

Government had in view in making you your grant." Laying particular emphasis upon the reading and discussion of essays the honorable minister said: "I am here to render any assistance I can in helping you to give the information you have at your command to the masses of the people" "Practical utility is what is required. It is not the particular color of the wing or tail feathers of a particular breed." "but rather the quantity of eggs and the quality of the bird he can send to the market."

In January, 1895, at New Hamburg, Mr. C. C. James, Deputy-Minister of Agriculture, said, an Association that did good work would always receive considerations at the hands of the Government, "but," he continued, "if it is all wrapt up within the Association itself, and the good result is simply confined to a very few, why, there may be some trouble in increasing your allowance or in bringing the Legislature into sympathy with your work."

In referring to these words of the Honorable Minister and his Deputy, I am anxious that all members of the Association should realize that we, of our strength and resources, do not "run the show." We simply contribute to its success, and the Government of Ontario does likewise. Take as an example the statement of receipts for the show of 1895. The entrance fees, membership fees, and specials, amount to \$730.25; that is our contribution. The Government contributes \$900. Now, who has the right to dictate as to the application of these moneys. Certainly, the Government wishes, in respect of the greater proportion, must be respected. Without the grant of \$900 what kind of a show would be held. The great "Ontario" would dwindle away to nothing. The advertisement we secure when we win at this show, would be a thing of the past. Everybody knows that more stock is sold as a result of winning at the "Ontario," than can be traced to any other exhibition in Canada. If a member of the Association offers for competition a special prize, he would merely be required to say under what conditions it should be awarded, and his wishes would be gladly complied with. Why should it be different with the Government grant? It is a special prize, given for a special purpose, but a hint from the giver does not appear to be sufficient. Far from it. Very strong suggestions are not sufficient. *Honestly*—we should take a hint; *acquisitively*—we must take a suggestion.

Refer once more to the speech of the Honorable Minister of Agriculture in 1894—"The holding of this exhibition is not the sole end you ought to have in view." "If it is, it is not the object the Government had in view in making you your grant." This is more than a hint, but no

more than we deserve. If we persist in ignoring the wishes of our benefactors, we are not honest poultry men. If we persist in ignoring our benefactors' very pointed suggestions, we are far from wise. What think you?

At the annual meeting just past I presented a motion for the consideration of the question of increasing the prize money to be awarded the utility breeds. In the interest of the Association I initiated this movement, and, as the motion passed unanimously, it is quite clear that the Association, as a whole, is not averse to considering it, and my reasons for advancing the subject can be readily understood by recalling those words of the Honorable John Dryden—"Practical utility is what is required."

The reply to Professor Mills' first question is contained in this last sentence, spoken in 1894; the preceding portion of my argument is simply intended to impress the exhibitor and breeder with the necessity for action. In these words the Government says where its grant should be placed, and in my opinion we have no option.

1. I have shown from the best authority that the Government "expects returns" for the grant it gives to the Association.
2. That it seeks to use the Association in aiding to achieve a desired result.
3. That "practical utility is what is required."
4. That if the Association is wrapt up in itself, there may be trouble in bringing the Legislature into sympathy with our work.

I am, yours respectfully,

Toronto.

ROBT. H. ESEEX.

Editor Review:

Prof. Mills, of the Agricultural College, has propounded several questions in connection with poultry matters. I purpose to give my views on numbers 3 and 4.

To question No. 3, I think poultry and eggs should be sold by weight at so much per pound, and the city and town councils should pass a by-law regulating the same.

To question No. 4, which reads "should the Eastern Ontario and Ontario Associations be united on a basis similar to that on which the Creamery and Dairy Associations propose uniting?" To this question, I say *no*, and the following are my reasons: Years before the Eastern Association was formed the Ontario Association never held an exhibition east of Port Hope.