

# POULTRY

## POULTRY ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO.

THE Board of Directors met on the Wednesday of the Toronto Show week. President C. F. Ernst in the chair, others present being Messrs. W. McNeil, A. Bogue, W. Barber, D. C. Trew, J. Rice, Jno. Cole, R. E. Kent, and R. Oke, who acted as Secretary. The list for Turkeys and Geese was made \$3, \$2 and \$1 and any other variety Bantams added. Messrs. Butterfield, Jarvis, Smelt and Johnson were appointed judges and will take the same classes as last year except that Mr. Jarvis takes barred P. Rocks. Doors will open Tuesday at 2 o'clock and close Friday at 12 noon. The dates of show to be Dec. 31st and Jan. 1, 2, 3 and 4. Mr. Fred Geobel was appointed Superintendent at a remuneration of \$25.00. All birds will be scored. The New Hamburg Association will get \$160 to run the show, the same amount as allowed last year. The prize list is to be ready December 1st, and will be published by the local Association, entries close December 24th. Mr. L. G. Jarvis was supported in his application as Superintendent of the proposed poultry department at the Governmental Farm, Guelph. Mr. A. G. Gilbert who was present spoke briefly on the egg question, when, after votes of thanks to him and the Industrial Board for use of room the meeting adjourned.

## JUDGING AT THE INDUSTRIAL.

### Editor Review :

IT seems to me that a question of great importance at the present time is the appointment of a fourth judge on poultry at the Industrial Exhibition. It may seem to many that it is either a little late or else decidedly early to bring this question up, nevertheless it is neither too late nor too early to discuss a question of so great importance to exhibitors and visitors at the Industrial Exhibition. In the opinion of many exhibitors the judging should be completed on Tuesday of the second week, thus giving farmers and other visitors the opportunity to inspect the winners, moreover on Wednesday of the second week there is almost always a larger attendance than on any other day of the exhi-

bitation. Under the present three judge system, the judging is often unfinished, even on Wednesday, consequently, hundreds of visitors and many exhibitors are sadly disappointed thereat. Is there no remedy for all this? Is there no man in Canada qualified to act as a judge on poultry, at Toronto Exhibition? Why certainly there is. In my opinion, there are scores qualified to act in that capacity. Judging from the dissatisfaction openly expressed at some of the judging at the late Industrial, our present judges don't suit everyone, neither would a new judge. A few years ago a gentleman was appointed as fourth judge on poultry, and if ever a man tried to do an honest job, he did, but he made the common error of not pleasing everyone, and was consequently disqualified, he made mistakes, as do our old judges. Another the following year also failed to fill the position satisfactorily to all exhibitors, yet he was engaged to judge several Canadian shows the following winter. In his case we saw a repetition of the other. He was not wanted by some of those he failed to give tickets to, and was no longer wanted to judge here. The exhibitors are to blame for much of the dissatisfaction in connection with the judging at our largest shows. If they would openly express their views on this subject instead of doing a lot of quiet "kicking," we might see a change, if a change is needed; many are afraid to speak for fear of being knifed at some future show, but honest criticism should be tolerated by everyone; therefore if the old judges leave cause for complaint, why should we expect a new judge to be infallible? Let us appoint a man and give him a fair show, be as lenient with the new judge as with the old. The talk that there is no one qualified to act as judge at Toronto, is all poppycock. There are scores of them. Are the Ontario breeders such an ignorant class that they cannot learn enough to pass a fair decision on a few classes of fowls at Toronto? Are men who yearly judge at Fall exhibitions, and have been years dabbling in thorough-bred fowls never going to learn enough to act at Toronto? What rot. Any intelligent fancier who follows the shows is qualified for that job. I do not wish, Mr. Editor, to occupy much space on this matter myself, I would like to hear the opinions of others, at the same time I could offer a much bigger argument as to why at least another judge should be appointed. This having the judging unfinished till nearly the last day of the show is neither just to exhibitors or visitors. It should be finished by Tuesday at the latest by some means, and if four judges are unable to accomplish that more should be appointed.

JOHN GRAY

Doncaster, Sept. 22, 1894.