

and those who are young in the business a chance of winning some of the best prizes, which are and have been won by those of large experience and skill as breeders, or by those who have annually shown purchased stock.

This proposition by the editor of Hamilton's Weekly has roused the breeders, both veterans and novices, and they are having a "high old time" on paper over it. One good has resulted, that many are becoming more interested in the subject of the show room, its defects and advantages. The editor of the popular weekly referred to is right on many points. The "young uns" fight shy of the shows as to exhibiting, except in a very few instances, and it is readily seen that the old exhibitor has the chances all in his favor for winning the prizes. But if we vanish the old breeders or exhibitor's birds from the room it would be but a small show of average specimens, with few exceptions. Why does not the novice come out boldly and take his stand when he is convinced that he has something good, and learn by that tough experience what his birds are? Why not? Because it is too expensive a luxury in most cases.

Some are of the opinion that the amateur thinks that no matter what his birds may be the prize will go to the exhibitor, but we feel this is not their opinion. The novice desires to exhibit but will not because he knows that all the old-timers will have their birds there, and nine times out of ten he is compelled to admit that the birds the veteran will bring are so good that he will stand no chance of a prize, so he does not show. There are some who will never know enough about the birds to be able to choose the best out of their own stock, and these are generally found among the class that call judges hard names. But if the novice or amateur has the true elements of a fancier in him, he can stand any amount of beating with better stock than his own; it is only when he sees unmistakable evidences of fraud that he is disgusted, and then most likely he retires without giving any reason. Clear cases of fraud are seldom seen now, and if seen at all deceive no one, because by the better study of poultry matters there is scarcely an exhibitor of any experience that is

not as good a judge of his varieties as the one who adjudicates upon them.

We wish to encourage the beginners to exhibit, but have no wish that the veteran should retire from the field. One of the best arrangements would be to have classes for both, but funds will not permit this course. Next in order is a suggestion from W. B. Atherton; Mass., which we give below from Hamilton's Weekly, also one from D. J. Lambert. This is a subject that will bear expression and discussion with Canadians and we hope by the time all the amateurs are ready there will be a plan practicable for their success in the show room, and yet not bar the veterans from exhibiting.

We often hear hard talk when local men win at shows, but we must remember the men resident in the place of exhibition have many advantages. They do not have their birds, plumage destroyed by close cooping and long journeys, they can be carefully fed till the moment of exhibition, not to mention the fright the birds get in transport and rough handling. It would be well if some means could be found for local exhibitors to show their birds in a separate class, for their locations gives them many points to the good.

This subject is both interesting and instructive, but don't bring your feet down on the veterans. You want them sadly yet, and we think a show without their exhibits would be as Mr. Jingle would say, "tame very."

Here are letters referred to.

I can hardly agree with you that the veterans should retire from the show room. They want the advertising a show gives them and people desire to see their birds. Why not organize a "Champion class" and make all breeders who have won a certain number of first prizes compete in that and bar them from the others. That would make things lively for the "Vets," and and give the amateur a chance.

W. B. ATHERTON,

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The suggestion to the veterans is doubtless a good one, yet it would be difficult to draw the line between them and the young fanciers. The poultry exhibitions, as I look at it, are held to encourage the breeding of pure bred fowls, not for the promotion of trickery, quarrels and schemes that would make the toughest politician blush. Those associations that do all in their