

## Fall Poultry Exhibitions

The following article by our Poultry Editor, G. L. Wood, of Portland, is of interest to every poultryman in the Northwest. Whether or not you are breeding birds for exhibition, read it.

By G. L. Wood, Poultry Editor.  
**T**HERE is not a well settled section on the coast in which it will not be possible to see from one to three poultry shows at the fall fairs. These will differ somewhat in quality, and the best birds will nearly always be found at the larger shows, although the inducements at the larger shows are not always better than at the smaller ones. The cash premiums at all the shows are too small. The belief seems to prevail among fair secretaries that the poultrymen's desire to show their stock is sufficient to overcome the small financial benefits offered.

Fair organizations refuse to believe that their course is not the proper one, even in the face of the fact that many coast shows are practically boycotted by any breeders of quality, and for no other reason than that the arrangements for the poultry department are insufficient.

The proportion of poultry breeders visiting the fairs is increasing each year, if we are to believe the reports turned in from every city and village, where nearly everyone has at least one pen of birds, and more if their yards will permit. And the man who raises poultry today is ten times more curious as to raising and breeding his stock than the average breeder in the past has ever been. There is so much data in the poultry papers, so many experiments and improvements of modern times have increased the opportunities in the poultry business, that the average breeder is anxious to get all the information he can assimilate. He finds just how much improvement there has been in the breeding of the stock itself at the poultry exhibits. He goes there because he wants to see the best birds that are bred. If the awards have been insufficient to draw out the good birds, and if the exhibit is small, as is generally the case, possibly his breed will not be on display at all. In a measure then the poultry display has been a failure in that it just failed to do for the observer what it should have done. Only good, substantial premiums will draw its good breeders and keep them and make the poultry exhibits worth while. California is coming to the front in this regard and could be pointed to as a good example. In many of their local fairs the premiums exceed those of our own state fairs, and the number of cups and specials offered would do credit to many of our winter shows. These shows coop large entries and draw the best birds from every section of the state, and such exhibits will draw patronage for miles in every direction. Where exhibitors feel that their local awards are low, they should organize, meet their advisory boards with a bold front and press their claims. These protests registered with sound argument and persistence will be given substantial consideration.

### The Farmer as an Exhibitor.

The farmer as an exhibitor is almost a thing of the future, but not a very distant one by any means. From personal experience at fall fairs and learning at first hand just what the farmer and his wife are thinking and planning along the poultry line, we are convinced that they will be a strong factor in future exhibitions. The farmer has left the mongrel stage of poultry raising almost entirely. Nearly every flock on the farm is pure bred. Despite the frenzied efforts of some scholarly agitators the farmer will be content to stay by his pure bred stock, and improve it in every way possible.

The average farmer is not interested in raising exhibition stock for exhibition qualities alone. It is a question of every day dollars and cents with him. He simply wants to

raise his birds so well that they can be exhibited and get away with the ribbons in the best of company if necessary. If he never exhibits a single bird, he wants to know that he has got as good stock as is bred. He has plenty of range, sufficient housing capacity and an abundance of feed as a rule, and there is every advantage in his favor for producing the best poultry possible. This fact is proven by the records of men who have poultry of quality to sell. Ninetenths of the sales are to farmers, and upon them as much as anyone depends the future of thoroughbred poultry from the broadest standpoint. That every farmer intends to raise good stock to be sold at fancy prices is not true, nevertheless, his better stock will always command more money, and if he has bred with care, there will be buyers willing to pay him good prices for his best birds.

### POULTRY SHOW DATES.

**F**OR the convenience of breeders in the Northwest, the following list of poultry shows this season has been compiled:

- Boise, Idaho, Idaho State Poultry and Pet Stock Association. January 4-9. W. M. Coats, judge; Leslie L. Long, secretary.
- Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, January 6-9—Kootenai Poultry Association. H. H. Collier, judge; A. O. Laabs, secretary.
- Butte, Mont., January 4-8—Southern Montana Poultry Association. Will Purdy, judge; M. Hardy, secretary.
- Missoula, Mont., December 8-12—Missoula Poultry Association. Stephen Koegler, secretary.
- Roundup, Mont., December 16, 17—Musselshell County Poultry Association. Mr. Greefield, Butte, judge; P. C. Hagerman, secretary.
- Sheridan, Wyo., December 30, 31—Western Wyoming Poultry Association, January 4, 1915. Chester Young, secretary.
- Bellingham, Wash., December 14-19—W. M. Coats, judge; M. Galloway, secretary.
- Colville, Wash., January 14-16—Stevens County Association. Will Purdy, judge; Joseph Cleator, Colville, Wash., secretary.
- Colfax, Wash., December 28 to January 2—W. J. Scott, secretary.
- Dayton, Wash., December 30 to January 2—Arthur Johnston, secretary.
- Everett, Wash., December 8-12—Snohomish County Poultry Association. Comparison. H. H. Petershagen, secretary.
- Mabton, Wash., December 16-19—M. L. Wert, secretary.
- North Yakima, Wash., January 4-9—A. F. Linse, secretary.
- Olympia, Wash., January 19-21—Will Purdy, judge; R. A. Lee, Olympia, secretary.
- Palouse, Wash., third week in January—J. J. Johnson, secretary.
- Pomeroy, Wash., Dec. 9-12—C. G. Shawen, secretary.
- Spokane, Wash., Inland Empire Poultry and Pet Stock Association, December 15-19, inclusive. James A. Tucker, judge; Mrs. H. A. Klussman, 420 Second avenue, secretary; H. J. Sheppard, 420 Second avenue, manager.
- Tacoma, Wash., December 29 to January 3—Tacoma Poultry Association, W. S. Russell, Ottumwa, Iowa, judge; J. A. Caddey, secretary.
- Walla Walla, Wash., second week in January—Theo. Hewes, judge; J. H. Levy, secretary.
- Albany, Or., January 7-10—Edward Schoel, secretary.
- Astoria, Or., December 15-18—Will Purdy, judge; P. H. Hadden, Astoria, Or., secretary.
- Newberg, Or., January 5-9—Yamhill Poultry Association, Craig Duer, secretary.
- Portland, Or., December 7-12—J. Drenenstedt, judge; John W. Johnson, secretary.
- Salem, Or., January 13-16—Marion County Poultry Association; G. M. Voris, secretary.
- Salem, Or., September 28 to October 3—Oregon State Fair; H. B. Church, superintendent, Roseburg, Or.

- Logan, Utah, January 4-5—Cache Valley Poultry Association; Alma Olsen, secretary.
  - Murray, Utah, December 14-19—Salt Lake County Poultry Association; Raymond Spencer, manager.
  - Ogden, Utah, December 29 to January 2—Ogden Poultry Association; Wilford L. Bramwell, secretary.
  - Provo, Utah, December 21-26—Utah Poultry Association; Royal B. Woolley, secretary.
  - Salt Lake City, October 5-10—Utah Pigeon Show, State Fair; J. H. Armstrong, secretary.
  - Salt Lake City, January 11-16—State Poultry Association of Utah; Harlow R. Grow, secretary.
- Any corrections or additions to this list will be appreciated.

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