

fore the end of March or fore part of April. If your breeding hens do not commence to lay before the middle of February all the better. It is the experience of most old breeders that the first and second nests of eggs laid by the hen after rest produce the strongest and best chickens. Those who are working for profit from eggs will now use all means to increase and keep up the yield. Stimulating food may be given them that would be fatal to success if fed to stock kept for breeding, but where the production of eggs is the main object, the hens may be treated as machines to be run to their greatest capacity while the demand is brisk and best prices are to be realized, and if necessary shut down for repairs when the market is glutted and prices low.

Attend one at least of the shows to be held during this or next month.

Laying of Dark Brahma Pullets and other Matters.

Editor Review,

In your last issue we promised to report the products of our two exhibition pullets monthly. Well, from November 27th to December 27th the two produced forty one eggs, and are still shelling out liberally.

We had the pleasure during the holidays of calling on Mr. Chas. Barrett, of Glencoe. We were warmly received and found Mr. B. a very enthusiastic young fancier. He has some very fine birds, and is justly proud of them, especially some Light Brahmas from R. McKay. We have just one fear for Mr. B., that is *too many varieties*. We find in almost every case where an enthusiastic young man takes the fever he fails on this point, or rather it proves a serious draw-back to his success, and sometimes so discourages him that he gives them all up, and says they don't pay. We trust the young gentleman may prove an exception.

The London fanciers are in good spirits, and many more will visit the show at Guelph this winter than any previous show of the association. Your correspondent will be one of them if all is well. Some of us small fry are very much annoyed that you did not have time to visit us when at London, but perhaps it is for the best.

Yours sincerely,

J. W. BARTLETT.

Lambeth, Ont., Jan. 6th, 1885.

When found necessary in the breeding pen to mate a cockerel not fully matured with hens he should receive special attention in the way of feeding. A lunch by himself of tit-bits from the table will greatly assist in fitting him for his duties, and at the same time promote his development.

Pigeon and Pet Stock Department,

—CONDUCTED BY—

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To whom all communications, items of news, &c., on these subjects should be addressed.

Those who have cold or exposed pigeon lofts may make them more comfortable winter quarters for their inmates by covering the floor to a depth of four or five inches with clean deal sawdust. Red deal dust is best, but it is not very easily procured. If only a thin coating of sawdust be laid down it will blow about and cause the birds annoyance and injury by getting into their eyes; but if a sufficient quantity be used this drawback will not be experienced.—*Poultry*.

Cedar sawdust, made by the cutting of blocks for pavement, is the best we ever used, being coarse and also a good disinfectant.

Questions and Answers.

Please inform me the standard points of the White Jacobin and Blue Pouter, through the Review, and oblige a subscriber. A. F. D., Lachine.

Ans.—White Jacobins are judged for: color, pure and clean, with flesh-colored beak, and pearl eyes; size, medium; body, long and slender; carriage graceful; head, round; forehead, high; beak, short; wart (or flesh over beak), small and powdery white; eye-wattle, bright pink; hood, large, even-shaped and close fitting to head, extending around and well up to the eye; mane, large, well arched and even; chain, well up to neck, extending low down on the breast; tail, long; wings, short and slightly drooping; legs and feet, medium length and size. Hood, mane and chain are of course the most important points.

Blue-pied Pouters are judged for: size, very large length often 20 inches or over; form, erect, long and slender; head, fine, full forehead; crop, large and globular; waist narrow; legs, long, about 7½ inches; full thigh, not straddling nor yet very close; limb-feathers, small, soft and abundant, extending from the outer toe; wings, long and composed of broad feathers; tail, long and narrow; movements, easy and graceful; color, pure, clear blue; eyes, orange red; beak, dark; head, dark blue; crop, dark blue, crescent thereon of white, well formed and defined, starting at a feather under each eye and extending downwards, gradually widening to about three inches in front; back, saddle and sides of wings, pure clear blue, two black bars across lower part of wings; on the shoulders a few white feathers arranged in the shape of a rose; breast, blue to a line across breast bone; belly, thighs and legs, short white feathers; tail,