

would be Milton every time. Now, I find as a general thing that none of the various poultry associations furnish any score cards for turkeys. They are losing the many benefits the other varieties gain by the scoring system and I think this ought not to be so as they are the most profitable of the lot. I also find that some incentive to study the Standard is needed as the leading exhibitor of this variety (Bronze) in Canada, said to me at the Milton show (re the awards on hens at Toronto last fall), that the hens other than the first and second prize ones "showed two much wild breed." Mr. Butterfield, in judging the young birds at Toronto in fall of '88 used the same words. Now in the name of common sense why do they not specify what point they are deficient in according to Standard instead of referring to the wild birds. Further than this Mr. Smelt had the honesty to say at Milton that if he did score them it would not be worth two cents. This was a startling discovery to me and I would respectfully request the many associations, who do not furnish score cards to do so next year and place this valuable breed of fowl on the same footing as the other breeds. By the way, I am well pleased with the POULTRY WEEKLY. The issue of Dec. 25th has saved me the price of subscription four-fold in breaking up colds in my flock caused no doubt by the changeable weather.

W. J. BELL.

Banda.

We hope those who are interested in turkeys will speak out on the subject alluded to by Mr. Bell. Much dissatisfaction in these cases could be done away with if all parties would speak out, not go on saying all manner of things to one another, that only reaches the one or two. Mr. Bell is one of those who says his say where all may read and comment on it. Turkey raising and judging must be put on the same footing as other stock. We are glad friend Bell finds our WEEKLY useful.

He is After the Ideal Hen.

HENS ain't very big critters, but when you get enough of them together they manage to take up a good deal of the time between daylight and dark,—i. e., when they are cared for as they must be in order to make them pay. Sometimes I pause in the midst of my arduous labor, wipe the perspiration from my noble brow, and fairly ache to meet the villains who declare that it only takes from 20 to thirty minutes daily to care for one or two hundred fowls.

But what I started this for was to tell you why I am too busy to write much for poultry papers, or any other. Having failed to invent a cheap incubator that would run night and day for three weeks without any attention whatever, and at the end of that time turn out a strong, healthy chick from every egg placed in the machine, I am now bending the whole weight of my gigantic intellect to the work of producing a new breed that will knock all the old standard varieties higher than a kite. "New breeds enough now," did you say? Oh, yes; enough such as they are, but poultry raisers don't seem satisfied, they want something different—something like this: The hens must be good layers, averaging 365 eggs a year. The eggs must all be large, and when set everyone must produce a chick. The hens must be sitters of course, but they must also continue to lay right along while sitting or raising their chicks. The chicks must be lively from the start, grow rapidly on two feeds daily of anything that comes handy, be in fine condition for the table at any time after they are four or five weeks old, and most of the flesh must be "breast meat." Pullets must commence laying at six or eight weeks. Fowls and chicks must be perfectly hardy, regular iron-clads, able to rough it without shelter in all kinds of weather. In plumage they must be "strikingly beautiful" and of course the legs and skin must be yellow. I haven't yet found out what kind of a comb these "ideal fowls" must wear in order to suit everybody, but I think that the climate will have an influence on that part of the fowl's make-up; chicks that are hatched and raised when the winters are severe will not grow combs and wattles, but those raised "down South" will develop those ornamental appendages. Size? That's just what bothers me, some folks want a big breed, some prefer small fowls and others want them of medium size. But I shall strike something that will "suit the masses," and shall probably have it ready to boom it into the Standard about five years hence; so gentlemen of the A. P. A., you will please leave room for the "coming fowl"—the ideal fowl that will suit everybody.—Bob White in American Farmer.

Yards and Fences.

FOR Asiatic breeds a fence four feet high will confine them, which should be tight two feet from the ground, the balance wire netting. For middleweight breeds, such as Plymouth Rocks, etc., it should be at least five feet high, six would be better. This can be accomplished by using wire netting four feet wide.