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THE BRITISH COLUMBIAN FANCIER.

A PRACTICAL POULTRY JOURNAL OF TO-DAY

VOL. I.—NO. 1.

NANAIMO, MAY, 1894.

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POULTRY IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

By the Editor.

Part I.

INTRODUCTION.

The poultry industry of British Columbia has received but little attention from any source and that in spite of the fact that each year has marked a decided increase in the value of poultry and eggs imported to supply local demands. This may be partly explained by the fact that all our agricultural interests are but in their infancy, a circumstance incident upon the settlement of any new country. The rancher has been obliged to devote his attention to clearing his land, erecting his buildings, and in a general way laying the foundations upon which he hopes to build successfully in the future. These conditions are however rapidly changing, the thickly wooded country is giving way before the pluck and enterprise of the hardy settlers and where we once saw the giants of the forest, now we may see fields of waving grain; the log cabin has been replaced by the modern farm house and our province is rapidly assuming the appearance of a prosperous agricultural country. With this natural change there must also come a change on the part of the rancher. He will naturally consider the question of supply and demand. He will look over the field and see what particular line of production needs attention first, and what may be of still greater importance to him what will pay the best. It is with these thoughts in mind that the present series of articles have been undertaken, the intention being to carefully consider the question of "Poultry in

British Columbia" in several different phases, with a view of helping the present poultry ranchers in their work, and perchance leading others to add poultry raising to their present farm work.

THE DEMAND.

The first question that naturally suggests itself is this. What is the demand for poultry and eggs? There is scarcely any better way of answering this than by turning to the question of imports, and ascertaining the quantity of poultry and eggs brought into the Province annually. In the four years from June, 1888, to June, 1892, we find their value placed at the enormous sum of \$262,549 this is an average of \$65,637 per year. A snug little sum to have found its way into the pockets of our own ranchers. The home production during this time, although small, would considerably swell the above total. More than this the amount required each year is rapidly increasing, thus making an annual demand of very large proportions. \$65,000 is too much money to go out of the country each year unless there be some good reason why poultry and eggs cannot be raised here. Let us consider now,

THE COUNTRY.

British Columbia presents us many natural advantages for successful poultry raising as any other country. The rain fall at certain seasons is one of the minor difficulties that is easily provided for by a little care and forethought. In breeding solid white birds for exhibition purposes care must be taken to provide shelter from the hot summer sun or there will come as a natural result the yellow tinge so undesirable in white birds. One or two breeders who have given the matter careful attention have decided that the nature of the soil in some places has

a peculiar effect on the yellow legs of birds but of this we shall have more to say in another article. The rancher who can give his fowls access to a free range has rare feeding ground on which the good forager will find a large share of its daily food and many other requisites to make life happy. The occasional loss of a hen will not be any serious consideration in such an arrangement. In a general way it might be said British Columbia is "all right" for poultry raising. The small difficulties met with may be easily overcome; and the great general advantages are of such a character as to assure success so far as country and climate are concerned.

[To be continued.]

●●● WILL YOU JOIN?

This paper contains considerable information regarding the Langshan fowl which will be of interest to all. If you breed this particular variety you should join the American Langshan Club. The following is from the introduction to their last Catalogue. "Our club leads all other Clubs. Let us maintain this proud position. Let every worthy breeder enroll himself on its roster. While the Langshan heads the list as a general all purpose breed yet let us keep on and improve it if possible, looking for a still higher ideal as to fancy points, and by careful selection still further develop its usefulness in a practical direction.

The Club presents its list of members with pride, and takes pleasure in recommending all who appear in the list as breeders of pure stock, and to assure the public that stock and eggs purchased of them will be first class. We trust that breeders of Langshans who are not in the club will see the advisability

of becoming members and still further extend the good work the Club is doing."

Any one in this section of the country who desires any information regarding the Club can receive the same by application to the FANCIER office.

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OUR ILLUSTRATIONS.

"Honolulu Boy".

On the front cover of this our first issue appears the cut of the magnificent Barred Plymouth Rock Cockerel "Honolulu Boy," score 94, bred and owned by A. D. Hawk & Co., Kansas City. This bird headed the yard that won 1st as pen and sweepstakes silver medal as highest scoring pen in American Class, at Missouri State Show, Dec. '93. He also headed the yard that won 1st at Kansas State Show, Jan., '94, and yard that won 1st as pen and sweepstakes special for highest scoring pen in Parti-Colored Class subject to weight clause at Nebraska State Show, Jan., '94

Ideal Langshan Male and

Miss Croad's Idea of Langshan Hen.

By the courtesy of the American Langshan Club, through its secretary Mr. W. H. Hamilton, Editor of the *New England Fancier*, we are enabled to present our readers with two valuable Langshan cuts. The first represents an ideal male which was adopted by the Club in 1891 as a result of their efforts to design a bird that should embody the true Langshan characteristics. The second is Miss Croad's idea of a Langshan Hen. Miss Croad is sufficiently well known by breeders on both sides of the water to make further comment unnecessary.

Our Canadian readers will no doubt place a special value upon this last cut.

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A TWENTY ACRE FARM.

THIRTY MINUTES DRIVE FROM THE CITY.
A SIGHT WORTH SEEING.

The above farm is occupied by the famous Langshan breeder, Mr. G. E. Andrews, who is also a breeder of Wyandottes, Spanish, Rocks, and Houdans. This 20-acre plot is well worth a visit of anyone who is interested in the poultry industry, either for table or exhibition purposes.

There are about 50 runs divided off into 60ft. x 30ft. allotments, all securely fenced in with boards about 2ft. 6in.

high and wire netting overrunning up to about 7ft. The houses are all separated, built of good timber, free from draught, with natural ground floor—a mixture of loam and sand, which is a great advantage to any breed to keep them free from corns—each run is well sheltered by natural trees—blue gums predominating—there is plenty of water and the grounds slope in a westerly direction and are well drained.

No. 1 run contains a Spanish cock and several Spanish hens (imported); No. 2 contains a similar lot; No. 3 has the Crystal and Dairy Langshan cock and several good specimens of Langshan hens, amongst these are many winners at the home shows; No. 4 is another pen containing a Langshan cock and five hens, this pen is well selected; No. 5 also contains a Langshan cock and six hens, the cock ran into a prominent position last year; No's 6, 7 and 8, similar pens; No. 9 Golden Wyandottes, cock and eight hens, this pen is without a doubt the best pen this side of the line; No. 10 another grand pen of Golden Wyandottes recently imported by F. Rogen, which scored well in England; No. 11, 12, 13, 14, all Golden pens in more ways than one; No. 15 a pen of silvers, at present in full moult, all having scored at various shows; No. 16 is a grand pen of Houdans, a breed that will be greatly in demand before long; No. 17 Plymouth Rocks, about eight hens and a cock; No. 18 Plymouth Rocks purchased from Mr. H. Henty, who sold his entire and well selected stock to Mr. Andrews; No. 19 also Rocks, whilst No. 20 is a pen of Dorkings. The balance of the runs contain all the season's breeding, which are forward and healthy and a sight in themselves worth a little trouble to see.

Adjoining these runs is a beautiful fruit orchard, also a vegetable garden; a few pigs are also kept and several cows. The necessary duck is also about, which is used for the table; so fine are these that Mr. Andrews' consignment for England was superior to any thing else sent by the s. s. *Parramatta*.

We should like to see a few more breeders of Mr. Andrews' stamp take up poultry farming, and anyone who is about to start this business, combined with show-bird breeding, should not forget to pay a visit to this well regulated and well kept farm.—*Australian Poultry and Dog Gazette*.

MARKET POULTRY.

By the Editor.

There can scarcely be any question as to the need of more attention being given to the raising of poultry for the table. So far the industry has been almost entirely neglected in this Province and the early broiler and choice roaster are almost unknown. That they are in demand and would find a ready sale we are sure.

A series of careful experiments will be undertaken with a view to helping the readers of this paper in their efforts to make money with their hens along this line. The first step naturally is to find out what breeds are the best for this purpose bearing in mind such questions as these:—

Which breeds are the heaviest?

Which are the most hardy?

Which mature quickest?

Which present the best appearance when dressed?

What First crosses are the most satisfactory?

To begin operations at once, eggs were secured from pure bred Indian Game, Houdan, Light Brahma, White Plymouth Rock, Black Java, Silver Wyandotte and Black Game stock.

These have been carefully set under hens and the hatching result will be given next month so that each step may be easily followed. We are sure this is a subject of keen interest to many ranchers here in British Columbia and trust the information we may give will be helpful in the highest degree.

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A BIT OF EXPERIENCE.

Careful note was taken of the chickens hatched in July. They were slower to get on their legs than the earlier ones, and despite care, good feeding and precaution against lice several wilted away and died. In some cases it was a difficult matter to rid the ailing chicks of lice, indeed the latter seemed to take to the wanklings. There can be no doubt that July chicks have a trying ordeal to undergo for they have to withstand the intense heat of the midsummer months on one hand and the chill fall rains on the other. The early hatched chicks are the most profitable for the farmer. The hatching of late chicks should be avoided but when impossible to do otherwise, the growing stock should be kept under trees in preference to any other kind of shade.—*Dominion Experimental Farms Report, 1892*.

BUSINESS ONLY.

This column will always be devoted to "Business Only" and of course every careful business man will read it on account of the valuable lessons it will contain.

This number of the BRITISH COLUMBIAN FANCIER has come to you as a

SAMPLE COPY.

Please read it carefully and then consider the following proposition.

Write a letter to the Business Manager and enclose

FIFTY CENTS,

with your name and address, and you will receive the paper

ONE YEAR FREE.

We consider this a very liberal offer, and wonder what you will think.

This offer will only hold good until

JULY 15th, 1894.

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WINTER LAYERS.

The experience of the past four winters proves that the breeds which are often stated to be the most unsuited to cold climates lay the best. It is often said by the inexperienced that fowls with large combs are not suited for winter layers because their combs will freeze. If any one wishes to make revenue from his winter eggs he must not keep his layers where their combs will freeze. There is reason and intelligence to be exercised in the treatment of winter layers as there is in the winter caring for other stock. Of the hens with the large combs such as Leghorns, Minorcas, and Andalusians no better winter layers or hardier fowls will be found elsewhere. The Andalusians and Minorcas are excellent winter layers but require to be kept active as do all the Spanish class. Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes are well known winter layers. Members of the Asiatic family, viz:—Brahmas, Buff Cochins and Langshans require to be hatched out early in the season to make early layers. They require to be skilfully handled during the close confinement of winter to prevent their becoming too fat. A farmer will not make a mistake by choosing his winter layers from the Leghorns, Plymouth

Rocks, or Wyandottes. The Wyandottes, perhaps, come as near filling the bill as possible having little or no comb and are good layers. The Houdans do not seem to stand the confinement to winter quarters as well as other breeds. The following classification may serve as a guide in making a choice from the best known breeds:—

Breeds with large combs,—Leghorn, Minorcas, Andalusians, Black Spanish.

Breeds with small combs,—Wyandottes, Brahmas, Cochins, Houdans.

Breeds with medium size combs,—Plymouth Rocks, Dorkings, Black Javas, Langshans.

Breeds with rose combs,—Leghorns, Hamburgs, Red Caps, White Dorkings.—*Experimental Farms Report, 1891.*

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THE LANGSHAN FOWL.

The history of the Langshan fowl in this country is one of a succession of victories over prejudice, self interest and ignorance. Prejudice existed against its color of plumage and skin; self interest attacked it in the form of breeders of rival varieties and breeds; ignorance opposed its claims of excellence. But despite this multiplied opposition, an opposition which would have buried beyond the hope of resurrection a less meritorious breed, the Langshan has won a wide spread popularity which shows no sign of decrease. To-day it stands in the front rank of popular fowls and has the unique honor of being the only black fowl that has won a national and international popularity.

What were the causes of its popularity?

The first cause was unquestionably its excellent laying qualities. Among the Asiatics there is no better layer than the Langshan and but one that can be regarded as a near rival. Its large and beautifully tinted eggs are produced in abundance throughout the year, in winter as well as in summer. No single quality can more recommend a fowl to the American public than this. The first question that is asked, the first answer desired, is in reference to the production of eggs. If a fowl is a good layer it has a future before it. Prolificacy in fowls, like charity in humankind, will cover a multitude of sins.

The second cause was its table qualities. It had a well-developed body, a thin white skin, and meat of a savory character. People who have once eaten a well roasted Langshan need no urging to repeat the operation. It is true

that its legs and its skin were not of the color that is the favorite in American markets, that here it had to contend with a strong prejudice, but its qualities were such that it was able to come out of the contest with honor.

The third was its size. The Langshan is a large fowl, not the largest among the Asiatics and yet large enough to be ranked among the heavy breeds. The American people like large fowls and any attempt to diminish the size of a breed is an attempt aimed at the popularity of the breed. If the weight of the Asiatics could be reduced so that the fowls were no larger than Leghorns and no diminution of their good qualities resulted, there would be a loss and a decided loss in their popularity. Size should not be sought at the expense of coarseness, but the present weights can be maintained with no risk of deterioration in symmetry and beauty. The movement which is on foot in some quarters to reduce the weights of this breed can be viewed only with apprehension by those who wish to see it maintain its present popularity.

The fourth cause of its popularity was the unquestioned hardiness of the fowls. Hardiness is a quality that is closely connected with both pleasure and profit, and pleasure and profit appeal with great force to the American breeder; and it is right that they should, for one ought to derive profit from his labors and his labors ought to be heightened by pleasure. When one's heart unites with his hand, his work will be done more quickly, more easily and better. There is nothing more discouraging than the attempt to rear fine fowls and to lose them just as one begins to see the fruits of his labor. But the Langshan from the day it chips the egg until the natural or unnatural end of its life is as strong and healthy and hearty as any fowl can be expected to be.

The fifth cause is the great beauty of the fowl. Despite the prejudice against black plumage that exists in many quarters, there is no solid color that is richer and more beautiful than a lustrous green black. And the black of the Langshan is of this lustrous quality. It shines and shimmers in the sunlight like the richest of silks and satins. It delights and dazzles the eye. It is black, but a black that has varied effects in different lights and all the effects beautiful. And the shape and proportion of the bird are such as to heighten the beauty of its plumage. The plump breast, the neat head, the solid body,

the well shaped tail, the fully developed sickles and coverts of the male,—all these make the Langshan a beautiful fowl.

The sixth cause has been the wisdom of its breeders. Organized to protect its purity of breeding and to protect the public, they have exercised a wise liberality in making its merits known. If the fowl had been less meritorious their efforts would have been fruitless. They might have given it a temporary vogue, but as soon as it had been tested and proved lacking in unity, it would have lost its temporary popularity. The fact that it has gained steadily in favor and that the better it has been known the greater has become its popularity, which speaks volumes in favor of the breeders and the merits of the breed.

It is unnecessary to mention the many other minor causes which has given this excellent fowl its great popularity. The causes already mentioned indicate why, it seems to the writer, the Langshan is popular, and deserves to remain so.

The work of the club has been excellent, but it still has a duty to perform. Some uniform type should be decided upon, and that type should be the one which will best preserve the practical merits of the breed. As it has won its reputation on its practical qualities, it can maintain it only by the preservation of these qualities. The type, therefore, which gives the greatest prolificacy, without loss to its table qualities and its beauty, is the type that should be sought and adopted. And when this type has once been adopted all Langshan breeders should seek to conform to it, so as to bring about the greatest possible uniformity in the breed.—H. S. BANCROCK, *American Langshan Club Catalogue*.

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WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

—
WRITTEN FOR B. C. FANCIER.
—

EGGS WON'T HATCH.

No they certainly *will not* hatch when they are, to begin with, the produce of birds lacking in vigor or when they have been kept on a nice warm shelf in the kitchen until they are almost old enough to "sit up and notice things." Such eggs when fertile are the bane of the eggs for hatching business. The eager but luckless purchaser of them gives them perhaps the very best of care and the most intelligent treatment. On the night they are tested every egg

seems fertile and great are the owner's expectations. But alas for any such hopes! Nature has only been making one of her quiet little protests against slovenly methods on the part of the breeder. The ill-begotten germ in each egg has made its feeble bid for life and then collapsed. The intelligent buyer knows that every egg was fertile and feels that he has no recourse. The seller hears of the result and says it is too bad, that the eggs must have become chilled at a critical period. And these circumstances will apply when buyer and seller are neighbors, as well as when they are a thousand miles apart.

EGGS WILL HATCH.

And it seems almost impossible, by mere neglect, to prevent them from hatching, when they are *clean, reasonably fresh, and from birds in full vigor*.

Such eggs may be set on a bare floor, where the hen has to round them up individually, every time she returns to her stamping ground after her natural absences. They may get cold enough to skate on, while their prospective mother is getting in and out of the family water-barrel, but in due course, and often a day ahead of time, outcome the little chirpers every one, and after tumbling down perhaps ten feet of hay loft ladder in obedience to their mother's call from below, they come trooping in to view lively as crickets, and hungry as Coxe's Army. Such eggs, we say, *will hatch* as well, with good treatment, after crossing this Continent, as they will when set in the nest they were laid in. And the proof of it is that they have done so. We have seen winners in this Province out of eggs that yielded ninety-three per cent. of chicks, laid in N. Y. State, hatched on Vancouver Island. *These eggs were clean, fresh, and fertile every one, and they didn't come packed like castors in a cruet stand, so pretty that on opening the box one hated to break up the seven days' jig they had been having among themselves.*

VIBRATION.

All our readers have observed the difference in the effect produced on different objects by the tremulous motion of a railway car. This difference is especially noticeable in a freight or express car. The solid heavy packages may sway and lurch now and again, but the lighter parcels seem to keep up a merry dance all the time the car is in motion. The reason of it is that these lighter objects respond readily to the short

units of a vibration that doesn't seem to affect the heavier ones. Now, without going too far into the subject, it must be apparent that an express car, in travelling one mile, or a thousand miles, will, on the average, subject all its contents to a certain number of vibrations, varying in length from those which affect only the dust on the floor to those which would make any a case of kerosene dance the can-can. From observation, and some little experimenting we believe that more than half the vibration in an express car would seriously affect objects of less than four ounces in weight, and that not one tenth of the whole number would similarly disturb a package weighing five pounds. But, the essential condition is this—To ensure the full benefit of the greater weight, the heavier package must of necessity be so solid throughout as to deprive its component parts altogether of their independence of motion. Otherwise a five pound basket of eggs loosely packed remains in effect nothing but a couple of dozen small packages individually subject to a short though modified vibration of the most destructive character.

Some shippers apparently think nothing of this essential feature in packing, so long as each egg is protected from the rest. But, thanks be, there are others who seem to appreciate the principles mentioned. Only last week we saw the first package of eggs for hatching that we ever considered absolutely perfect. It consisted of a wicker basket 14 x 8 and 11 inches deep. In the bottom, dry grass; then a cardboard box 10 x 6 with 15 compartments, each containing an egg and saw dust so firmly pressed down that it required to be picked out (in this case with a pencil,) before the egg could be laid hold of. Two more such boxes, with the dry grass above, below, and about them completed the package of 45 eggs and the whole contents of the basket seemed to have been put in with a hydraulic press. Not a grain of saw-dust had shifted in 3500 miles of travel. After all, it is not the package, but the *packing* that does it.

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A PLAIN INVITATION.

We wish to draw the attention of advertisers in all parts of the Continent to the outlet that the north western country affords for first-class thoroughbred poultry and reliable eggs for hatching. Remember, six months ago, there

were scarcely twenty persons hereabout who had ever exhibited a thoroughbred fowl, and probably not a hundred people who had ever attended a decently managed poultry show! This might be taken as an evidence that in this neighborhood the interest in fine poultry was very limited. Was it? Or did it simply lack a stimulus to show its true extent and vigor? Judge for yourself. The Nanaimo Society was informally organized in November, held its first show in December and became incorporated in February. Since that time we have learned in the most casual way that importations of fowls, eggs, home cutters and other poultry specialties have arrived for dozens of ambitious breeders and fanciers. These importations have been of the right sort as the following offhand list of names will amply guarantee:—Philander Williams, William Ellery Bright, Bradley Bros., C. A. Sharp & Co., F. C. Hare, E. H. Donnelly, T. A. Duff & Co., C. J. Daniels, Geo. Lampson, E. R. Spaulding, Theo. Hewes, Jno. D. Mercer, Thos. Rice, Webster & Hannum, F. T. Palmer, E. H. Freeman,—enough for purposes of illustration. These at random, are among those who recognize the fact that an acre of fresh ground has here been opened up. They don't need assurance that it is fertile. They know it. And many of them have already secured space in our advertising columns, as well as others equally reliable whose sales in this province we have not happened to hear of.

To such as have done business in our immediate territory we say, *we can aid them to retain and extend it.* To all other responsible breeders, who aim to establish such a trade, we submit that we can bring them into more practical contact with a *really good class of intelligent buyers* than any other publication extant.

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VANCOUVER POULTRY & PET STOCK ASSOCIATION.

The above Society, now well established, has been founded on good practical lines, and will in due course give an account of itself that will be perhaps a genuine and agreeable surprise to its many well wishers, and even to its immediate supporters. Vancouver undoubtedly possesses advantages as a terminal point that render it a peculiarly favorable place for all meetings that involve shipments of valuable stock.

Nothing is more distressing to an exhibitor than the exposure and delay incident to transfers at railway or steamboat junctions. With direct means of transport from every quarter to its very portals, the Vancouver Society's showroom next winter will certainly seem more generally convenient than any other in the province. As to judges it is needless to say that our officers are keenly alive to the importance of retaining in good time the services of eminent and reliable experts to place the awards. Such negotiations however, cannot be unduly forced to a conclusion, and it will suffice for the present to say that the choice of the Association will be made intelligently and as speedily as possible. In the meantime remember that Vancouver will not be behind any of her neighbors in providing substantial inducements to exhibitors of every class local and foreign, and will cordially welcome all of them; even to the amateur that is "only keeping a few hens for laying" but needs a special car to carry away his winnings all the same.

"VANCOUVER."

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THE VERDICT.

The Langshan fowl. What are its leading qualities, and why is it the most popular fowl of the day?

Anyone who has ever bred the Langshan proclaims it the best all round fowl that has ever been brought to the notice of the fancier and breeder.

The oft repeated assertion, that they are the greatest winter layer, is demonstrated every year in the hands of those who breed and raise them. Put them against Leghorns or Minorcas (the greatest of all layers the year round) an equal number of each in a pen, and feed as the two breeds should be fed, and the verdict for the months from October to March will surely be in favor of the Langshan. The fact has been proved often, and a trial alone will convince the experimenter. At a time when eggs are most in demand for both table use and hatching, this becomes a most important fact.

Take again the table qualities of this breed. Who of us that have ever partaken of a broiled Langshan chicken at 3 and 4 months of age, would not award the palm to this breed, even against the luscious Plymouth Rock, and the solid-breasted Indian Game? These are facts not fancies. Some will tell you that the Langshan does not make a good mother, and will not brood

her chicks properly, that they are too heavy and smash the young ones in the nest, and just at the time you need her motherly care and cluck she leaves the brood and goes back to laying. Let me say right here, that for years I have been breeding this fowl exclusively, and every chicken I have ever raised was hatched out and properly raised by these "clumsy and heavy good-for-nothing mothers," losing only the proportion of chicks which are always lost in any brood by being washed and from other causes which they are heir to.

This point I am sure will be substantiated by any one who handles the breed. Now that we have these three most important points settled, eggs, broiler and brooder, let us take up the chick from the shell to maturity.

Look at the little downy beauties as you take them from under the setting hen or watch them with interest through the incubator glass as they hatch out, and let me know where there is a prettier sight for the eye, to anyone who loves the rearing of the chick.

With proper care of food and housing we see them grow into maturity, first with their pin feathers at three or four weeks, then with their black feathers, invariably tipped with white, (for which the breeder gets many a "cuss" word, until the novice sees the white disappear on the next moult) and now at 6 or 7 months, watch the feathers as they break forth in all their beauty,—that rich metallic green—until their whole breast and body looms up with that rich coloring which cannot be surpassed by any fowl, except it be the fighting Game. At this point we look anxiously among our flock for the show birds, those that we can take up and bestow extra care upon, to enable us to go to the next Philadelphia or N. Y. show and down our brother breeders with. At the shows held all over this great country of ours, North, South, East, and West, you see the crowd always around the pen of the Langshan, praising their good qualities, their beauty of plumage and symmetry; and in the majority of cases you hear the verdict—"The Langshans are the best all round fowl we have."—J. ALWYN BALL, *American Langshan Club Catalogue.*

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.....If eggs are not intended for hatching the male bird should not be allowed to run with the hens. More eggs will be got and they will keep longer than eggs from runs with male birds.

LETTER FROM TACOMA.

New papers, like new breeds, are constantly being born, and many of them die young while others live on forever. If a new breed or paper possess the qualities of a first class article it is bound to succeed. This year we have the buff craze in the poultry yard—the Buff Wyandotte, Plymouth Rock, Leghorn and Brahma—and every breeder claiming for them all of the good qualities of the old standard breeds, with none of the defects.

As for the Buff Leghorn, it seems to have one thing to sustain the good points with which they are credited, being larger than their sisters, the Whites, Browns and Blacks, and it is claimed they lay as many eggs as the best.

As for improving the Plymouth Rock, that is a good deal like carrying coals to Newcastle, quite unnecessary, as this bird is about as nearly perfect as is possible. In beauty nothing can exceed the Barred Plymouth Rock, and the same may be said of the Silver and Gold Laced Wyandottes.

The poultrymen here in the Pacific Northwest are all doing well with their birds, and lots of them are putting in new breeds. There have been plenty of eggs and chickens imported in Tacoma this spring, some getting the Buff breeds, and others the old standbys.

One of our breeders, Thos. Robinson, has recently purchased of I. K. Felch, a couple of pens of his noted Light Brahmas at a cost of \$75.00 per pen. Also a pen of full-feathered English Buff Cochins at the same price, and any others who intend showing these varieties at the coming exhibitions had better look to their laurels or they will come out losers.

The Tacoma Poultry Association will hold its first annual show January 8th to 13th, 1895. A judge has not been secured up to the present time, but it is expected that arrangements will be made with the California, Oregon and British Columbia Clubs in order to form a circuit and bring one or more good judges from the east. I would be glad to hear from the secretaries of the British Columbia Clubs in regard to forming a circuit.

Next month I will start a series of articles on Incubators and Brooders, giving my experience and telling how I hatch and rear chickens artificially.

Wishing the BRITISH COLUMBIAN FANCIER success, I am,

Yours for poultry,

HARRY H. COLLIER.

OH! WHAT A DIFFERENCE.

Two packages of eggs for hatching arrived from well known eastern breeders a short time since. They were for the same man, they contained the same number of eggs, they came the same distance and in each case they were so well packed that not an egg was broken, but here the likeness ceases, for one lot weighed twenty pounds and Mr. Expressman smilingly requested four dollars and sixty cents, while the other one only weighed eight pounds and the charge was only two dollars and twenty-five cents. Eastern men should bear in mind the fact that, even under the most favorable circumstances, breeders on the coast have to pay a heavy rate and they should not be called upon to pay two or three dollars for wood and saw-dust which they can get free of charge right here. A thoughtful consideration of a purchaser's pocket book is thoroughly appreciated by western buyers, and the man who shows by his egg baskets and his shipping coops that he has that in mind will do more business here than the man who does not, every thing else being equal.

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WELLINGTON CHALLENGE CUP.

Exhibitors are reminded that this magnificent trophy will be open to all, for competition at Nanaimo Show (Dec. 18-21, 1894), on the following conditions:—

1. The cup shall be awarded to the exhibitor making the highest aggregate score with one pair of each of any three standard varieties, not including turkeys or waterfowl.

2. No bird shall be eligible to compete which has not been the property of the exhibitor continuously during six months previous to the opening of the show.

3. The cup shall be won twice within three consecutive shows before becoming the property of any competitor.

●●●

SHIPPING CRATES.

—
WRITTEN FOR B. C. FANCIER.
—

The vexed subject of heavy, awkward shipping coops, and express charges that are alleged to be extortionate, seems to be always with us. Whose fault is it? Palpably it is the fault of the shipper. Let us give you an illustration. Lot 1—Game Bantam hen from Connecticut to Nanaimo—weight

of bird 15 ounces, weight of coop 12 lbs, charges \$5. Lot 2—Two Game Bantam hens from New Hampshire to Nanaimo—weight of birds 20 ounces, weight of coop 3 lbs, charges \$1.50. On being informed that his coop was too heavy, the simple-minded shipper of lot 1 replied with provoking candor that it didn't matter, as all weights were taken at the same rate up to 25 lbs! Yet he was one of the leading exhibitors in his class at Madison Square Garden. In the name of decency, let vendors of fowls to be shipped long distances look closely to the matter of keeping down the weight of the crates that are to carry such birds, no matter how valuable the birds may be. In nearly every instance, more room is allowed than the birds have any need for, and this is a positive objection where any rough handling is to be encountered. If you have say a trio of fowls to ship 3000 miles or more, don't imagine that you must try to provide them with all possible range during the journey—Don't imitate the idea of the English fancier who recently shipped some ducks in a bath *full* of water. Have mercy on the consignee, and allow the birds just room enough to sit down together—no more.

Now for a shipping-erate. To begin with, make a plain frame of dry stuff, inch and a quarter square, well joined at each of the eight corners, and lightly braced if necessary. Upon this, tack strong cotton, for top and sides, and for the bottom, or floor of crate, tack on strong canvass or light matting. Finally, nail on each surface three strips of three eighths by two, and you will have a light safe habitation for three or eight days' occupation as the case may be. Oven-dried clover chaff is the best absorbent for the floor of the crate, and a handful of grit scattered through it will furnish the birds all the exercise their quarters should permit. Express agents will usually allow feed and water to be supplied after such a package has been weighed for shipment. In any case, suitable feed and water vessels (the latter *removable*) should be provided *on the outside* of the coop within easy reach of the travellers. A supply of grain in a small bag tied on top completes their requirements. All other details depend on the number and description of the fowls, but no bird should be shipped in company with others that persecute it, unless at least a curtain in the coop has been arranged to afford shelter within reach of the feed and water openings.

**FROM CANADA
TO NEW SOUTH WALES.**

We publish below some correspondence that explains itself. The charges from the east to the coast, are extremely heavy, but no doubt our British Columbia breeders will soon be, if not quite prepared to fill all requirements. It may surprise some of our readers to know that the REVIEW has many subscribers in N. S. W. and the other adjacent British possessions.

Editor Review:—
Would you please let me know through the columns of your valuable paper (as we have nothing out here like it,) the cost of the carriage from Canada to Sydney, say by Vancouver, Canadian Australian Steamship line, also of coops and feed for voyage of say 2 trios of poultry. Please state if Spratt's Patent has an agency as I have never seen their advt. in your columns.

I remain yours faithfully,
JOHN W. FARROW.

Jan. 14, 1894. Harden, New S. Wales.
P. S.—I get my Review regularly and I like it O. K.

Dominion Express Co., Toronto.
Dear Sirs,—Kindly read inclosed letter and return to me with remarks. A coop with three birds would weigh about 35lbs and measure say 3ft x 1½ft by 2ft.

Yours truly,
H. B. DONOVAN.
TORONTO, FEB. 22nd, 1894.

J. A. BOSWELL, Esq., Supt., Toronto.
DEAR SIR,—Noting enclosed. It is against the rules to accept poultry for shipment over Atlantic route, I presume it will apply also to Pacific. How?

Yours truly,
W. WALSH.
TORONTO, FEB. 23rd, 1894.

W. S. STOUT, Esq., General Manager, Toronto.
DEAR SIR,—Are there any restrictions in our contract with the Victoria Australian Line to our carrying live poultry over that route.

Yours truly,
J. A. Bosw., Supt.
No restriction on Pacific, and the Pacific steamers carry many shipments of fowl, so are prepared to care for them.

W. S. S.
The rate from Toronto to Vancouver is \$14.25 per 100 lbs. and fowls would be double this or \$28.50 per 100 lbs. Canadian breeders make no charge for shipping coops, and we are sure would

make no charge for food. Spratt's Patent have no shipping agents in Canada. Would one of our friends in Vancouver find out from the Steamship Company the probable charge to Sydney, including butcher's fees, etc., and kindly communicate with us.—*Canadian Poultry Review.*

**A
Fact**

●●●
During the year ending June 30th, 1891, there was imported into this Province Poultry and Eggs to the value of \$72,147.

During the year ending June 30th, 1892, the amount reached \$124,305—an increase of \$52,158 in a single year.

How would practical poultry raising pay in this Province?

●●●
THEY WILL WRITE.

To keep hens successfully requires more ability and genuine common sense than most people think. If you don't believe it try and see. There are a lot of people in British Columbia who need assistance and are looking for it. We want to help them and have arranged with some of the leading Fanciers for a series of bright crisp articles which will appear from time to time. Here are some of the men who will contribute:

HON. SID. CONGER,
President American Poultry Association.

JAMES RANKIN,
The well known Duck breeder.

SHARP BUTTERFIELD,
The Canadian Poultry Judge.

JOHN D. MERCER,
Los Angeles, California.

T. A. DUFF,
Toronto, Ont.

H. H. COLLIER,
Editor Poultry Dept. "The Ranch"
"Northwest Horticulturist."

Helps for Poultry-keepers.

Standard of Perfection:

The new edition just issued. It contains all the latest information regarding all the breeds admitted to its sacred pages. Every breeder needs this book.

Price.....\$1.00.

Five Hundred Questions and Answers:

This choice little book contains a vast amount of necessary information put up in such shape as to be easily comprehended. The first chapter is on Feed and Care, the second on Diseases, the third on eggs, and so on.

Price.....25c.

Low Cost Poultry Houses:

Many an unfortunate poultryman has cause for deep regret on account of mistakes made in his poultry house. This book is intended to remedy such mistakes. It is well illustrated and practical in every line.

Price.....25c.

Pigeon Queries:

This is a little volume every pigeon fancier should have, to refer to, it is brim full of practical information. The amateur will find it specially helpful.

Price.....25c.

Duck Culture:

British Columbia should be the home of the duck. The cities present good markets and the profits are A. 1. Every breeder should look into this question, and there is no better way to do so than through Jas. Rankin's book on Duck Culture. It tells you every thing.

Price.....50c.

All the above sent from the FANCIER office on receipt of price. If you want any publication not in the above list write and we will get it.



Now is the time to push those young chicks, for if they once get stunted you may bid good-bye to all hopes either for show birds or early laying pullets to fill the winter egg basket. A thousand and one things about them will demand your constant attention. You can measure your success by your faithfulness. Look out for lice, look out for filthy quarters, look out for impure water, look out for every thing and a lot of "Firsts" and "Specials" will be your reward.



ANSWERED.

The director of this department has resolved himself into a large interrogation point, and will undertake to answer any questions our readers may choose to ask from time to time. If you are in difficulty along any line, let us know, and we will do our best to help you.

..... WE
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..... WRITE
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..... COLUMN!
..... IT
..... WILL
..... PAY
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..... WELL!

BITS OF GRIT.

WE shall give our readers, from time to time, descriptions of different poultry ranches here in British Columbia. It will be a help to present poultry raisers or those contemplating the industry to know how successful men are doing it right here in the Province.

THE *Canadian Poultry Review* is the authority for the statement that Mr. C. J. Daniels, the well known Toronto breeder, shipped twelve sittings of eggs to British Columbia in March, also sending a bone mill to New Westminster the same month.

WE learn that Judge Hewes is soon to give all his time to the supervision of a large poultry farm, where we presume the Barred Plymouth Rock and Silver Wyandotte will hold unquestioned sway. The Judge's many British Columbia friends wish him every success.

THERE is often a little difficulty in passing thoroughbred fowls through the Custom House on account of not having the proper certificate. To remedy this, the Editor has prepared a printed form which has been approved by the Collector at this port and can be had at the FANCIER offices for ten cents.

MR. Thos. Rice of Whitby, Ont., says in the *Canadian Poultry Review*. "He has made several shipments of birds and eggs to British Columbia." We don't doubt it at all and could go right on and name a long list of eastern breeders and old country fanciers who within the past four months have marked more than one crate of fowls and box of eggs "British Columbia." Seventy five settings of eggs into Nanaimo was one week's record in March, and still the good work goes on. The second annual show of the Nanaimo Poultry Society will be a revelation we are sure.

THERE are several contemplated poultry ranches in the vicinity of Nanaimo and as they are in the hands of capable men, we should not be surprised if they were successful. It pays to keep hens but not to leave hens to keep themselves.

WE publish on another page an article from the *Australian Poultry and Dog Gazette* which will give our readers a little idea of what our friends in the land of the Southern Cross are doing.

C. W. RILEY, the well known breeder, is hard at work on the improvement of his Vancouver breeding establishment, and it would not take much of a prophet to predict that in a few years his yards will be as complete as one could desire. We have arranged to give our readers a detailed account of them shortly.

EXHIBITION DATES.

Season 1894-5.

PACIFIC COAST.

Nanaimo, B. C.—Second Annual Show Nanaimo Poultry Society Dec. 18-21st, P. W. Teague, Secretary, Nanaimo, B. C.

San Francisco, Cal.—Second Annual Exhibition California State Poultry Association Dec. 26-Jan. 2nd, A. Armstrong, Secretary, Petaluma, Cal.

Vancouver, B. C.—First Annual Show Vancouver Poultry and Pet Stock Association, Winter 1894-5, Geo. Bartley, Secretary.

Tacoma, Wash.—First Annual Show Tacoma Poultry Association, Jan. 8-12, H. H. Collier, Secretary, Tacoma, Wash.

Portland, Ore.—First Annual Exhibition Oregon State Poultry Association, Winter 1894-5, H. S. Hudson, Secretary, Gaston, Oregon.

Victoria, B. C.—Winter of 1894-5, Seventh Annual Show B. C. Poultry, Dog and Pet Stock Association, W. B. Chambers, Secretary.

AUSTRALIA.

Melbourne, Victoria.—Annual Show Australian Canary and Pigeon Improvement Society, Melbourne, June 28-30, 1894, W. Simpson, Esq., Secretary, 220 Victoria St. West Melbourne.

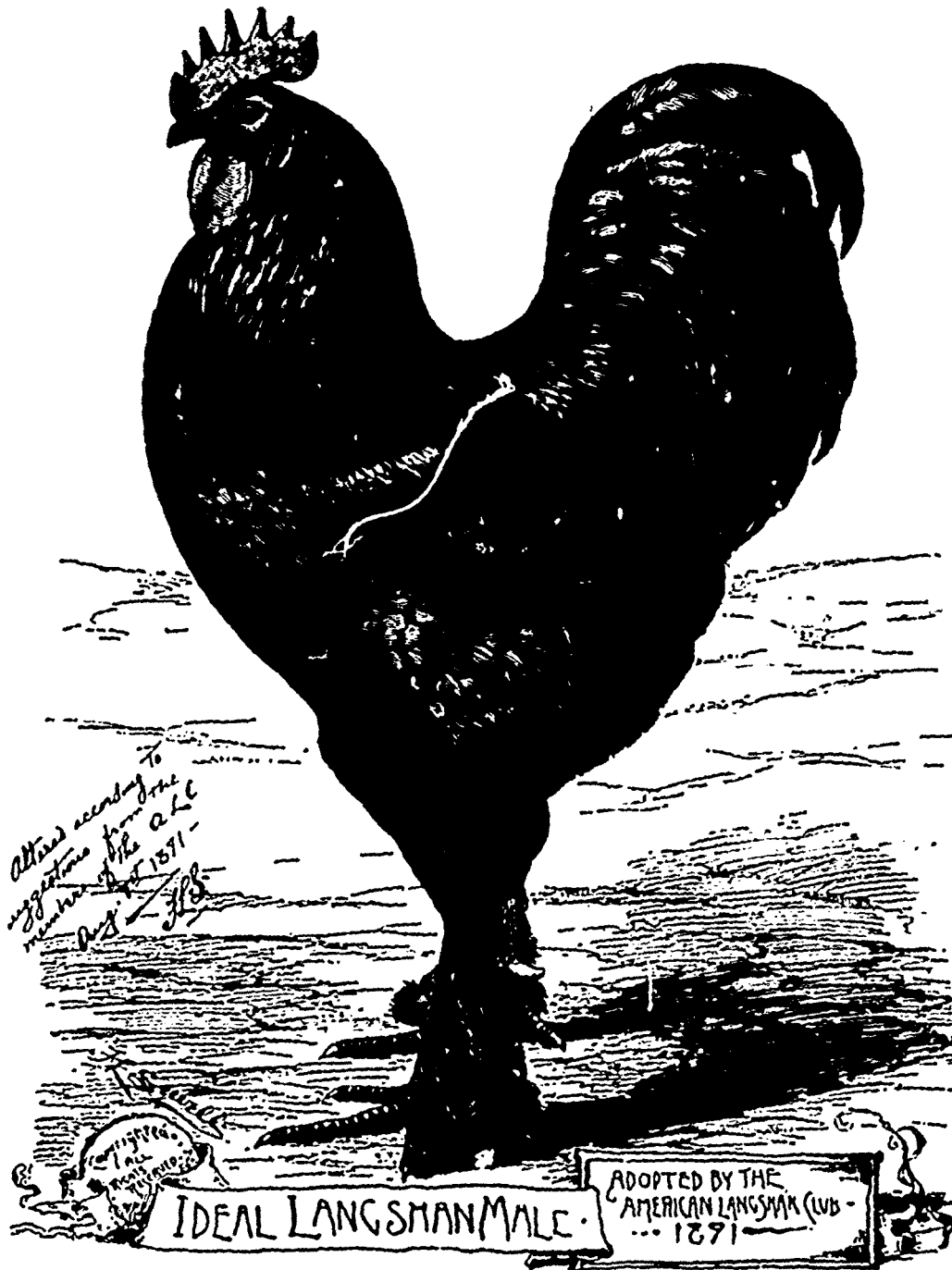
.....Every advertisement is a strand in a cable constructed for drawing patronage. The more strands the stronger and more durable the cable—*Printers Ink*.

.....One of the most important items in making a new business profitable is in pushing the growth from birth to maturity. Constant pushing is needed. If you do not press forward you recede. Nothing stands still—*Printers Ink*.

.....A man said to me, "I have tried advertising and did not succeed, yet I have a good article."

I replied, "my friend there may be exceptions to a general rule, but how do you advertise?"

I put it in a weekly newspaper three times and paid a dollar and a half for it? I replied, "Sir, advertising is like learning, a little is a dangerous thing."—*P. T. Barnum's Autobiography*.



IDEAL LANGSHAN MALE.

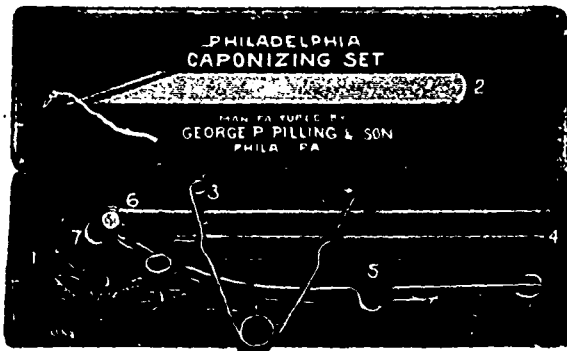
.....From our Australian Exchange we learn that they are wrestling with the "Judge" question. *The Poultry and Dog Gazette* favors a system of registered judges. The applicant for the position must appear before an authorized board and answer some such questions as these. "How many shows have you judged? How many protests have been

entered against your decisions? Have you ever been accused of dishonorable conduct, by whom, and was the charge sustained? Have you ever judged birds bred by yourself? Have you ever been disqualified when showing stock? Are you qualified to judge all breeds or only a section, if so, what section? How many Societies are you a member of?

Has your name ever been black-balled and your subscription refused? How long have you been a breeder?"

If these were answered satisfactorily the candidate could be registered and the "Tom, Dick and Harry" judge would be quickly relegated to the shelf for a needed rest.

CAPONIZING.



demand for Capons far exceeds the supply, the price per pound being twice as much as for ordinary chicks. The object of Caponizing is to largely increase the weight of fowl, causing them, in many cases, to grow as large as turkeys and weighing from 10 to 15 pounds; to make the meat a finer and sweeter flavor and very juicy and tender. Again Capons are worth \$1.00 to \$1.50 more than cocks not Caponized. They are much quieter in disposition. A cock in chasing around the yard will run off flesh almost as fast as put on. In the more quiet Capon the same amount of food goes to make flesh, bone and profit. With the proper instruments Caponizing is a simple lesson, wholly mastered by a few moments' study. Fully realizing the necessity of having proper instruments we have arranged with the reliable instrument manufacturers, Messrs. Geo. P. Pilling & Son, Philadelphia, Pa., to supply us with these instruments. This firm is, we think, the oldest of its kind in the United States, (located in the very heart of the original Caponizing district), and having been making Caponizing instruments for 40 years they thoroughly understand the proper ones needed. Messrs. Geo. P. Pilling & Son have just published a very interesting book, entitled "Complete Guide for Caponizing" which we are distributing free to those interested in poultry.

Price complete with instructions \$3.00. Don't put it off but send for one at once. FANCIER Office, Nanaimo, B. C.



THE ART OF SUCCESSFULLY BREEDING, REARING, AND EXHIBITING PLYMOUTH ROCKS.

THE above subject is a matter that is puzzling, not only amateurs, but old experienced minds in the present days of poultry advancement.

There are so many types and colours to be met with in prize winners at the various exhibitions that it is not to be wondered at the old breeders find a difficulty in satisfying the judges they show under.

The following lines are penned by one who has not only learnt from experience, but, like a great many more, has paid, to some extent, for his learning, in the hope that it may be of some use to those who keep this (in my opinion) most useful fowl we have.

What to aim at is to arrive as near the standard (as it is written) as possible.

To mate a pen together, the beginner

wants to have some idea of the parentage of the birds he intends to breed from, for this breed has a prepotency to throw back many generations, and the novice is many times bewildered in finding a lot of black birds from prize-winning Rocks, which he, no doubt, has paid an expensive price for.

The first thing to do (in my opinion) is to make up your mind to have a strain of your own, then there will be little difficulty in knowing the several generations of the birds you intend to take your breeding pen from to produce standard points. The formation of a strain is a subject too vast for the present article, there being so many ways of commencing.

To start with the cock or cockerel (for both will breed exhibition birds if mated properly), you want a fair-sized, active bird; one that is smart-looking, not necessarily a very large one—as size to a great extent is influenced by the female—but a broad one. Do not breed from a narrow-chested bird by any means. He should have clear orange

beak and legs, a nice-shaped and evenly-serrated comb (not Minorca shape), one that fits firmly on the crown, and looks from a side view to be longer from beak to back of head than it is high from the crown to the top of the spike.

The colour of Plymouth Rocks should be, on looking at them from a distance, black and white: but, on closer inspection, two blues—sky blue, the light colour, and dark blue, or bluish-black, the other. This colour the writer would like to see more prevalent in prize-winners (than so many of a brownish cast) to satisfy the different judges. In mating a breeding pen up—whether light, dark, or medium, at the option of the fancier—be sure and have both male and female alike in colour and to match. The colour of plumage will chiefly depend on what colour your females are. You should get them (cock and hen) as nearly to match as possible; not as a great many beginners do, put a light cock to dark hens, and vice versa, in the hope that they will throw a medium. Rocks will not do so, or, in any case, very rarely, but throw each sex a different shade, one light and the other dark, after the parents. The male bird's markings are the chief points to be right in. They should be free from splash or running into one another, and he should be evenly-marked all over—the sharper the markings the better to breed from—and free from totally white or black feathers in wing or tail, especially in a cockerel. As the birds age they invariably throw these feathers; but in an old bird, if you can get these points perfect, you can depend upon him breeding good marked stock. The hens you choose should be as near in shade to the cock as possible, and the same remarks apply to them also in regard to beak, legs, and markings; they should be well-barred to the tip of the tail and down to the hocks, and should have a very small comb, evenly serrated and upright. Size is the chief point in the female; never try to breed an exhibition bird of a small-size Rock hen.

Plymouth Rock are, or should be, large fowls, and try to keep them so, though I must say in the last few years they seem to have deteriorated in this respect.

Now, as to the number of females to place to the cock. Four is ample to place to one bird, and in the first two months of the year two, to ensure fertility. Having got your pen together,

the best months for hatching Rocks for exhibition are February and March; they will then attain a good size by the time the leading shows come on, although many prize winners have been hatched in later months. Still, you have a better chance in having them early, and, by a little judicious management, keep the pullets off laying, and the cockerels in nice feather, and both out of the sun and weather. If Rocks are let out on grass, one hour each morning and evening, it will be quite sufficient to keep them in good health; you then have no fear of tanning their plumage. But keep exhibition birds in covered pens.

For the first few days after they are hatched, give the chickens some ground dog biscuits, well-scalded. One of the best feeds I have found to make Rock chickens come on is the following—viz., after they are a week old, a little of Spratt's Crissel put into a pan of boiling water and left to steep over night, add about three times as much ground dog biscuits when boiling it up in the morning, then mix together with sh. or fourths to make it crumbly and tr. able, and as they grow older, put an equal quantity of Scotch oatmeal with the ground dog cake and boil up; this, given in small quantities, a little at a time and often, with plenty of chopped grass, cabbage or other green stuff, not forgetting grit and a feed of groats at night time. Continue this for the first two months, and your Rocks will grow in size, strength, and vigor, and give them such a start they will never look back. One thing you must mind after the first two months is overfeeding, especially if penned up, which, of course, they will have to be to save their plumage, unless you are blessed with an orchard or some place well sheltered. The best plan is to have a small plot of ground covered with grass, and let intended exhibition birds out for an hour morning and evening, lifting them out of their covered pens, and handling them as much as possible. By this means you will get them tame and fit for the show-pen after a week's tuition.

A good thing to place on the grass is stable droppings; it both gives the birds a little scratching and improves the color of beak and legs. The writer found this out quite accidentally when, having sent some cockerels to a farmyard where there was plenty of manure, and kept some at home on grass alone, those that came back from the farm came much

richer in leg and beak colour. I found out, when going out to see them several times, they were continually on the manure heap. For their food, a little soft food in the morning, such as I have described, some chopped green stuff mid-day, and a plentiful supply of grit and sound English corn by night, wheat, barley, or oats, varied with a little Indian corn, occasionally in severe weather; a teaspoonful of stewed linseed liquid, given by itself with the hand about once a week, will improve their plumage; keep a cabbage or lettuce always tied up in their pen to give them something to pick at. A turnip, cut into two, is a good thing also. For drink, new milk will keep intended exhibition birds in splendid condition from the time they are hatched. Keep a dust-bath of dry ashes from the fire-grate, with a little flour of sulphur added occasionally.

Plymouth Rocks for exhibition, kept as I have stated, should not require washing, with the exception of face and legs, previous to sending to a show.

In preparing them, brush down well with a stiff brush, fine in the bristle, so that it goes through the feather, then use a softer brush, then a soft cloth, and finally a silk handkerchief.

Wash the feet and legs well with a brush and very warm water, the face and comb also with a sponge. Rub over a little olive oil. But don't leave it on thick, as it will catch all the dust or dirt that might happen to be in the hay in the basket, or at the show. But rub the legs well till you get quite a polish on them with a piece of flannel. Then your bird will be in show trim—providing, of course, you have kept it in health. You would previously have had it in a show-pen for a week or so to train it, having handled it as much as possible, going to the cage with little tit-bits now and then; in fact, making quite a pet of it for the time being.

See that your bird is placed in a strong hamper, with plenty of hay in it, and give a cod-liver oil capsule before sending off. Study your railway time-table, and find out the best route and the express trains; and, above all, mind you have your label the right way up, as many a bird has been sent back again to its own home when half-way on its journey to an exhibition. Prevention is better than cure. Tie both ends of the label with the exhibition address uppermost.

Should you be fortunate enough in catching the eye of the judge with your bird, if not quite up to the standard in

points the deficiency may be outweighed by being in grand show form, and securing for yourself a prize.—Prize Essay—*Fanciers' Gazette*, London, Eng.

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.....One poultry rancher near Nanaimo has adopted the plan of stamping his name on every egg he brings to market. His customers look upon this as a guarantee that the eggs are fresh and his sales are thereby increased. It would be suicide for some men to try this plan.

.....Mr. E. Hodgson of Nanaimo, who took second place in the recent Fancier Monthly contest, has removed to large and commodious quarters just outside the city where he will be able to give his birds the natural advantages that have so much to do with successful growth. He will probably be heard from at the great Nanaimo Show in December.

.....The Nanaimo Challenge Cup, the Wellington Challenge Cup and the Dennison Gold Medal, the latter for American exhibitors, are among the especially attractive prizes offered for competition at the Nanaimo Show, Dec. 18-21, '94. To win either of them means work, for the coming exhibition gives promise of being large enough to make every one "rustle" if they come out victorious.

.....Considerable assurance has been received from poultrymen in various parts of the country that they intend to place a share of their advertising in the *FANCIER* about the first of September. That is good, but we submit for their consideration the fact that the time to reach out for new business is *now*. Hundreds upon hundreds of dollars from British Columbia have been sent east during the past six months for poultry and eggs and there is a lot more to follow. A carefully worded advertisement will be worth every cent paid. Try it and see.

.....A novel way of hatching dollars is being tried by the faithful of a certain church society. In a moment of enthusiasm more money was pledged toward the building of a new church than seemed likely to be forthcoming. To some one there occurred the idea of raising "broilers" for the summer market. In a few days enough hens had been collected to start the venture, and the friendly visitors of the society now make daily visits to their chicken districts to see what their prospects are for realizing a thousand broilers, which they hope to sell at \$1 or \$1.50 a pair.—*Chicago Times*.

THE
BRITISH COLUMBIAN
FANCIER

Published Monthly by

**NANAIMO POULTRY SOCIETY,
LIMITED.**

NANAIMO, BRITISH COLUMBIA.

FRANK W. TEAGUE,
Editor and Manager

Special Contributors:

AMERICA'S LEADING FANCIERS.

OUR MOTTO:

**POULTRY FOR PROFIT.
LEASURE.**

Price One Dollar per year, in advance.

Single copies Ten Cents.

Address all communications to

F. W. TEAGUE,

Nanaimo, B. C.

Copy for articles or advertisements must reach us by the 1st of each month, in order to insure publication in the next issue.

ADVERTISING RATES.

SPACE.	1 MO.	2 MOS.	3 MOS.	4 MOS.
1 Inch	\$ 1 50	\$ 3 00	\$ 4 00	\$ 5 00
2 "	3 00	5 00	7 00	9 00
3 "	4 00	7 00	10 00	13 00
4 "	5 00	9 00	12 00	15 00
5 "	6 00	11 00	14 00	17 00
6 "	7 00	13 00	16 00	19 00
7 "	8 00	14 00	18 00	21 00
8 "	9 00	16 00	20 00	23 00
1 Col	10 00	18 00	22 00	25 00
SPACE.	5 MOS.	6 MOS.	1 YR. per qtr.	
1 Inch	\$ 6 00	\$ 7 00		\$3 00
2 "	11 00	12 00		5 00
3 "	16 00	18 00		7 00
4 "	18 00	24 00		9 00
5 "	20 00	28 00		11 00
6 "	22 00	32 00		13 00
7 "	25 00	35 00		15 00
8 "	30 00	38 00		17 00
1 Col	34 00	40 00		18 00

BREEDERS' CARDS, no display, uniform in style—40 words or less, 50 cents for one insertion. Three insertions for \$1.00. Extra words over 40, 2 cents each for every insertion.

AGENTS.

We desire to rapidly introduce the FANCIER into the house of every poultry keeper on this continent and are prepared to pay a liberal commission to reliable men and women who are looking for a pleasant occupation during leisure hours and are willing to work for us.

Write to the Manager at once for terms, Sample Copies, and printed matter.

PRINTING FOR POULTRYMEN.

All kinds of printing for poultrymen can be secured at this office. Write for samples if you want circulars, cards, letter heads or any thing else in this line. Prices right.

OUR MANIFESTO.

It is customary for a new Journal when making its bow to the public to give a general idea as to its intended policy. The BRITISH COLUMBIAN FANCIER has no intention of departing from this time honored custom and so will proceed to indicate some of its proposed lines of action. We are ambitious enough to desire for the FANCIER just as large a circulation as any poultry paper on earth enjoys, but of course we are willing to put in the same amount of hard work as they have done in order to accomplish this. Our immediate field for operation and support, is the best we know of anywhere, namely the "Great Northwest." Always bearing in mind however the wider field that closer relations with Australia and New Zealand are rapidly opening up. On the front cover two mottos appear, "Poultry for Pleasure," and "Poultry for Profit." We shall endeavor to furnish our readers with a large amount of well edited matter bearing on both departments, and every breeder whether he has in view purely commercial objects or fine birds for exhibition purposes will be sure to find in our pages a reasonable amount of interesting matter. Considerable space will be devoted to poultry in British Columbia. Records of hatches from imported eggs; careful breeding experiments; the effects of climate, soil etc., together with many other matters of in-

terest to provincial breeders will receive consideration. We shall hope to occupy a place in developing the poultry industry as a whole and in bringing about a change whereby it will not be necessary to send such large sums of money away each year for poultry and eggs. To our many friends who have extended good wishes we desire to express our hearty appreciation of the same, and trust we may prove worthy of them. In conclusion we have pleasure in announcing that the FANCIER greets you on a substantial basis at the outset, and it will rest with each of its readers to say how far this assured permanency, and progress of the paper may be employed for mutual benefit.

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The show circuit is still under consideration. All that seems to be required is hearty co-operation and then the desired end would soon be accomplished. Several of the very best eastern judges are already half-promised, and will probably be on the field in the fall. That this season's shows will be far in advance of any previous efforts is a foregone conclusion.

The new standards are out, but at this writing none have been received in Nanaimo. They will, however, soon be on hand, and if you want one send one dollar to the FANCIER office and it will be forwarded at once.

The \$1000 guaranteed for the California State Poultry Show had not all been subscribed at the last reports, but they are "getting there," and no doubt next December will see the "Biggest show on Earth" opened in San Francisco.

A farmer who could not afford \$1. to pay for a good poultry paper sent \$3. back East to learn the secret of keeping eggs fresh. He received the reply "Eat them." Moral—Subscribe for the BRITISH COLUMBIAN FANCIER.

MANAGEMENT OF PIGEONS.

—
The Loft.—
GEORGE W. PRITTI, IN FANCIER'S
JOURNAL.

I do not agree with those who consider that any unused room, garret or stable will answer for this purpose. You cannot be too particular either in locating or building your loft. Swift observes when he is giving his reasons why the preacher is elevated always above his hearers, "that let the crowd be as great as it will below, there is always room enough overhead." Apply this anecdote in selecting a place for your birds. In the cities we are cramped for space, but there is "always room overhead." Build your loft on the roof of your house, and by all means let it front the south. I consider this of the greatest importance. Your birds need all the sun and fresh air they can get, this is necessary to keep them in proper condition. A sick bird ought never to be seen in any well managed loft.

Get a first-class carpenter to do your building, and see that he puts everything together in a workman-like manner. Use tongue and groove or match boards for the lining and purchase the best, these are free from knots. This will cost considerable, but a loft so constructed will always be a source of pleasure, which is worth more than the extra money expended!

If you have the space for an area in front of your loft, so much the better, but by all means have it under roof and the sides permanently enclosed. At the end fronting the south you should have sliding glass doors or windows, these should be closed when it storms and when the nights are cold and damp.

I believe that open areas have been the cause of more disease and death among birds kept in confinement than has ever been dreamed of in the philosophy of most of our fanciers.

Our climate is certainly a trying one, especially so for eight months of the year. Birds in confinement have not the opportunity for vigorous exercise, which is necessary to enable them to withstand our many sudden changes, and since they cannot make known their wants we should do our best to give them every care and attention.

The size of your loft will, of course, depend on the space at command as well as the number of birds you intend to keep. Contrive to have a separate

apartment in which to place your young pigeons as soon as they are able to care for themselves, this will prevent overcrowding and all the pestilential ill^s which are the result. You should also have an additional space for any odd birds not mated, as such birds are apt to do much damage fighting and molesting those with eggs or young.

For nests, erect shelves fourteen inches wide and twelve inches high, divide these into apartments of three feet eight inches in length. At each end of this space you will erect partitions measuring one foot square in the clear for your nesting places. If you use half inch boards, you will then have a space between each next box measuring eighteen inches in length by fourteen inches in breadth. The advantages derived from this arrangement are many. They make good mating cages by simply placing a wire screen over the central space, besides being roomy enough to allow all the billing and cooing in which pigeons are prone to indulge without any interference from other parties, thus insuring more fertile eggs than would otherwise be the case where such accommodations are lacking. More perfect seclusion can still be given your birds if you will have placed over these boxes or shelves (which should not number over three in height) your perches. These should be about six inches long, two and a half broad, inserted in a narrow board two and a half or three inches wide. These perches should be about ten inches apart to prevent fighting, and beneath each row you require a wide board placed at an angle of forty-five degrees, to catch the droppings, thus preventing their soiling the plumage of the birds beneath, beside making it more convenient for cleaning.

These perches can be placed in rows, one above the other. The distance which separates them will, of course, depend upon the height of your ceiling. My loft measures eight feet high in the clear. I should advise you not to go beyond this distance, in fact, six inches less would be an advantage, as I find some difficulty in catching my birds in the presence of strangers on account of the height of my loft. Whatever the size or shape of your loft may be, the reader may rest assured that it will be impossible for him to find a better arrangement than the one I have endeavored to describe. It is the result of much time and study, and will save the

fancier who may adopt in a great deal of trouble and anxiety.

Now, don't spoil such a loft by whitewashing these smoothly planed, nice fitting boards. Not one particle of lime shall ever cover the lining of my loft, no, not one particle or drop as big as the half of a pea with which I feed my pets. I enjoy looking at my pets, and I want them to appear beautiful to me, and therefore would never place a bird against a whitewashed background, as this would at once destroy the pictorial effect for my eye. The boards of my loft are covered with Berry Bros. light hard oil finish. It brings out the grain of the wood beautifully, dries hard in the course of a single night, and is sure death to any vermin in case you should ever allow them to get into your loft. You can dilute it as you see fit with spirits of turpentine, thus giving a glossy on dead finish, as may suit your fancy. I much prefer a glossy surface, as the white powder from the birds can be very easily removed with a wet sponge, when your loft will look almost as span and new as when first erected.

Against such a background the white plumage of my birds has a luminous glow and every graceful attitude is distinctly outlined.

Use coarse, yellow pine sawdust for your nest pans and boxes if you can get it; if not white pine will have to answer, but don't believe one word about this material being a sure preventive against vermin or you will find yourself deceived. Nothing but the most scrupulous cleanliness will prevent these pests coming in great swarms during the warm months. Every animal and plant has its parasite, and if these are allowed to accumulate the result will be most disastrous to either.

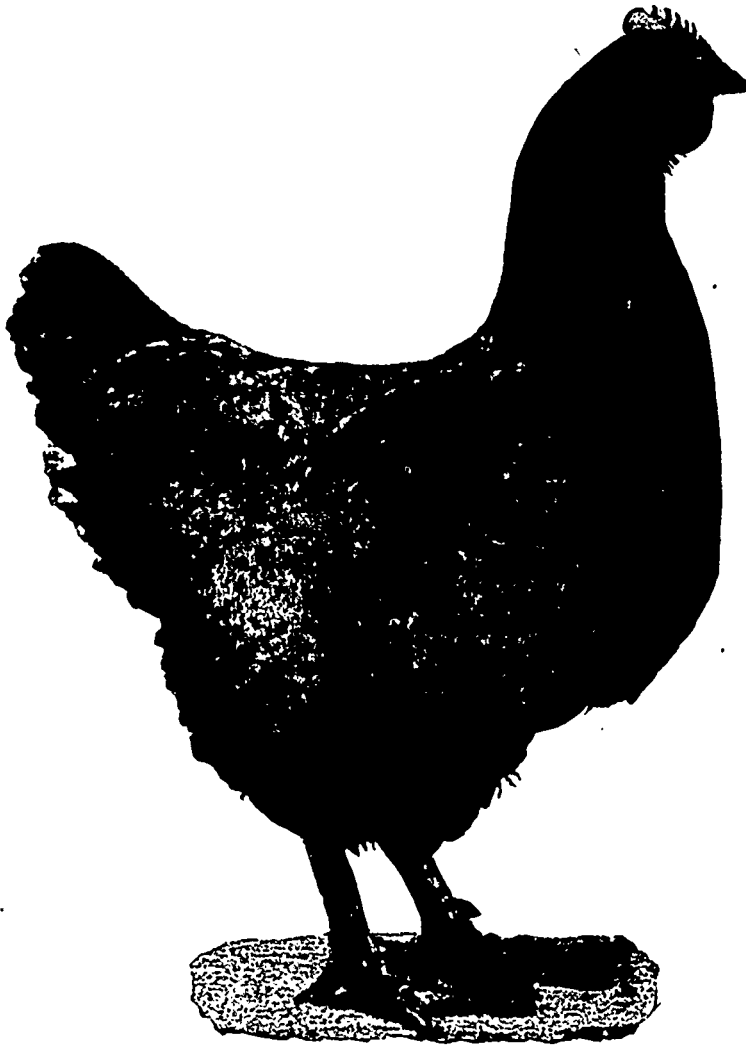
"The larger fleas have smaller fleas,
To worry and to bite them.
The smaller fleas have lesser fleas,
And so *ad infinitum*."

Almost every treatise on pigeons advises cleanliness in the loft, but how few there are who pay the least attention to this? I know fanciers who only clean out their lofts about twice a year, and such a cleaning as they get at these times would be a disgrace to a well-kept pig sty. I believe the *effete* matter which passes from any animal to be the greatest disease producing substance for that particular creature it is possible to find.

Grazing cattle are always in better health than those compelled to inhale the poisonous atmosphere of the stable.

I have read of field mice being destroyed in great numbers when the ground has been saturated with the malodorous portion of their excrement, but who ever heard of an infectious disease among the birds of the air? and why, simply because they do not come in contact with the injurious waste of their bodies as birds in confinement do when not properly cared for.

I could easily multiply instances of this kind were it necessary to do so, but I think I have said enough to convince the most skeptical of the great importance of thorough cleanliness in the management of our pigeons.



MISS CROAD'S IDEA OF A LANGSHAN HEN.

.....The Ohio station conducts experiments in poultry lines. Recently the fertilization of eggs has been given considerable attention by the authorities there. The 18th of February, three pure-bred Leghorn males were put in pens with forty high-grade Leghorn females, twenty-eight of which were pullets that had never been with a male; the remaining twelve were old hens which had not been with a male for five months. The eggs were saved for nine days and tested for fertility each day as gathered. None of these gathered the day the males were introduced were fertile. The next day 11 per cent were fertile and the percentage increased until the ninth day 95 per cent were fertile.

.....More profit would be made from the poultry business if poultry men would hustle around and find special customers who would take their eggs

regularly, say two or three times to the week, so as to get them while they were perfectly fresh. Such customers are not hard to find in almost any town, or even in small villages, and they are usually willing to pay a little more than the regular price in order to get what they want.

.....Mr. W. T. Cooksley has a white Minorca hen of which he has good reason to be proud. During the present week this biddy has laid an egg every day, but on the 23rd and 25th its efforts in this direction were unusually ambitious. On the former date the egg laid weighed $3\frac{1}{4}$ ounces and measured $6 \times 7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in circumference, and yesterday she produced another of the same size but weighing one-eighth of an ounce less. In the matter of hen fruit these specimens are hard to beat.—*Daily Columbian*.

TRIFLES.

They May be the Source of Very Much Profit—or Loss.

How many people there are who think poultry raising is too small a business for them to dabble in. A young farmer's wife asked him to take three dozen eggs to town with him.

"Me carry three dozen eggs to town!" said he contemptuously. "Not much!"

"Why, they're worth fifteen cents a dozen," said she.

"Ha, ha! forty-five cents worth!" he laughed. "I'm not running a five cent farm, girl! What do you take me for?" And he drove away.

"I'll get even with him soon," she murmured, and she sent the eggs up by an accommodating neighbor.

A few days afterward he said he was going to town again, and asked if she'd like to accompany him.

"Oh, yes," she replied, "I want to get a new hat for Sundays. The spring styles are in now, and I must have one to look like anybody."

She called him into the millinery shop to look at the one she had selected.

"It's only six dollars," she whispered, "and ain't it lovely? There's some cheaper ones back there, but I told Miss Q. that I'm no five center. I want this!"

He winced, and groaned inwardly as he handed her the amount, because he had need of every cent he could raise. It cured him all right. He never objected to taking butter, eggs or chickens to town after that.

But I know farmers who are making \$500 at a cost of \$490, who would not for any consideration be seen fooling away their valuable time selling such small truck as butter, eggs, chickens, vegetables or small fruits. They affect a sneer at the man who thinks ten cents worth of profit received for eggs, butter or chickens is as good as ten cents worth received for wheat, corn, cattle or hogs. They boast that they deal in dollars, not cents. They are great big pop-guns. Generally good fellows, but slightly top light.—*Rural New Yorker*.

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.....Mr. John Gardner of Victoria, the well known Brown Leghorn breeder, has his yards well filled with young stock some of which is bound to make a high mark at the fall shows. Mr. Gardner is a careful and painstaking fancier, always ready to talk "hen" or entertain any of the "boys" at his bachelor quarters.

PRESERVING EGGS.

From the Feathered World.

Several correspondents have asked me lately how to preserve eggs for future use, now that they are getting plentiful. I give two recipes, of which I have had practical experience, but doubtless there are many other ways which have been found good, and perhaps readers would oblige by letting us know of them. The first recipe is more common in Ireland than on this side of the Channel, and "buttered eggs" are a recognized article of commerce therein in the winter months. They stand in value considerably above the common or market egg, and somewhat under the new-laid egg. There may be a difficulty of disposing of them in England, but for home use they are well worthy of consideration. Any method of preservation to be effective must be applied when the eggs are quite fresh, and must aim at the exclusion of the air from the inside of the shell. The buttering process is very simple. A very small piece of good butter should be placed between the palms of the hands and rubbed well over the inner surface of both hands. When it is thoroughly melted the eggs to be buttered should be taken in the hands and thoroughly covered over with the melted butter. The thinner the covering the better, provided that the whole surface be covered. The buttered eggs should then be placed in a basket in some dry, cool place, and need not be moved until they are wanted for use. I have kept them for seven or eight months in this way, and have known them to be kept twelve months with success.

The other process of preservation is by putting them in lime water. A large earthenware vessel of some kind is most suitable for this purpose. There are several methods which vary in detail, but are all equally efficacious. The simplest plan is to half-fill the vessel intended to be used with water, and put in it a couple of good-sized pieces of unslaked lime. The exact quantity used is not of consequence, provided that there is enough to saturate the water. As evidence of this, there should always be a film of lime on the surface of the water. The lime at the bottom will do no harm, but rather good, as it will lessen the risk of any eggs being cracked when being put into the lime water. The vessel may be filled with eggs at once, or these may be added day by day. Care must be taken that the eggs are all covered with water,

and to prevent evaporation a cover to the vessel is of advantage. In case there is evaporation or leakage, water must be added from time to time, and if there be not a film on top, some fresh slaked lime should be added by sprinkling it on the water. Unless it is certain that all are fresh, every egg should be examined before being placed in the lime, as in this process one bad egg frequently leads to a lot being spoiled. Some salt is added to the lime by old hands.



DISEASES OF POULTRY.

What May Happen in the Oviduct.

W. F. ROTH, IN THE FANCIERS' JOURNAL.

EGG-BOUND.

This affection is a common one with most varieties, but especially of the laying breeds. None are exempt altogether. Its causes are two-fold and may depend upon a constrictive condition of the sphincter and expulsive musculature of the oviduct, or upon a paralytic non-contraction condition. In the former, the effort to expel the egg seems normal, there appears strength enough in the oviduct, only the constriction of the opening will not allow the egg to be expelled. In the latter, it is apparent that no force is at command, and whatever expulsive effort is made is not answered by any contractile reward. The bird will remain on the nest longer than ordinary, or will be going on and coming off continually, with distinct symptoms that she wants to accomplish her duty, yet for some reason cannot.

This condition may also depend upon the presence of a very large, abnormally sized egg, by which reason we have seen actual rupture take place. Under any circumstances relief should be given as soon as possible.

Treatment.—First, make certain upon what condition of the body the symptoms are dependent, if it is a constriction of the sphincter muscles only, and if this constriction is dependent upon any cause like a possible irritation by some foreign body, injury, or probable impaction of hard, constipated feces. Under these circumstances the treatment is purely local and can be speedily accomplished. Make a fluid composed of sweet oil, melted lard, or liquid cosmoline, of which take one ounce and to this add five drops of fluid extract of belladonna root, mix thoroughly and with a small syringe inject about a dram, exercising great care that no injury is

done to any of the vital parts, and especially the egg. The belladonna will remove the constriction at once, and the oil facilitates the easy expulsion of the egg. If no belladonna is at hand use the oil or lard alone; but then the trouble is apt to return. If possible inject a trifle of oil into the bowel to remove whatever foreign material is there. We would not advise assistance by cases of this kind until all other means fail of accomplishment.

The second cause of the impaction of the egg, as stated, is dependent upon a total or partial paralyzed condition of the expulsive muscles of the oviduct, and is of more consequence, especially to the bird. In a case of this kind there should be no immediate haste, though a careful watch be kept. The paralyzed tissues must have a few hours or days to acquire expulsive tonicity, and to this end internal treatment is essential, as well as the injection of the oil, say about six hours after the administration of internal medicines. Internally administer a pill composed of

Fl. extr. nux vomica, - - 10 drops.

Fl. extr. ergot, - - - 20 drops.

Tincture opium, - - - 15 drops.

Powdered licorice, - - - 1 dram.

Mix, and make into twenty pills, one every four hours. Give Douglass' Mixture in the water as a general tonic. A want of tonicity, or semi-paralyzed state, may also ensue from the presence of an extremely large egg. This is no diseased state, but simply a want of grip power to expel. Treatment as recommended in the first cause will usually suffice, though expulsion may be materially facilitated by very gentle and knowing manipulation with the hand. Don't assist, however, unless you know how without danger of breaking the egg. Under all circumstances, place the bird in distress away from the flock until her purpose is accomplished.

Impaction of the egg may also occur from inflammation of the oviduct. This is a rare circumstance, fortunately, and does not obtain unless as a result from injury or the presence of inflammation in the immediate vicinity of the expulsive pouch. In cases of this kind poulticing must be had resource to, and continued until the inflammation has subsided as well as the internal administration of aconit or belladonna. Indeed long continued impaction from either of the two first-named causes may end in inflammation, a feature that calls for relief as soon as possible. Poultices may be made

from mashed potatoes, cornmeal or, preferably, flaxseed and oil.

Not infrequently eggs are dropped that contain no shell, but simply the membrane, with an effort at calcareous deposit. Such an egg may impact itself because of its flexibility, or because the loose deposit of lime prevents the expulsive fluids from assisting the musculature to properly seize the soft mass and force it forth. In such cases a copious injection of oil will usually suffice.

RUPTURE OF OVIDUCT.

This sad accident not infrequently happens as a result of violence, or from an extraordinary effort at expulsion of a very large egg. If noticed immediately the accident need not necessarily be fatal. Prompt procedures, however, are the only means of saving the bird, and these consist in cutting through the vent on the side of the escaped egg, and removing it. If fear is entertained of success in the operation, or even of undertaking it, don't try, but kill the bird at once and serve at the next meal, for it will be fit to eat before inflammation has set in, afterwards not. The operation consists in cutting through the vent on side of rupture, which can be felt by gentle manipulation. Remove the egg, if not broken, and after carefully swabbing out the oviduct and belly cavity with lukewarm water that was previously boiled and to which a few drops carbolic acid (pure) has been added, nicely coapt, after shearing off the ragged edges if thus torn, and stitch with horse-hair or cat-gut. The vent wound can be stitched with silk, but horse-hair is preferable on account of the former being so apt to separate. Great care is necessary that all blood-clots are removed before stitching, or every vestige of egg if broken during rupture. We would suggest yet, that after removing the egg a gentle exploration of the oviduct be made prior to coapting the edges, and ascertain if another egg in the last stage of development or one altogether developed be present. This should be also removed, so as to be no hindrance to the healing process, which requires some four or six days. Maintain perfect quiet of the "patient" while the healing process is going on, and feed on the lightest possible diet, consisting of scalded bran with milk, and old bread toasted. Plenty of fresh water as drink to which is added forty drops laudanum to a pint.

We give this operative procedure, not for the benefit of a fifty-cent hen, but for a ten or fifty dollar one. Necessarily the

operation, as before mentioned, need not result in a fatal issue, providing delay or incompetency were not a feature. So soon, however, as unfavorable symptoms manifest themselves after operating in the form of offensive discharge from the wound, or refusal on the part of the bird to eat, showing evidence of septic poisoning, we would at once destroy the unfortunate. Death will certainly follow, and even if recovery follows after certain unfavorable symptoms are passed successfully, it will be long until usefulness is again acquired, especially as a breeder, letting aside the dangers of following impactions as a result of cicatricial healing of the duct.

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.....The pigeon fanciers of Nanaimo have been making some valuable additions to their lofts by eastern importations. Some especially fine specimens are promised for the next exhibition.

.....Our next number will contain an article on "Artificial Duck Culture" from the pen of the veteran breeder Mr. James Rankin of So. Easton, Mass., who has raised more ducks than any other man in America. As this is a subject of considerable interest just now we are sure the article will be read with great interest.

.....In an essay on Practical Poultry Culture at Keene, New Hampshire, Mr. Abel F. Stephens said: "Poultry is king. Poultry raising is a most interesting, pleasant and profitable industry. The value of eggs and poultry being sold in this country today is no less than seven hundred million dollars. Add to this the value of the live fowls, estimating the number to be two hundred million birds, worth on an average two dollars per head, and we have four hundred million dollars' worth of live fowls, making a total of one billion one hundred millions."

.....Large-combed fowls are the better layers. Attempts at decreasing the size of the comb have hitherto resulted in a deterioration in the laying powers of the bird.

.....If the farmer does not like poultry keeping let the wife have charge of it, and let her have all she can make out of it. She will soon develop the business into paying proportions.

.....The advice to make the hen work for her food cannot be too often given. Scatter it among straw where she must scratch for it or make her work in any other way that suggests itself.

BARGAIN COLUMN.

Send us forty words and one dollar, and your "ad." will appear in this column for three months. This is worth a trial.

BARGAINS. One Cock, four Pullets, Golden Wyandottes (prize pen) \$25. One pair White Plymouth Rocks, beauties, \$8. One pair White Wyandottes \$5 Two White P. Rock Cockerels, \$4 each. Warranted first-class healthy birds. P. M. REED, Anderson, Shasta Co., Cal. 13

H. R. KING, Fraser Valley Pigeon Lofts, New Westminster, B. C., breeds high-class Homers. Write to him if you are in want of good stock. If you want to win at the fall shows, get ready now. (34)

.....One important point in the care of poultry is sharp grit, and, unless fowls have this grit to properly grind their grain food, sickness will ensue.

.....Keep your laying hens busy. That is, give them exercise by throwing their grain feed upon the floor and covering with chaff, cut straw, and the like.

.....Don't send soiled eggs to market. It will pay in the end to take the trouble to wash carefully all that are discolored with filth. Attention to these little things often brings unexpected returns.

.....The domestic turkey is greatly improved in hardiness and flavor of the flesh by crossing it with the wild turkey. The magnificent bronze variety even is improved by such a cross.

.....Poultry and plums go together beautifully. The hens eat every curculio that comes forth, and their droppings keeps the trees fertilized. This is one of the cases where two profitable crops can be grown on the same land.

R. P. McLENNAN,
Victoria, B. C.,

BREEDER OF



White Plymouth Rocks.

13 EGGS, \$3.00 per Setting.