

POULTRY FROM A PRACTICAL STANDPOINT

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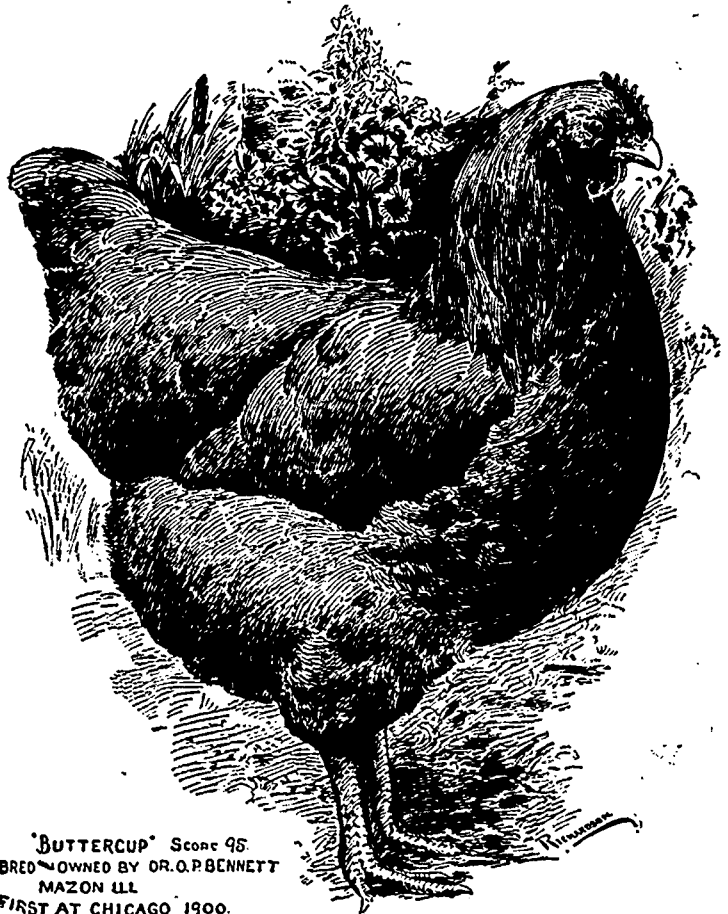
NOTE:—Mr. Gilbert is nothing if not practical and experimental. He will from his rich store of information on the subject of "Practical Poultry" give Review readers each month the result of his experience for the past thirty years. He will be glad to answer questions or afford information on any particular subject.

CALGARY, the pretty free-stone city of the North-West Territories, is in a district naturally adapted for turkey and chicken raising. The climate is dry and equable and food cheap and abundant and the market good. It is an ideal district for turkey raising and chicken fattening on an extensive scale. An expert in either branch of the business, with the necessary capital, would make money here. Oats of the finest quality sell at twenty cents per bushel. Other grains can be grown as successfully. It is the centre of a great beef raising district. So we have the great fattening agents, ground oats, with the freshest of suet or tallow, in abundance and of the best quality. With the aid of incubators and a brooding house or houses, chickens could be raised in great numbers; raised and fattened cheaply and readily sold at paying prices. A friend of mine told me that he had fattened a number of birds, which to his astonishment, could only be had in limited numbers and scrubs at that. They cost him seven cents per pound to fatten and sold at fifteen cents per pound. And with the proper breeds the cost of production could doubtless be lessened.

One does not know what a banner Province Ontario is and what opportunities its farmers have, until he goes into other Provinces. What I mean is that Ontario has the mild, medium and comparatively cold weather districts. And above all she has the energetic and pushing farmer. Ontario at present is a veritable garden in some portions. Its future is surely to produce the superior quality in dairying, poultry, sheep and hog raising. Its fruits are full and finely flavoured, pasture and food products abundant and water good and plenty.

In no other Province is poultry raising making more rapid development, and that is a tribute to the intelligence of the farmers, for poultry raising is an advanced science, and it

Poultry keeping in British Columbia ought to pay. In Vancouver, when I was last in it, October 29th, purchasers were paying fifty cents per dozen for new laid eggs; one dollar to one dollar and a half per pair, for chickens, and twenty-five cents per pound for turkeys. And grass is comparatively green all winter. The climate genial, but damp. And in face of these favorable conditions eggs are imported, and the finer quality of poultry hard to get. The farmers, or ranchers, as they are called, do not give their attention to poultry raising or egg production. Successful poultry keeping is conducted by persons who are not regular farmers. In one or two cases, poultry



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takes brains, perseverance and energy to successfully prosecute it. And the sooner the farmer realizes this the better. All this is said without prejudice to other Provinces.

breeding is conducted by fanciers, notably, the Oak Bay poultry establishment, near Victoria. I had the pleasure of a call from the proprietor when in Victoria. What is wanted is