

with the standard characteristics of the breed to secure the best results.

*Breeding Winners.*—Breeding winners for the show room is not an easy task and many disappointments are in store for the exhibitor until he has developed or purchased a strain of exhibition stock capable of reproducing the qualities of, or an improvement over the original stock.

*General Requirements.*—The general requirements in breeding for exhibition purposes are similar to the methods advocated generally throughout this bulletin. While particular attention is given to the fancy points required by the Standard, more credit is due the exhibitor who combines the utility and fancy qualities in his exhibition stock.

*Selecting Birds for the Show Room.*—When selecting birds for the show room, each bird should be examined for defects, many of which can be remedied by the breeder during the rearing. Special attention should be given to disqualifying points to save humiliation and disappointment, as such are sure to be detected by a competent judge.

*Preparing Birds for the Show Room.*—Birds intended for the show room should be placed in suitable coops and fed carefully to produce the desired weight as nearly as possible, as over weight is as undesirable as under weight.

During the conditioning process the birds should be handled so that they will not be excited when being handled by the judge. They should also be trained to pose and show themselves to the best advantage.

*Grooming Show Birds.*—The experienced exhibitor makes a careful study of his birds, paying particular attention to their weak points. The unfavorable position or carriage of sickle tails or wing feathers, the comb, wattles, lobes, beak, legs or feet, are groomed or trained in a manner that will improve or in a large measure overcome defects.

*Washing the Birds.*—Two or three days before the show the birds should be washed. First place them in a tub of warm water and thoroughly soak the feathers, then wash them, using some pure soap. The dirt can readily be loosened by means of a sponge or with the hands with little damage to the feathers, if reasonable care is exercised. The legs and feet should also receive attention and for this purpose an ordinary nail brush is useful. The birds should next be placed in clean warm water and the soap thoroughly rinsed from the feathers. When washing birds with white feathers, a little bluing in the rinsing water will greatly improve the color.

*Drying the Birds.*—On removing the birds from the rinsing water they should first be drained of the water in the feathers, then placed in a clean dry coop in a warm place and allowed to dry. Judgment should be used in the amount of heat supplied, as too little or too much will be harmful to the health of the bird. When the birds are properly dried the feathers will fluff out and present a good appearance. Clean dry straw should be put in the coops in which