

DAIRYING

New Dairy Association.

For several years there has existed in British Columbia an association known as the Dairyman's and Live Stock Association. In view of the fact that a Stock Breeders' Association had recently been formed, the members of the old association assembled last week and decided to start anew. The Provincial Government has assumed the liabilities of the old Association. Those present unanimously supported a resolution for the formation of a new association to be known as the British Columbia Dairyman's Association.

An up-to-date constitution and by-laws were adopted and officers were elected as follows: President, A. C. Wells, Chilliwack; Vice president, George Sangster, Sidney; Secretary-treasurer, F. M. Logan, B.S.A., Victoria. Directors: J. T. Collins, Salt Spring Island; Geo. Deans, Victoria; W. E. Buckingham, Eburne; S. Smith, Dewdney; W. H. Raymur, Kelowna; C. Quenell, Lumby. Auditors: T. J. Trapp, New Westminster; Thos. Cunningham, Vancouver.

The dairy industry of the Province is now assuming large proportions and generally speaking a good quality of butter is being made, but like the dairy products of every other province, it could be a whole lot better.

The new Dairyman's Association has petitioned the government to appoint a dairy inspector who will have the inspection of the creameries, as well as the stables and surroundings under his charge.

The new act as amended provides for the appointment of a dairy inspector, and authorizes him to prohibit the sale of any milk, cream, butter or cheese produced or manufactured on premises which he considers unsuitable for the production of wholesome goods, and if such decision is disregarded and steps are not taken for the improvement of such conditions, he may have a penalty, not to exceed \$50, imposed on each offender. This law judiciously enforced should do much to improve the dairy products of the Province.

Ten per cent of the patrons of every creamery or cheese factory in Canada and in some localities fifty per cent adopt no methods to prevent the impurities of the stable from getting into the milk, so unless these patrons are made to be more careful and cleanly, we shall be a long time in reaching perfection. This is something for dairy associations in other provinces to think over, but thinking will not make No. 1 butter, they must act.

BLUENOSE.

The New Era in Dairying.

The taking over of the Dominion Government creameries by the Provincial governments in Alberta marks a new stage in the evolution of dairying in the western province. The creameries under the management of the Dominion Department of Agriculture have done exceptionally well. Possessing, as they did, the control of a large quantity of a first-class product they were enabled to possess themselves of the new markets in the Yukon and Japan and in this way were able to relieve congestion on the local markets.

The entire equipment has now passed into the hands of the province. The pioneer work has already been done and it only remains to carry to a fuller fruition what has been so well begun. Provincial control should be more flexible, it should make the work come more directly in touch with the people and in this way prove of greater benefit.

A few creameries have been established under private ownership surrounded by conditions that are inimical to successful work. Under the new administration something will probably be done to regulate the establishment of new buildings under proper conditions. In every city a building permit is necessary; certain rules must be observed and there seems no reason why permits for creamery buildings should not be issued. Certainly such an innovation would call a halt to the erection of unsanitary, poorly equipped establishments that by the production of an inferior product work ruin to the country's reputation for dairy produce. This is for the new government to consider.

At the head of the dairy department is C. Marker. He is a man of wide experience and sound judgments. His past record is a guarantee of his future usefulness to the province and we may be certain that everything possible will be done to maintain the dairy business upon the soundest possible basis. Prospects are bright for the future of this work in Alberta.

POULTRY

An Up-to-date Chicken Raiser.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The chicken season is here again and those who take toll from the prolific hen are looking about them for the latest methods and apparatus in order that the coming season may be a success. The experiences of a practical and successful man are always better than any amount of advice from the person who fails. One of the practical poultrymen of Victoria, B. C., Mr. W. Bayliss, of Ross Bay, lately showed your correspondent over his ranch and while so doing told something of his methods of working.

Our first visit was to the breeding house which consists of eight departments one for each variety for this gentleman believes in the true bred hen and in fact keeps and breeds nothing else. The sleeping and laying part of the house is elevated four feet from the ground, in climbing to which the hens have the use of a small ladder constructed for the purpose. In front of each department is a scratching pen, part of which is covered to protect from rain so that the hens may take exercise during inclement weather.

In each of these pens a cock lords it over a dozen pullets, or a cockerel over a dozen hens. The mating of these is done during December, the cocks having been placed in a pen by themselves for at least four months previous in order that they may be full of vigor when the mating season commences.

Plymouth Rocks occupied the first pen. They were first prize birds of the choicest strain and were indeed beautiful creatures. This breed is the general purpose fowl of America and is the favorite with all ranchers on account of its laying and broiling qualities. Alongside of them were their relatives the white Rocks and next them the owners chief favorites, the Partridge Wyandottes. The last variety while being a good layer has the particularly heavy breast of the game varieties to which it is related. The other sorts were Buff Wyandottes, Black Minorcas, Cornish Indian Game, Brown Leghorns, and Rhode Island Reds.

The eggs are gathered in a sectional box in order that they may not be mixed, and placed in a case with the small end of the egg downwards so that the yolk may be balanced in the middle. Every seventh day they are placed in the incubator, thus there is no chance of any of them becoming stale. No eggs to be used for hatching should be kept more than ten days if the best results would be obtained. After the chicks are hatched they are allowed to remain thirty-six hours or more in the incubator before being removed to the brooder. Another hint to those using an incubator is to allow sufficient air to enter the incubator that the chicks may find no difficulty in breathing.

Now we come to the brooding house which in this particular case is a long closed shed divided into sections with two pipes, a return and feed, running the whole length. At one end the pipes are much nearer the floor than at the other to allow for the gradual growth of the chicks. In the first it is but six inches from the floor while in the eighth and last it is twelve inches above. The floor is raised above the ground to exclude rats and damp. Along the south side is a glass scratching shed in which the chicks can take the sun without going out into the cold winds. This too is divided into sections but on the front sides slides are arranged through which the little scratchers can be allowed out into a small fenced clover field which is also sheltered from the wind. Each compartment is large enough to accommodate one hundred small chicks or seventy-five large ones.

In the next house are ten laying pens but two of these are used for segregating the cockerels. This is done as soon as it is possible to distinguish them from the pullets. In each pen are kept from twelve to twenty-five laying hens but no cocks, the latter having been removed before the season commenced. As in the other houses the sleeping and laying part has a raised floor with a slide door at the back for convenience in cleaning the houses. There is also a covered scratching pen besides a small open run. Ordinary boxes have so far been used as nests but this year the owner expects to use trap nests in order that he may be able to test each hen separately. He will then

breed his layers from the hens that make the best record as in this way he expects to improve the laying qualities of his flock.

Mr. Bayliss feeds twice a day. The morning meal is a mixture of boiled vegetables, chopped clover or alfalfa, bran and shorts, with sufficient of the drier ingredients to insure a crumbly mash, sloppy food not being good for the health of the flock. This mixture is placed in a trough on the outside of the pen and fenced off from it by stripes of lath to keep the hens from treading in it. The evening meal consists of some kind of grain food, wheat being generally used for egg production and corn for fattening purposes, which is scattered among the litter in the scratching pens.

Something equally as important as the feeding is the water supply. There is fresh pure water always before the hens and the utensils are thoroughly cleansed every day. No one can afford to neglect this.

Grit, oyster shells, and charcoal are kept in a small hopper or box, and lime and ashes are sprinkled on the floors of the houses. Besides this a box of sifted ashes for dusting purposes should be kept in each pen, for the more comfortable the hen is kept the better she will attend to her maternal duties.

Finally the hospital was found to be a small warm house to which any ailing birds are removed in order that infection may not spread and that the birds may be kept warm and receive any special attention.

Nearly an acre of Mr. Bayliss' pretty little nine acre place is devoted to hen culture and of course that acre is the most profitable part. A number of prizes have been taken by these much cared-for birds and big prices have been offered the proprietor to tempt him to sell but he prefers to keep the best of his stock. Of course he sells many chickens and eggs but no wise chicken raiser ever parts with the choicest of his fowls. Such a policy would be like killing the hen that lays the golden eggs.

B. C.

H. F. PULLEN.

Setting a Hen.

My first experience with a setting hen in Alberta was a great surprise to me. I had been in the habit of setting hens by a method which fitted a climate where nights were not much cooler than the days. I used to make a nest of sand or fine earth, which fitted the size of the hen and deep enough, so that it would hold the eggs up about as high as could be without allowing the outside eggs to drop when the hen left the nest. I lined this nest with fine litter. The number of chicks I sometimes hatched in this way, with a large Langshan hen was larger than I care to write lest some reader should suspect that there is an impediment in my veracity.

I found a good many who had come to Alberta earlier than I, having trouble to get good hatches, but I set the first hen with a good deal of confidence, as I did not think my luck would go back on me, but she hatched only three chicks, although all the other eggs but one had begun incubation and nine of them had fully developed but dead chicks in the shell.

The next time I set a hen I watched her very closely and felt the eggs frequently. I found that those at the outside were always cooler than those in the middle of the nest. As the hen moved the eggs about they were all cooled at some time during incubation. A few days before coming out of the shell, a chick is in a condition which will not permit of cooling. After that I set hens in the same way, but gave a smaller number to each hen. As the sand or earth is usually a little damp, it keeps the chick from drying so that it cannot get out of the shell. Keeping the eggs shaped up to the hen's body keeps them warmer than when they are spread out flat, but there must not be eggs enough so that some of them get too near the outside air.

Alta.

W. I. THOMAS.

A Suggestion re Roup in Turkeys.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

I give you my experience in cure of roup; several years ago I had one gobbler and two hens that were fine birds and meant something to me if I lost them, and I was new in the business; I had never heard of roup. During the winter when feeding them, I noticed that lumps had formed below their eyes so they could not see to eat. Being fond of experimenting and not knowing what else to do, I undertook to lance them with an old razor. What was inside of the lumps on the hens was just like hard curds. I shaped a quill in the form of a pen and with that picked it all out clean as far back as I could reach. In lancing the gobbler a thick clear liquid came out in a long string which did not break. After cleaning them out thoroughly I put turpentine in a sewing machine oil can and injected it into the cavity, also some in the nostrils. I repeated the operation when-