

POULTRY.

(Under this heading, all questions relating to poultry will be answered.)

THE special general meeting of the B. C. D. P. & P. S. Association, held on Thursday, the 22nd inst., was only slimly attended. The business of the evening was the presentation of a report showing the standing of the Society. It was shown that the last two exhibitions had each cleared a profit of about one hundred dollars, but that there still remained a debt of close on five hundred dollars incurred on the first three exhibitions. After a full discussion, it was resolved that the first thing to be done was the wiping out of the old debt, and this the members undertook to do by subscription, close on three hundred dollars being subscribed for at the meeting. It was also resolved to incorporate, and a committee was appointed to ascertain the best method of doing this. The meeting seemed to favor the formation of a joint stock company.

We were favored last week with a visit from Mr. Jas. Chalmers, of Salt Spring Island, and had a long chat with him on poultry and kennel topics. Mr. Chalmers is one of the best comparison judges in America—in fact, second only to the renowned Sharpe Butterfield. We would like to see the next show judged by comparison with Mr. Chalmers officiating. We are confident the show would be a record breaker. The New York show had 4,000 entries, and the judging by comparison finished in less than two days.

Mr. Chalmers is also a competent judge of collies, and possesses a rare good one in Bessie Lee, C. H. C. J. B. 3,267, by Pensarn Gordon, ex Zella II. He informs us that the Pensarn Kennels have a grand breeding dox in Gordon, all the puppies of the last litter by him promising to make winners.

The Rev. F. W. Flinton, of Cedar Hill, is not likely to have any more of his fowls stolen, having purchased a fine collie, Echo Lass, from the Echo Collie Kennels. Echo Lass is a very handsome black, white and tan, and is by Pensarn Gordon, ex Victoria Chance.

The handsome McKeon medal, for the best collie in the show, is on exhibition at J. B. Carmichael's cigar store, opposite the post office. It was won by Metchley Flurry; and Mr. Carmichael is also showing two fine photos of her, done in Savannah's best style. Though out of coat at present, "Metch" shows all the good points of a true collie, and, when in condition, will rank with the best in America. She also won THE HOME JOURNAL collie special.

It is said that there is no truth in the report that John Braden, the well known breeder of Pit Game cocks, is to retire from the Government ticket. It would be of great advantage to the poultry interests to have him to fight their battles in the House.

The Hon. J. H. Turner is a valuable

friend to poultry men. Though not a farmer himself, yet we understand that he comes from a farm, that his people are farmers, that most of his best friends are farmers, and that farming, and especially poultry farming, is to be looked upon as one of the mainstays of the Province.

When fowls have a free range, and can select such foods as they prefer, they will not always accept food that is not varied. Instances are known in which Leghorn hens on the ranch refused corn although Brahmas in an adjoining yard accepted the corn very readily. This shows that the instinct of the hens prompts them at times to reject unsuitable food when they can secure that which is better adapted to their purpose. The active Leghorns on the range found better food than corn for producing eggs while the Brahmas in the yards had no alternative but to receive whatever was placed before them.

It has also been noticed again that corn could be fed to Leghorns in larger quantities than to Brahmas, provided the Leghorns were not confined, and that they also produced abundantly of eggs although allowed corn only. Being on the range, however, the food picked up simply balanced the ration, the corn in that case being a very proper food, but had the Leghorns been confined, and given no food but corn, they would have become overfat, and failed to give good results. Their active habits permit them to consume more carbonaceous food, proportionately, than other fowls. Some breeds have a tendency to readily fatten, but the Leghorn does not belong to that class. Leghorns can, of course, be gotten in a fat condition, but it will require more food to fatten them, in proportion to size, than is necessary for some of the larger breeds.

The best evidence that Leghorns are being overfed is when they begin to sit, for all hens of the non-sitting breeds will sit if they become fat. Even the Brahma will fail to sit if she does not become fat and for that reason judgment should be used in feeding. If Leghorns and Brahmas are kept together they cannot be fed properly, as they differ greatly in their characteristics, but many poultrymen fail to observe this fact, and keep hens of all sizes, breeds, ages and conditions in one lot. If flocks are bred uniformly, and the hens are as nearly alike in all respects as possible, some of the difficulties of management will be removed, and the hens will also give much better results.

The Poultry Yard says that an assessor in a small Massachusetts town went to the trouble of ascertaining the number of chickens kept in the place. There were 1,036 dwelling houses, 1,120 families, and 884 of them kept fowls. Seven kept over 100 each and two had over 200. The total number of fowls, old and young, in March and April, was 12,260, of which 10,000 were hens, laying eggs. "If these birds lay a fair average number of eggs during the year—at a moderate calculation, say 120 each (and they will do better than this, for they are largely of the Asiatic, Leghorn, and mixed varieties)—the egg product of this one village will be 1,200,000 eggs, or about 100,000 dozen. Now this in a single town, half a dozen miles from a large city,

is, we think, a sample of what is being done generally in poultry breeding all over this country, proportionately to the population. At least, this is fair to promise for New England, the middle and the western states."

A large number of those interested in poultry and pet stock met at Vancouver last Saturday night. After speaking at length as to the importance of the poultry industry, Mr. W. Towler moved the following resolution: "That it is advisable in the opinion of those present to form a Poultry and Pet Stock Association for Vancouver and that this meeting pledges its assistance and maintenance of such a society." Mr. Harry Lee seconded the motion. The following officers were elected:—President, F. Cope; Vice-Presidents, F. C. Cotton, J. C. McLagan, S. W. Lobb, Vancouver, I. R. Pearson, New Westminster; Mayor Anderson, W. Towler, A. M. Beattie and J. Tremble, Vancouver; Secretary, Geo. Bartley; Executive Committee, Messrs. W. Lindsay, W. Bailey; C. N. Davidson, M. Costello, H. Lee, I. Wigglesworth, John A. Gow, W. Spragge, G. W. Phipps, Thos. Lillie, Sam. Macey, A. W. Ogilvie, Jonathan Miller and R. Fowler. The committee were given power to add to their number. Mr. Chas. Riley was elected Superintendent. The name of the Society was then decided on as the Vancouver Poultry and Pet Stock Association.

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