

I think not. Neither would the opponents of scoring at the present day (did they once adopt it?) ever think for a moment of returning to the old plan of selecting the best specimens by open judgment. No, I think not, did they once witness the fair, honest and business manner that I. K. Felch, and other first-class judges of the A. P. A., go about it. The *modern operandi* is this: Taking with him a person who acts as his clerk, he begins with, say the Dark Brahmas. The new scoring cards have printed at the top all the disqualifications according to the *Standard* which falls to the lot of each variety. The judge comes to coop No. 1 and finds a disqualified bird; he draws a line with his pencil under the particular disqualification printed at the top of card, and writes across the face of the score card, "see above." The owner at once sees where the trouble is by looking at the score-card which is attached to the coop, or what is still more important, if the owner of the bird is not present at the show, the card is sent to him, and he is not left in doubt as to why his bird was not successful in winning a prize. No. 1 being thus disposed of, he proceeds to coop No. 2, and scores the birds found therein, and thus proceeds to the end or last coop of that variety, then returns to secretary's office and tots up the score of each individual bird, and signs it, and the bird that tots up the highest score down in the office is the winning bird, regardless of who may be the owner. You will notice Mr. Editor, I emphasize the words "and signs it," for it is the practice of some judges not to do so, for reasons best known to themselves, but I. K. F. is not afraid of his work coming back on him. And then another advantage to the exhibitor in "scoring" is that he sees exactly where his birds fall short; he looks at the "outs" and sees his bird cut on -and-a-half on comb, or two-and-a-half on color, whereas he had an idea that his bird was about perfect on these points, and thus he learns and goes home a wiser man to rectify his mistake, with hopes of better success next time he ventures with his pets to the show room. There are other good reasons that might be given for the system of "scoring," but enough for the present.

PURE BLOOD.

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The Poultry Farmer

should now be alive and using his best judgment. He will now be able to tell which are the earliest layers, which lay the largest eggs, and most of them. He should save the eggs from these for hatching, and get them under the hens as early as possible. When we say the "largest eggs" we do not mean those of unusual size for the hen that laid them, as these are generally double yolked, and will not hatch. In Canada the most profit in the business is to be made from eggs, and the principal object of his matings must be to secure chicks that will be great egg-producers. He wants chicks in large numbers, as he must fully renew his stock every three years; so he must look largely to the male bird for his improvement. A hen will only influence her own progeny, while the male will influence that of a large number. If the egg-production of the flock has not been good, bring in a strong, pure-bred White or Brown Leghorn cockerel, and mate him with a dozen of the largest and best laying hens. If they have been well housed and fed during the winter, and *should*

have laid, and didn't, and were good summer layers, mate with a Plymouth Rock cockerel. If they are as good layers as the owner thinks possible or as he expects to get, and he wants to improve the size, mate with a Light Brahma cockerel. If they are as large as thought necessary, and it is desired to improve the quality of the flesh, a cross with a Dorking, Game or Plymouth Rock will do it. It will not pay, however, to sacrifice eggs for flesh.

Look out for a market for your broilers. Among the chickens raised you will likely have as many males as females, and nearly all the former should be marketed as broilers. It will not pay to carry chickens through till fall and then sell at the prices that generally prevail at that season.

Keep the nests clean, and market the eggs clean. To save trouble in doing this collect the eggs frequently. It will pay to give this part particular attention. Full nests induce the habits of egg-eating and broodiness in the hens; a broken egg in the nest gives a lot of labor in cleaning both nest and eggs, and no matter how well soiled eggs are marketed they will have a suspicious look in the egg-basket.

Editor Review.

Sir,—I know that you are always interested in anything connected with poultry or shows, and are always ready to lend your valuable assistance to further the primary objects of the poultry associations whose objects ought to be the holding of shows and the giving of prizes for first class stock, either raised or imported, and doing all they can to encourage the class of poultry in Canada, and for which the Ontario Government grants them a large sum to enable them to carry out the purpose for which they came into existence. Now, I fear the various societies are not always successful in electing a committee and judges independent enough to act without being influenced to some extent by social interest, and might even grant concession to the well-known professional breeders, so that the man from a distance who, at considerable expense and risk, sends his birds, sometimes hardly gets fair play, which, to say the least of it, is not the best way to encourage poultry improvements, and also causes great dissatisfaction amongst exhibitors. The way the last show at Toronto was conducted was open to objections on account of the judging and general management. In the first place, a good many of the birds that were forwarded in time had to be cooped up for four days before judging, which had a very bad effect on the birds. The effects on a bird I entered for Mr. Daye, of Cornwall, in the Black-breasted Red Game class, who had been put into a coop with a hole between another of the same class, where they had pecked each other's head, was made an excuse by the judge for not giving him second place, not being able to distinguish between blemishes and wounds; and when asked for a score he could not or would not give it, and from questions asked about the bird's record, and who exhibited him, it seem to me that that was of great assistance in forming an opinion. In the February number of your REVIEW I see a writer handles the subject of scoring, a way, if attended to, and made compulsory for the judges to give a score card when asked for, would be a great assistance to breeders, and put every bird on its merits. I also entered a protest against the decision of the