

18474

YEAR BOOK

Of AMERICAN FUR FANCIERS ASSOCIATION



Some of the silver prizes offered at our official shows by the
A. F. F. A.

1910

PRICE FIVE CENTS

PREFACE.

To publish the second fanciers' annual, represented by this volume, has entailed much effort. Academic duties prevent us doing this earlier in the year, but we are in time for all the season's shows. We trust this will not only introduce you to most of the officers who have so kindly assisted us by lending their photos, but we would like to have presented all. We are sorry to have had to go to press before receipt of copy for many of the advertisements that were promised to support this undertaking. The publication is of no value to any individual who does not care for the fancy, but we trust it is interesting to all fanciers, and it is our aim to make it valuable to the advertisers, to whom as liberal fanciers of repute we beg our readers to give all possible patronage.

We regret not being able to present pictures of every variety, but fanciers of the absent varieties did not respond to the call for cuts, so if the varieties do not go forward the apathy of their breeders is to blame. We would here offer our grateful thanks to all who have rendered us any assistance and we trust this volume will prove a help to the whole fancy and another year will bring forward a still better publication. A price sufficient merely to cover cost of delivery has been affixed this year. We believe the list of members alone is worth this to any fancier.

C. H. ELLARD,
Secretary.

OFFICERS FOR 1910.

President, Al. Kroeger.
First Vice-President, F. G. Carnochan.
Second Vice-President, Eliot Hubbard, Jr.
Secretary, C. H. Ellard.
Treasurer, W. B. Patterson.
Chairman Fancy Rabbit Club, Robt. Whitaker.
Chairman Belgian Hare Rabbit Club, F. J. Dick.
Chairman Smooth Cavy Club, H. P. Talcott.
Chairman Peruvian Cavy Club, G. M. Carnochan, Jr.
Chairman Abyssinian Cavy Club, Thos. A. Martin, Jr.
Chairman Mouse Club, Miss C. Spencer.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE.

W. B. Patterson H. P. Talcott Eliot Hubbard, Jr.

RULES COMMITTEE.

F. G. Carnochan Miss Christina Spencer T. A. Martin, Jr.

JUDGES APPROVED BY THE ASSOCIATION 1910.

Robt. Whitaker Al Kroeger
L. G. Plath A. Ziegler C. H. Ellard

SECRETARY'S REPORT, JANUARY, 1910.

During the past year several things have been accomplished that have never before been done for the fur fancy in America. There has been issued by the secretary a year book supported by the advertisers and carrying a list of members, some information as to the work and standing of the association and its future in the report of the secretary and some articles by members of the fancy. The book

met with unanimous approval and has proved to some of the advertisers a very profitable medium of advertising, and we trust it will also do as much for the fancy. There has also been designed and printed a uniform label carrying some information of value as to both shipper and consignee and identifying all shipments of members. Inasmuch as the association is constantly gaining prestige these labels will in reality soon become a sort of guarantee to the buyer and an insurance to the shipper. We have also been able, by the increased membership and constant increase in dues to have a die made from which metallic medallions or medals may be struck in the future at a small cost and they should prove an incentive to greater exhibiting.

The express rates on our stock have been reduced, partly due to the efforts of the association as the matter was broached last February with the companies, but immediately due to the submitting of a dispute between a dealer and a company to the Interstate Commerce Board whose order brought about the change to single rate in all companies. There have been three official shows, at Boston, Orange, N. J., and New York, during 1909, and there are to be three others during the early part of 1910, viz., Boston, Milwaukee and Red Bank, N. J. At most of these there was a fair number of exhibits, but not in any case as large an entry as there was reason to expect, and which we must correct if we are to carry on our campaign of education and progress. Two cases of alleged questionable transactions have been taken up and members of the association afforded what protection was possible. In transactions, however, members ought to use considerable care of themselves. It is not for the good of the fancy to ship stock prepaid or C. O. D., nor is it wise to ship stock that has not been paid for, especially to persons not members of the association, for they are not so easily gotten at and there are plenty of frauds who will "take you in." A person who suspects a member of the association so much as to want to have animals shipped first is either ignorant of usage or will bear watching himself.

For the annual show the following subscriptions were received and expended for the trophies as indicated: Angora rabbits, \$1 C. H. Ellard, \$2 E. B. Southwick, silver baking dish; smooth cavy, \$1 C. H. Ellard, fifty cents, W. T. Fluck, seventy-five cents, A. W. Pollworth, silver butter dish; Belgian hares, adults, \$2 Julian Branch, silver chocolate pot; junior, \$2 Mrs. C. B. Evans, silver bonbon dish; Tans, \$1 C. H. Ellard, \$1 Dr. Meyer, \$1 H. P. Talcott, silver nut dish; Dutch, adult, \$5 Eliot Hubbard, Jr., silver trophy cup; junior, \$5 Eliot Hubbard, Jr., silver beer set; English, \$10 G. M. Carnochan, Jr., \$1 H. P. Talcott, colonial silver coffee set; Flemish, \$1, C. H. Ellard, \$3 J. F. Johnson, silver sandwich tray; Peruvians, \$1 C. H. Ellard, \$1 H. P. Talcott, silver mustard cup.

Also: Mice, \$1 Miss Spencer, silver salt dish; Abyssinians, \$2 T. A. Martin, Jr., competition for which failed and they are held in waiting for next year; and besides the above two medals were offered by Robt. Whitaker to value of \$15, and two by the association of the value of \$1 each. A \$1 special from Dr. Knowles of Fostoria for the best Belgian buck bred by the exhibitor was received after the judging was over. The total of specials was better than last year, but could be much better if members would subscribe before June and all give a little. The total would be greater and the party to whose lot it may fall to purchase trophies therewith can take advantage of the very low prices of the big department store sales and offer a \$5 or even \$10 article with an expenditure of a half or two-thirds of these sums.

During the coming year the work of the association, and that means the efforts of each and every member, should be directed toward an onward and upward growth, an awakening of a more widespread and general interest in thoroughbred stock, and a far greater educational campaign through the exhibiting of our stock at more times and places and in greater quantities.

We will need to bend every effort toward increasing our membership. Every one can induce one more to join and that means double our roll. The members of the association located within a State should make some effort to organize themselves into a State chapter. Such will undoubtedly help increase interest locally and also membership.

The membership roll embraces the following members: Fancy Rabbit Club, 57; Belgian Hare Rabbit Club, 34; Smooth Cavy Club, 26; Peruvian Cavy Club, 12; Abyssinian Cavy Club, 9; Mouse Club, 6; a total of 144.

These are geographically placed as follows: New York State, 58; Massachusetts, 24; Pennsylvania, 17; New Jersey, 9; Wisconsin, 7; Ohio, 3, and others in Iowa, Kansas, Indiana, West Virginia, Maryland and Michigan. Of course in these figures an individual belonging to two clubs appears twice, but the majority are not affiliated with more than one club or two at most.

The matter of registration and the establishment of championship has now become a matter demanding action, and a registry system will be maintained on the present rules by the secretary until a committee definitely recommends more complete rules. Certificates will be issued as soon as the Board authorizes their printing and form.

The matter of raising the dues to \$1 per year per club seems to meet with very general approval and it might be observed that if the increase in membership continues we will have to have a greater income to meet the postage bills alone. This association should be unanimous in the support of some official magazine that is devoted to the fancy and willing to promote the interest of the fanciers and fancy stock and not interested in the pot hunting type and the show follower and fakir. We ought to support a journal strongly that stands for the purely fancier, educational and scientific side of the hobby. Such must be financed and you can make such possible by your subscription and advertising. This all redounds to the benefit of the members in every possible way.

You must get together and support a journal that reflects your ideal fancy or that fancy will soon cease to hold interest for others and your own interest will lag for want of stimulus from others. I hardly should need to repeat my former urging for more exhibits at shows. Not enough of us show our stock to the public and those who do exhibit do not do so often enough. I would suggest that two summer shows be arranged for 1910, one in the early part, one in the latter part, and arranged as to be in the neighborhood at least of some of the large summer resorts where people who are interested can be reached and induced to visit the exhibition. For the rest of the year a series of four or five large shows arranged so as to cover most of the territory represented by our association would induce perhaps more members to exhibit and would reach a wider range of people. The summer shows are of particular advantage to the breeders, as they will furnish an outlet, through sales, for much of the surplus young stock and thereby enable the exhibitor to give his own stud better care and in most cases add a new fancier to the fold.

Let us, then, strive to increase our brotherhood by at least one new member each. Let us all give to some publication agreed upon as our official organ every bit of support we can, both in subscribing and advertising and writing, and let us all support more exhibitions and support them better, that they may be greater in number, size and influence, and if we do these things well the fancy will leap into such importance and prominence as has never been known.

To all those who by their help and advice helped and contributed to the successes of the past year our thanks are due and I would extend to all who lent me any assistance my sincerest gratitude.

C. H. ELLARD,
Secretary.

A CRYING NEED.

The A. F. F. A. has made great progress, but not in proportion to the other fanciers' organizations. The great stumbling block and drawback is the carelessness and indifference shown by members and to whether we have or have not a paper publisher exclusively in the interest of the pet animals for whose welfare the A. F. F. A. was organized. We all must admit the power of the press. Every poultry, pigeon and other fanciers' association, even our trade unions and labor organizations, owe their success to the papers they publish. While we must admit there are many birds and animals that may be considered as pets, we must remember we are not organized as a general pet stock association; we are only interested in the rabbit, cavy, rat and mouse. We may be successful in a way, but we can never expect to be on an equal footing with the other fanciers until we have our own successful publication. A general miscellaneous pet stock publication will never be a success and is of little or no use to any fancier. Having a page in a poultry paper will never build our fancy. Nor a page tacked on to the rear of a pigeon paper or added to the tail of a dog paper will not produce results. If we want to see our fancy and the A. F. F. A. grow we must have a fanciers' paper, one devoted to our fancy and our organization exclusively. We must remember we are fanciers and do not want a paper devoted to the butchers, fakery and hucksters of rabbit pelts and meat.

F. J. DICK.



Mr. T. A. MARTIN, Jr.

The Chairman of the Abyssinian Club is a young fancier who became identified with the Association during its first years and has been an enthusiastic and successful follower of the rough "pigs," and what is more he has seldom failed to have a good representation at the shows. His efforts to push the Abyssinian should meet much stronger support from breeders. He has recently taken up English Rabbits of the Airdale strain.

B. A. ROBINSON, 13 Monroe St., Taunton, Mass.

Importer and Breeder of

Flemish Giants and Belgian Hares

MY Belgians are headed by imported buck "Nottingham Boy," by "African Boy," sired by Noble's "African Chief"—grandest buck in England and two equally well bred imported does. Some fine young bucks, full of **color** and of **type**. Just what you want to introduce new blood into your stock.

Prices Right and Satisfaction Guaranteed



FOR SALE Very reasonable. Black, white and tan, rough coated, Scotch Collie, **Vialfo Clinker**. An excellent stud dog. Good size and head. Pedigree contains 12 Champions and imported dogs. V. H. C. in novice class, Milwaukee Show. Pedigreed sable and white and black and white collie pups for sale anytime.

AUG. W. POLLWORTH, 186 Wright St., Milwaukee, Wis.

1910 PRIZE LIST

\$20 sterling challenge cup, E. Hubbard, Jr., for best junior Dutch rabbit, to be won at annual show three times, two of which must be in succession. Exhibitor must be breeder of the exhibit.

\$2 for best Dutch buck at Madison Square, E. Hubbard, Jr.

\$2 for best Dutch doe at Madison Square, E. Hubbard, Jr.

\$2 for best blue Dutch at Boston, E. Hubbard, Jr.

\$2 for best black Dutch at Boston, E. Hubbard, Jr.

\$3 for best Belgian junior at annual show, G. W. Felton.

\$1 for best Belgian bred and exhibited by a member of B. H. C., Dr. Knowles.

\$5 for best black English cavy at Madison Square, F. W. Mills.

\$1 for best Dutch rabbit at annual show, C. Patterson.

\$1 for best mouse exhibit, Miss A. Lathrop.

\$2 for best Abyssinian cavy at Red Bank (September), T. A.

Martin.

\$2 for best Belgian at annual show, Julian Branch.

\$1 for best black English cavy, at annual show, Leroy Patten.

50 cents for best chocolate cavy at annual show, A. W. Pollworth.

50 cents for best silver grey rabbit at annual show, A. W. Pollworth.

\$1 for best mouse at annual show, Miss Spencer.

\$1 for best R. O. C. Dutch at annual show, J. E. Willmarth.

3 sterling medallion fobs at Red Bank (September), C. H. Ellard.

2 sterling medallion fobs at Empire Show, C. H. Ellard.

2 sterling medallion fobs at annual show, C. H. Ellard.

Now, why!—Oh! Why isn't my name on this list?

You didn't say so, that's why.

(Send us your subscription NOW.—C. H. E.)



A TYPICAL FLEMISH GIANT

One of the Atlantic Rabbitry's stud bred at Elm Cove

Willis J. Middletown, M. D.

QUINCY, MASS.

Usually has young and old stock for disposal in **Belgian Hares, Himalayans, English, Silver Gray and White Lops**

FIT TO WIN IN ANY COMPETITION

RESUME

C. H. E.

The fancy has made unusual progress in this country in the past few years consequent upon our organization of the Association. There are now more varieties of rabbits bred here than ever before, and each seems to be making steady progress toward permanent establishment. When I was called upon to put forward an article on domestic pets for one of the great American agricultural encyclopedias a few years ago I was forced to state in many cases that there were but few of certain of these varieties bred and they were not well known. With the exception of the silver brown, silver fawn and the imperial every variety known to the English fancy is spread over considerable territory and quite widely bred.

The Lops are by no means as popular either here or abroad as they were a few years ago, but are nevertheless bred by some six or seven American fanciers. The Flemish Giant probably has come forward more than the other varieties so that they are perhaps quite as popular as the Belgian Hare rabbit now. The Dutch and English have made some remarkable though well deserved progress and bid fair to become as popular here as they have long been abroad. The Tans and Polish are forging along, the former are being bred both east and west as well as south and as many as ten or twelve breeders of the tans are easily counted. The silver gray is growing and with a little pushing would be very popular.

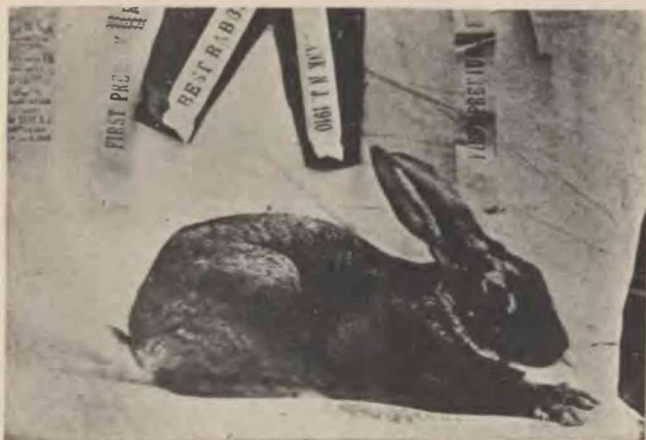
The old favorites, the Angoras, are bred everywhere you turn, though of different grades of quality. The pert little Himalayans are just about holding their own and would come forward much more if breeders would show more, but this is also true of everyone of the varieties.



Abyssinian Cavy "IVORY KING" owned by T. A. Martin, Jr.
First at Boston '09. First and Special at N. Y. State Fair '09. First and Special at Orange, N. J. '09. First and Special at Red Bank, N. J. '10.

Among the cavy fanciers the silken or pseudo Angora seems to be doomed as few indeed appear at our shows and without competition the keenest fancier soon loses zest. The Peruvians do not seem to have any really large following, in fact, they have remained much at a standstill. About the same number breed them as did four years ago. The smooth or English cavy has increased very considerably in popularity, however, and also some in number of varieties.

Among the new ones that need to be noted are the chocolates. These were distinguished by one taking all the premier honors at Madison Square last winter and repeating at Red Bank. The blues and black-eyed whites are here, but need developing. The Abyssinians need some pushing, too, though they have progressed more than their long-coated brothers by quite a bit. We ought, however, to see about twice the membership in the Abyssinian club. As for the poor mouse, its old friends stick to it and an occasional new one comes along, but it looks as though the coming year might see considerable progress with the long tails. All will go ahead much faster when we see more of them at our exhibits and more exhibitions with exhibits of pet stock at them. The fact that all stock has been enhanced in value is a very natural consequence of what progress we have made.



One of Atlantic Rabbitry's winning Belgian Hares

A WORD WITH THE "BELGIAN" FANCIERS.

By F. J. DICK.

The Belgian Hare has had quite a slump in the year just past. There are not as many breeders and those there are have kept in the background and we have had very little real discussion on the hare. Why the Belgian fanciers have allowed their hobby to lag is hard to say, but I believe the "utility faking" is responsible to a great extent for the falling off of the fancy. I know the utility "rag" is now threadbare, but still we let it flutter out in the breeze every little while.

Every utility advocate will tell you the money you will make selling to hotels and private trade. He will tell you he has made money and "hundreds of others" have done so and what others have done you can do—but in the next breath he will tell you he doesn't sell to this trade any more as he has disposed of the stock with which he furnished hotels and has now nothing but the best that grows.

What gets me is why he sold the stock which produced the hotel supply if it was such a bonanza. Why did he get the best that could be had? I am not speaking of any individual whatever, but the fact is that every article of this character I have read has wound up advising to get the best. Read a dozen utility articles by as many different authors and you will find that three-fourths of them do not claim they have made a great success of the utility pseudo hare, but say it can be done.

Of course they catch a few with .16 to .40 per pound talk, but the fellow that gets caught what does he do? He'll put the "bug" on everyone and everything in the fancy and will discourage everyone with whom he may come in contact and where a real Belgian fancier might have been added to our roll and breeders of Belgians to the fancy we have scoffers all because of the playing upon the cupidity of one.

If we want the Belgian Hare at the head of the fancy, the leader of rabbits, we must cut this utility rabbit business out. Dispose of your culls young and any way that's honorable and handy. There are, however, quite a number of good Belgian Hares in America, indeed some very fine ones, and from what I have seen I should say some better than any that can be imported. Of course, there are good ones in England, but you can't get them unless you go after them personally and then you must not let the man over there know they are going out of England. If you do you won't get the ones you want.



ANGORA RABBIT

First and Special at Madison Square, 1908. Shows the coat and head "furnishing" characteristic of this variety as bred at Elm Cove.

If the members of the Belgian Hare Rabbit Club of the A. F. F. A. will get together and give that necessary long steady pull—all pull together for the standard Belgian one that is standard weight, one that is standard color and one that is a fancy rabbit. If we do this you will find our Belgian again filling all three classes at all the shows, and the leader of the "lepus timidus." We must teach the novice and the public what a Belgian Hare is—that they may distinguish him at sight. The unacquaintedness with what to expect in a Belgian is another cause, I believe, for the temporary slump we are experiencing, for like the Plymouth Rock fowl, with some people any old speckled hen is a Plymouth Rock, so with the Belgian Hare, any old long eared brownish gray coated rabbit is a Belgian. Let's get together and move things!

[There goes the bugle boys! Fall in! Shoulder arms! Forward march and away to the front for the Belgians again. Ed.]

CAVIES, Bought and Sold

JOHN R. CHIDSEY

122 Spring Garden Street

Easton, Pa.