing any similar number of mongrels that could be brought into competition with them. This is what makes pure-bred fowls so immeasurably superior to common fowls.

But this is not all, another valuable feature of the thorough-bred, is its power to transmit its good qualities, thereby transforming a flock of mongrels in one season into a flock of infinitely more useful half-breeds.

Before closing this article, I will make a few remarks on crossing pure bred fowls: As far as my experience goes it is much better to cross a large cock on small hens, than a small cock on large hens, for this reason; I have found from several experiments that to mate a white or brown Leghorn cock with Brahma hens means very few chickens, not more than quarter of the eggs set hatching, the cause of this is not a lack of vigor on the part of either parent, but simply disparity of size; the hen is so much larger than the cock that on account of the extreme length of her body as compared with his, he is unable to properly perform the act of coition; I have carefully observed this and am so fully convinced of the fact, that I would not waste time and eggs repeating the experiment, this cross produces excellent layers, but a loss of seventy-five per cent of the eggs set, is rather too much for me. If it is desired to cross the Leghorn, I would recommend a Light Brahma cock with Brown Leghorn hens; but if you object to the feathers on the legs, mate a Plymouth Rock cock with White Leghorn hens, you will find them hatch well and prove good layers when matured: but in this matter of crossing it is the opinion of all who have given the subject any attention, that a first cross is infinitely better than any other.

But all things considered, I am of the opinion that to the purely commercial poultry keeper thorough-breds will prove themselves superior even to a first cross, as he has the choice of so many breeds, each possessing special qualities.

So generally are the many excellencies of pure-bred fowls becoming known that I am convinced that no enterprising man or woman who wants to

make money out of poultry, would ever think of attempting it with mongrels.

MONTREAL NOTES.

BY MONTREAL.

Before the London people get out the prize list for the O.P.A. show could they not do away with the special entry for special prizes and let every bird entered in the regular class compete? I should like to hear your readers express an opinion on the subject in next REVIEW.

Thomas Hall, of Outremont, has had the misfortune to lose a lot of his early birds but hopes to be in good time for the winter shows. His new poultry house is finished and the "Lansdowne Poultry House" is a fitting residence for his fine birds.

There were one or two exhibits of eggs at the last show in Guelph, if I remember rightly, and I don't think they ever left the Secretary's office. As so many breeders are praising up their eggs for size could't our London people give them a chance at their coming show of proving the merits of these particular breeds. Intending exhibitors could begin to pack away these eggs now if they got a hint from the Secretary that there would be a prize for them.

I cordially agree with Mr. Brown in July REVIEW that it would be better to abstain from so much personalities in letters and give their experience of success and failures, especially failures. If some of our leading fanciers would only tell us about their failures, and how they overcome them, it would largely benefit your readers, but many of them are afraid if they did so that it would lower their prestige as successful breeders if they were to tell of their disappointments.

I intended to give the results of a practical test with a new incubator but will have to reserve it till next month.