

Questions and Answers.

SILVER.—QU. Breeding owls. ANS. You may breed silver to silver, or silver to blue.

J. B. O.—QU. Angora rabbits. ANS. See this issue.

J. V. VISE.—QU. Article on Australian Paroquets. ANS. We will endeavor to oblige you in the near future.

CARRIER.—QU. Carrier with canker. ANS. Touch twice daily with a solution of one part of carbolic acid to ten of glycerine. Feed on husky food.

An Apology.

We owe some reparation to the readers of the REVIEW for the strange mixture which appeared under the P. and P. S. Department last month.

On receiving our copy of the REVIEW we certainly thought that the printer who put the paragraph in shape had been taken suddenly insane or else the type had been struck by lightning.

It took two bunches of burnt feathers, a bottle of salts and four pails of water to bring us back from the swoon we fell into when we found that we had been made to call Mr. J. O. Weldon's marriage "a severe family affliction." We look forward to our next meeting with him with fear and trembling. The apparent contradiction of the season's success in breeding in the REVIEWS for September and October may be explained by the fact that our "copy" reached the publisher too late for insertion in the September issue, and he "fixed" the pigeon notes.

If that printer ever comes to Parkdale—well! we "travel" now with a six-shooter in our hip pocket, and thirst for gore. *Whoop!*

The Angora Rabbit.

This rabbit seems to be growing in favor among Canadian fanciers. We have had several inquiries lately as to its management, etc. It certainly is a hard rabbit to keep in proper show trim, as it requires almost daily grooming; but we think it is well worth the trouble. We can do no better than to give in its entirety the able article on this rabbit to be found in "The Practical Rabbit Keeper."

The Angora rabbit is peculiar to itself. It occupies, in fact, a distinct place in the fancy rabbit world, from the fact that its wool is very long, and quite different in every respect from that of any other rabbit. Instead of being hair or fur it resembles wool, soft and fleecy to the touch. It is, therefore, easy of description, and once having been seen it can never be forgotten.

First, let us state that while long hair is essential to Angoras, Angoras are essential to long hair. There are other rabbits with wool represented to be

French rabbits, or with other names, but the general opinion is that they have all come from one source, that they are crosses from the Angora.

The Angora looks a very large rabbit; in reality it is not really so, although it is certainly larger either than the Dutch or Himalayan. The best of the breed are white; colored ones occasionally take the prizes, but not so often now as formerly, and we think that one result of more careful attention to the breed has been to confine the young ones to what is undoubtedly the pristine color of the variety. The eye is pink, generally a little paler than the Himalayan. The animal should be well built, but the same compactness of form cannot be expected as in the Himalayan. The flesh of the Angora does not seem to be so firmly set, and the limbs are certainly not so strong.

As we have seen, the wool of the Angora should be fleecy and long, the longer and softer the better; it should lie in thick clusters all about the body and head, quite obliterating the outline of the figure, and being often a little unsightly. Still, the longer the fur is, the more valuable is the animal.

To keep the wool free from knots—and it is obvious that this is a most essential point—the occasional use of a small brush is recommended. We don't want to puff any articles here, but have found the electro wire brushes, applied very lightly, to be the best, and as one will last for years, the extra outlay is not much of a drawback. Knots are excessively unhealthy, tending as they do to check the respiration through the pores of the skin. Experiments have shown that a rabbit whose wool or fur is varnished quickly dies, and these lumps of matted wool or fur are nearly as bad. When one is found, a little warm water may be used to get it out, taking care not to wet the rabbit too much. In the event of this failing, cut it boldly off, and watch well the wool as it grows again.

Extreme cleanliness is the only sure preventive against this nuisance, and to carry this out three points should be observed. (1) The hutches should be kept dry, and be cleaned out at least three times a week—once a day is better; (2) large numbers should not be kept in the same hutch, or by jumping over one another they will cause the fur to be dirtied; and (3) Angoras must not be kept in the bottom tier of a stack, unless the middle floor is absolutely water-tight. If not, the urine dripping through and on to the back of the Angora, will make a terrible mess of it.

The Angora is prolific, the doe taking kindly to the sire, and generally having from five to nine at a litter. Exhibition does spoil themselves very much by baring their breasts for their young when breeding, and thus make very beautiful nests. It is therefore important with valuable does that they should not be allowed to breed too often, and that, if possible, they should be prevailed upon to use a little "imported" wool.

(To be continued.)