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The Most Popular One in Colville

THE POULTRY SHOW.

(Written for the Colville News Bureau by John B. Slater.)

Royalty in the chicken world has taken possession of Colville for the three days' season of the Stevens County Poultry Show, which will end next Saturday night, and occupies the entire first floor of the Hofstetter block on Main street, to which place all other chickens that claim blue blood as a qualification for their entrance into the highest feathered society are invited. Gorgeously bespangled chanteleers pace their quarters and dispute the rights of free speech to others of similar rank, and docile hens hum and sing in low tones of submission to the tyrannical dictates of the patriarch of the flock. The rooster who guards a flock taunts the contemporary who has to occupy a pen by himself, and if the language of these denizens of the realm of the barnyard could be translated into real English the news of the big event might make much more interesting reading than prosaic record of the event by the plain ordinary newspaper reporter.

The chicken has occupied a unique position in the history of the world. From the jungle fowl of India, unfit for food, but somewhat prized as a game bird, the domestic farm bird of this day, the grace of every aristocratic home, has kept pace with the advance of civilization of man. He comes to the rescue of his master in time of sickness, makes him glad at the banquet feast, loves the home and pays a thousand fold for his keep. These facts are within the knowledge of us all.

But the show. One can hardly realize that in a poultry show in Colville there are birds that took prizes in the Crystal palace poultry exhibitions in London, and that many date their lineal ancestry only a generation or two back to the prize winning pens in Paris, Berlin and in Rome.

Oscar Nelson of Couer d'Alene, Idaho, who is said to be one of the fairest and most competent judges of poultry in the United States, is making up the score cards for the big exposition, and a number of enthusiastic poultry fanciers are following him in his work in order to familiarize themselves with points of excellency, which will aid them in improving their flocks.

It was thought when the poultry show was talked about it would be impossible to interest enough people in the enterprise to make it a success. Mrs. J. C. Eakle, who is secretary of the

Stevens County Poultry Association, enlisted the endeavors of some of the most prominent poulterers in Stevens, Spokane and Ferry counties and British Columbia, and it was evident within a fortnight that the only thing necessary was to make the preparations. The business men of Colville came liberally to her aid by giving credit and other prizes which augmented local interest and brought out many birds that otherwise would never have been scored.

Dr. E. A. Blakely of Kettle Falls was the first to make an entry with a coop of Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds, comprising one prize cock, first and second hen and first and second pullet at the Kettle Falls show. These received a special ribbon for best of Rhode Island Reds at Kettle Falls a week ago.

Mrs. J. M. Coogan has an attractive pen of White Rocks. Mrs. A. L. Knapp a pen of Buff Orpingtons.

J. H. Gentry entered a coop of Barred Plymouth Rocks and a single entry of Rose Comb Rhode Island Reds, which was a prize winner at the Spokane Interstate fair.

George R. Myers of Mill Creek displayed two coops of Barred Rocks.

Fred Ide entered two pairs of pigeons, one of the German Homers variety, and one of the Plymouth Rock Homers.

Frank Poilak entered a pen of Pencilled Indian Runner ducks. These ducks have recently been introduced into this country and have become very popular because of their ease of care and their special value as egg producers. It is said they will lay continuously during every month of the year excepting while moulting.

Two of the most interesting displays and the ones which attracted instant attention were those from Chesaw. T. J. Nopp of the Rosebud Poultry farm made an entry of one pen of Cornish Game, a pen of Black Orpingtons.

H. L. Mooney of Chesaw, proprietor of the Sunny Slope ranch, entered one pen of Barred Rocks and one pen of Salmon Favorolles, one pen of Rose Comb Anconas, one pen of Bantam Leghorns, and one pen of Cochins. The Ancona cock took second prize in Crystal Palace Poultry exposition in London. The Favorolles and Anconas are all English importations.

Another bird that received an enthusiastic reception was the English Campine. This entry was made of one cock and five hens by Walter Gammage of Colville. They were imported by him from London last summer. They are

small, black and white barred bird, and are said to have originated in Belgium. The first birds produced of this strain were of the black body and white back, but were later bred into a barred back, and this variety is represented on the Pacific coast, so far as is known, by only two pens, one of which is owned by Mr. Gammage, and the other owned in Greenwood. The eggs of this variety are perfectly white-shelled, and the birds are said to be known in their native country as "the everlasting layers." The eggs for breeding purposes here sell for a dollar apiece, the highest price ever paid for eggs for breeding purposes, and Mr. Gammage has more orders ahead than he can fill this season. This pen of Campines at the Grand Forks Poultry Show last month drew three first prizes, two seconds and three third, and first prize for quality and appearance of eggs.

OTHER ENTRIES.

A. B. Willett of Middleport, two pens of Buff Orpingtons.

C. H. Morrison of Colville, two pens of Toulou geese, one pen of Pekin ducks.

Fred Ide, one pen of Indian Runner ducks, two single entries of cocks, one pen of hens and two pens of pullets, all Barred Rocks.

D. O. Thomas, two pens of Houdans. Mrs. Frank Kostka, one pen and one trio of Barred Rocks.

V. L. Ballard, one pen of White Wyandottes, also one hen.

Warren Savage, one trio of Brown Leghorns, one pen of Pekin ducks.

J. H. Young, one pen of Cornish Indian Games.

Joe Cleator, one pen of Black Minorcas.

Frank Waynick, pen of Buff Orpingtons.

The show opened at 9 o'clock Thursday morning, in charge of G. B. Ide as president. Mrs. J. C. Eakle as secretary of the Stevens County Poultry Association, and Walter Gammage, manager of the exhibit. The attendance today was larger than has been expected, and many applications were made by people who had not thought of presenting exhibits until after having seen the splendid display. While all entries were supposed to have been made before the opening of the show, still space will be accorded to those who desire to show their stock, and Professor Nelson, while judging the birds, cheerfully gives all information asked for by patrons.

Noon luncheon was spread in honor

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of the members of the Stevens County Poultry Association at the Hotel Colville by the Colville Chamber of Commerce. L. G. Keller, the president, toasted for the event. The principal speaker was Professor Oscar Nelson, who met with an enthusiastic reception. Professor Nelson made the remarkable statement that the moving product of the poultry industry in America alone last year was in excess of \$550,000,000, equaling almost a quarter of the metallic money issue of the government. These figures place poulterers only second in the list of producers among the industries—corn alone being first.

Others speakers were Dr. A. E. Blakely of Kettle Falls, G. B. Ide, James Algie, J. W. King, A. B. Willett, Howard W. Stull.

It is the desire that every person in Colville should patronize the show, if for no other purpose than to make it a success. This is not saying that it is not receiving a good patronage, but President Ide says that since it costs only 10 cents for admission, no one should miss the immense treat in store. The doors will be open from 9 a. m. to 9 p. m. each day, concluding with Saturday evening.