

lines it could not be a good specimen of the breed it represented. At the present time at most poultry shows of the Dominion there are separate classes provided for fancy and utility stock respectively, which means that the birds are judged on different standards. Now that fanciers and utility breeders have come to a much better understanding, with the common recognition of the fact that poultry can possess utility qualities and yet be desirable types of their respective breeds, it is to be hoped that in the near future the poultry shows will fall into line with the shows of other classes of live-stock—securing the adoption of one main class for each breed, judged on one standard, with the objective of combining beauty and utility in one bird. In order to become familiar with the various breed types of poultry, the novice cannot do better than study closely Ludlow's plates, together with the text describing their characteristics, in Lewis Wright's great work, "The Book of Poultry."

Having purebred stock and, if possible, a knowledge of their ancestry in regard to egg-laying performance, the first essential to be looked for in the ideal breeder is points indicative of constitution, such as a clean face free from wrinkles and feathers, bold, bright eye, short, stout beak, legs set wide apart, short shank, and tight feathering. These points only indicate constitution, and must be combined with points suggestive of laying-power, such as a deep and full abdomen of fine texture, a short keel, and an oblong body, full at crop and tapering from thighs to head, forming a wedge-like appearance. Summed up, and embodying both the above sides, the ideal breeding-bird should have a well-set-on head, a clean face free from wrinkles, a bold eye and medium-sized comb, be tightly feathered, have a fine texture of skin, have an oblong body on legs of medium thickness, the shank being short and the bone flat, set wide apart, well-developed crop, deep and full abdomen (which should be soft to the touch), and width across the back—a wedge-shaped appearance being thus presented from the top and side viewpoints. Generally speaking, the descriptive points outlined above apply to both male and female, apart, of course, from the usual sex differences. The male, however, should possess strong masculine characteristics by being stouter and more cobby than the female. The hen should be feminine in all respects. The feminine-looking male or the masculine female should never be bred from.

A serious weakness that is becoming far too common in many of the present-day utility stock is the lack of crop-development: that is to say, there is not sufficient width or depth from the point of