

H. Collier, Vice-President; and P. A. Rowsell, Secretary of the Tacoma Poultry Association, and many others lending their names and support to the State Association and wishing its prosperity.

On motion, a committee of three was appointed to confer with the State Fair Commission, regarding accommodation and arrangements for the poultry department at our State Fair to be held in October and to select a judge as soon as practicable in order to let the breeders know who will judge their birds in ample time. We will try to secure the services of one who will give the general satisfaction that was given by Harry H. Collier last year, of whom no complaint was made except by a few disgruntled individuals who had no birds present and who did nothing to help the show.

The subject of joining the circuit was well handled and will be brought up again at our next meeting.

After the usual routine of business the Association adjourned with a parting cheer for the "Ole Hen," to meet again April 13th, after extending a cordial invitation to all to be present or to send a communication.

F. R. WILSON,

Secy. Wash. State Poultry Ass'n,
North Yakima, March 9th, 1895.

●●●

THE MID-CONTINENTAL.

EDITOR B. C. FANCIER,

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Mid-Continental Poultry and Pet Stock Association, held at Parlors, Midland Hotel, on Jan. 2nd, 1895, it was decided that our Society would hold its next show in Kansas City, Mo., beginning Nov. 27th, and lasting to and including Dec. 2nd, 1895. Our premium list will be more liberal than that offered for the 1894 Show, in both cash and specials, as we already have sufficient funds on hand to guarantee us in offering a better prize list, and we are satisfied that the merchants and business men of Kansas City, from the interest already taken in the show by them, will offer better and handsomer specials than given by them last year.

By publishing this notice at once, you will greatly oblige the officials and members of our association. Premium lists will be ready for distribution by the 1st of September. We will print an edition of at least 10,000 copies. We cordially invite all breeders of the U. S., Canada, England and other foreign countries, to bring their birds to compete, and we are satisfied they will gain a large trade by doing so, the interests in thoroughbred poultry throughout the West, are rapidly increasing.

Yours, very truly,

F. M. Stutz, Secy.
Kansas City, Mo., March 12, '95.

TYPE.

WRITTEN FOR B. C. FANCIER.

Many people get a few settings of expensive eggs and imagine that because they paid a long price all the chicks hatched will be perfect birds. If the breed is an old established one, and has been carefully bred by the seller to one uniform type or shape, the probability is that many of the chicks if properly fed and cared for will be worthy representatives of their parents. Unless attended to, they will prove starveling copies of their progenitors, no matter how good the original parents are. Nature is always changing, and different food and different climate are the great factors in the curious transformations that if followed up start a new variety, or a new type.

Most people notice at once any variation in color, but a little change in shape does not strike the eye of the multitude, and for a slight variation it needs a trained eye.

But once start breeding these variously shaped birds, the chick will be a more various style, and it is to this lack of observation we owe the numbers of whip-tailed Leghorns, and stilted long-legged Minorcas, and narrow chested Plymouth Rocks and Langshans one sees all over the country.

True, it is almost impossible to attain perfection, and as color strikes the eye of a mere beginner, color should certainly be attended to, but when a fancier rears many hundreds of birds, it certainly has a chance to select so as to include both.

If shape is not attended to, the difference between say the Black breeds of fowls, as they are the most numerous, will be

constantly diminishing, until we will not know a Spanish from a Minorca or Langshan except by the variation in earlobes.

All the difference in type, shape and color we notice among fowls as they now are, is due to slight variations of Nature which have been carefully followed up, and intensified in most cases. Just as they begun so will they disappear if not kept in the narrow path of fixity of type by selection.

We can learn from Darwin or Wood or any naturalist how selection is constantly varying the forms of nature both animal and vegetable, how insects and flowers are friends in many cases each endeavoring its best to attract the other. How the bright colors of flowers are the beauties they display to attract the wanderers of the air. How life as it surges around us is alive with constant endeavour to reach perchance a higher type; how "the survival of the fittest," in other words the perpetuation of the highest and strongest endeavors, is the legend that is preached aloud through earth and air—"sermons in stone and language in the running brooks." Let us look to it that we select our birds carefully for the new breeding season, that we choose our chicks that are to be saved from the fate of broilers, for the perpetuation of the race in other hands perchance, carefully, else Dame Nature, while we dream of prizes, and of wonderful scores at the shows next year, will laugh in her sleeve and while we eye our favourites in their costumes all of one color with pride and complacency, she will so change their shapes, that even the sun himself when he casts his shadows on the earth, will know no difference between any of them, but probably the judge at the poultry show will find it out rather too quickly for the score to be a genuine pleasure.