

of a carload are passed free both ways. Any exhibitor who brings his stock over 100 miles from any point in Ontario will be entitled to a rebate equal to the freight charges on his shipment for the distance it was carried over 100 miles, provided he has notified the secretary at least three weeks previous to the show.

Dressed Poultry at London.

Time and again it has been demonstrated that there is a greater profit in poultry keeping than in any other branch of farm life. The farmers of Ontario, or rather their wives, are paying particular attention to egg production with satisfactory results, even under the slipshod methods frequently adopted, and it remains for them to turn their attention to fattening the surplus stock and placing it on the market. A first-class object lesson will be the exhibit of dressed poultry in connection with the Fat Stock Show to be held at London on the 11th to 15th of Dec. The fact that there is money in eggs should not induce farmers to overlook the truth that there is also money in properly fattened and dressed poultry. Every fall there are thousands of surplus cockerels slaughtered and hustled on the market regardless of quality or appearance. It appears to be simply a question of getting away with the birds, because their retention would mean some extra trouble during the winter, and it does not occur to the owner that there should be as large profit on the birds as there is on egg production.

The quicker farmers realize this, the sooner will their incomes be increased. It is quality, not quantity, that is desired by the consumer. The farmer should make a test. Take half a dozen well-fattened cockerels, and half a dozen ordinary stock to market, and make a note of the speed with which the first mentioned lot will be sold, and how long it takes to dispose of the latter; note also the difference in price.

To obtain the higher price and the more rapid sale needs some experience, and the best educator is a first-class show as that at London will be.

Don't miss the poultry exhibit; don't fail to hear the experienced lecturer tell how it is done; and don't fail to go home and practice it, and your wives will be happy.

F. W. Hodson, superintendent of Farmers' Institutes, Parliament Buildings, Toronto, will furnish all information on the show mentioned, and will, if you desire it, supply you with prize lists.

Mr. A. W. Smith, Maple Lodge, Ontario, has just received from Scotland a very fine importation of Border Leicesters. Mr. Smith is one of America's most successful Leicester breeders.

Farmers' Institutes.

Women's Institutes of South Ontario.

On November 7th we published in this department an account of the first meeting of the South Ontario Women's Institute. It was such a marked success that the ladies decided then and there to adopt an aggressive policy, and carry the war into the territory adjacent.

On November 9th, as previously advertised, the second meeting was held at Pickering. Here, as might be expected, the attendance was not as large as the Whitby meeting, but the programme was quite up to the mark, and the secretary writes that some ladies drove as far as nine miles for the express purpose of being present at the institute.

In her opening address the president briefly outlined the work that institute hoped to accomplish. Mrs. J. L. Smith followed with her splendid address on "Women's Institutes, What They Are and Why They Are." So much thought and careful study has been put on this paper that it ought to have a much wider circulation. (The superintendent has made arrangements whereby Mrs. Smith can deliver this address before women's institutes anywhere in the province.)

A very practical paper on "The Care of Poultry in Winter" was read by Mrs. Isaac Huggins, of Oshawa. A paper prepared by Miss Nash was also read by Mrs. Austin. The subject was "Domestic Economy," and the matter was well arranged, and, judging from the interest manifested by the audience, it was much appreciated. By special request Miss Meen favored those present with the following address on

"WINTER WINDOW GARDENING."

Having been asked to give some advice on the above-named subject, I will give some experience I have had in growing bulbs and other plants. Those of us who have an evenly-heated house, with plenty of nice, sunny windows, will have no trouble at all to have them full of beautiful flowers, and not have them crowded, as all plants look and do much better when given plenty of room. Many will say their house is too small and they cannot have a good assortment. That can easily be overcome by putting in shelves or brackets. If it is to be shelves, do not have them so near the window that the leaves will touch the window pane, for they often get chilled by being too near. Brackets are much nicer, as they can be swung back in the evening or on extremely cold days.

It is said "a person fond of flowers has a touch of refinement." No matter how nicely a house is furnished it is not complete without a pretty plant here and there. When all is covered

with snow, it is then we take delight in our house plants. We need all kinds to make a perfect harmony. The trailing kinds, the plants with their beautiful foliage, the stately lilies, the many pretty climbers which are grown, the ever blooming geraniums, etc., all lend their beauty to a room and help us to feel all is not dead that was bright and pretty.

I will mention bulbs first, as this is the time of year to order and plant them. They can be planted as late as December, but will not bloom until spring, and then we have so many other plants in bloom that we do not appreciate them so much. There are a great many kinds to select from, but some do not pay for the time and trouble spent on them. We all admire the tulips, hyacinths, freezias, daffodils, narcissus and Chinese sacred lilies. They are indispensable when choosing bulbs, as they are among the easiest grown. I must not forget to mention the amaryllis and calla lily, but they are better if planted earlier in the season, as they take some time to grow before bloom makes its appearance. The calla must have good, rich soil and requires feeding. Liquid manure and castor oil are good for feeding purposes. Also give the calla plenty of warm water and sun. I often pour nearly boiling water in the saucer. The amaryllis needs sand added to soil, with bulb placed so that it will be half out of the earth and given plenty of hot water, not so hot as to injure the bulb. The first named bulbs, with the exception of the Chinese sacred lily, all do well in good, well-rotted, leaf loam, with a part sand added. The base of bulb should be placed on sand and filled up with leaf mould and sand mixed. Cover it nicely, not too deep, say half an inch.

When purchasing bulbs it is better to select the largest and healthiest in the market, as they give better bloom. If one has plenty of small pots it is better to put hyacinths and tulips out singly. Daffodils, narcissus and freezias do well with a number in a pot. The freezias will stay in the same pot and send out as large flowers each successive year as at first, not like the hyacinths and tulips, which are exhausted, and only fit for outdoor culture after the first year. Narcissus are really beautiful in the house and last a long time if properly taken care of, they are so fragrant. There is a little fable taken from "Grecian Mythology" that there once lived a youth called Narcissus, so wondrously beautiful as to excite the admiration of all who beheld him, that his fame went abroad through the known world and people flocked from far and near to see him. But, alas! One day as he wandered along the banks of a clear, running stream he caught a glimpse of his lovely face and fell completely in love with himself. Indeed he became so fascinated that he could not be induced to leave the spot even to get