

carrier to make the trip. He makes up his deliveries from the post office boxes, and is ready to start by 9 a.m. Each farmer has a box for receiving his mail at the roadside, and the carrier does not have to leave his vehicle. In one day he delivered 178 papers. The service is nearly as convenient for forwarding mail as for securing it.

Some idea of the rise in the value of horses may be gauged by a report sent out from East Buffalo, which is to the effect that the light-legged kinds, 15 2 to 15 3 hands, 1,025 lbs. to 1,100 lbs., fairly good lookers and with some style and a good road gait, which now sell for around \$300 a pair, could have been bought three years ago for from \$100 to \$150 a pair. Indeed, the horses that could be bought in the dullest of the dull times for from \$100 to \$150 a pair were on the average slightly superior to those for which \$300 per pair is readily paid. And even of these the better trotting sorts supply is short.

An American farmer who feeds steers for market says. It is difficult to say how much it costs to make a pound of beef, but under favorable conditions I think a pound of beef and a pound of pork can be made for every 12lb. of sound corn fed to the animal. The grain alone represents two-thirds of the cost of the product, and to this must be added the pasturage in season, hay, and cost of sheds, barns, etc., with labor and interest on the investment. Those who desire to get rich feeding cattle must expect to creep along slowly. In the end, if they succeed, they are very apt to keep what they have acquired.

There is no permanent cure for heaves in horses. It can be lessened in extent by feeding nutritive material in small bulk, and more frequent rations. All coarse feed should be avoided such as timothy, millet, and clover hay. The best wild hay is preferable and it should be cut fine and given in small quantities mixed with mill feed or steamed food. Feed everything wet. Food and water should be consumed at least an hour before the animal is used for work. A horse with the heaves is only capable of doing light work and it is cruel to use him otherwise.

Farmers' telephones are coming into use in some parts of Ohio. The farmers in certain districts organize and run the telephone themselves. One of the strong organizations of this kind is the Geauga County Farmers' Telephone Company. This company is owned and operated entirely by farmers. It has already four hundred miles of wire in operation, reaches every town in the county, and goes to at least two hundred and fifty farm houses. The farmers and their hired men do all the work but wiring, which is done by experts. A telephone service of this kind would be of inestimable value in some of our thickly settled country districts.

Japan is receiving some attention just now as a market for butter. In 1897 the imports of butter into Japan amounted to 182,484 pounds, valued at \$37,500. Of this quantity the United States supplied 73,000 pounds; France, 32,000 pounds, and Austria, Denmark, Germany, Holland, Italy and Switzerland the rest. The bulk of that imported from the United States comes from California. The average price is 35 cents per pound in gold. A small quantity is imported from Canada, and Danish and Dutch brands are popular. There is no trouble in obtaining good butter from October to March or April, but during the rest of the year the butter obtained is more or less rancid.

### The Export Egg and Poultry Trade

To our mind there is no branch of farming which affords greater room for development and progress than poultry keeping. Every farmer keeps hens; but how does he keep them? From the way many farmers look upon the poultry branch of their farming operations one would think they kept poultry as a kind of barnyard ornament. True, the farmyard would be a dull kind of place without the "crowing" of the rooster, the "quacking" of the duck and the "hissing" of the goose. But no kind of stock should

be kept on a farm as an ornament. The average farmer cannot afford to do this, and unless every horse, cow, sheep, pig or hen is returning a profit to its owner either in work or products he cannot make his business a success financially.

There is a growing demand in Great Britain for Canadian fresh eggs and for well-fed and well-dressed poultry, and the exports in these commodities from Canada will be larger than ever this season. In 1896 Canada sent to Great Britain 5,003,170 dozens of eggs, valued at \$870,798, and poultry and game to the value of \$30,504, and when the returns for 1898 are in a much larger volume of trade will be shown. What surprises us is that an export egg trade of this dimension could be worked up in Canada under existing conditions. The average farmer has no definite system of feeding his hens or gathering the product. The eggs too often are gathered when it is convenient to do so, and in the same way are taken to the village or town grocer, whence after a while they reach the shipper, and are forwarded in due time to the British market. True, there are notable exceptions, and the number of farmers who are giving special attention to the poultry branch of farming is every year growing larger, but still the bulk of them give it very little, if any, attention. If an export trade in eggs valued at a million dollars could be worked



Three Ayrshire cows, the property of J. McCormick & Sons, Rockton, Ont. The centre one is Sprightly 5th, 2587. The one to the left is Gem of Rockton 9241, sired by Jock Morton, and winner of third prize at Toronto. The one to the right is Teena of Rockton 3rd, 2955, sired by Jock Morton, also a prize-winner.

up under such unfavorable conditions what are the possibilities along this line if the hen on the farm is given special attention and the eggs are gathered in regularly and sent forward in a fresh condition under cold storage arrangements? There seems to be almost unlimited room for expansion if we can guarantee the British consumer strictly fresh eggs.

In addition to the export egg trade there is the dressed poultry branch of the business. There have never been as many orders received from England for dressed poultry in any one season as have been received this year, and this trade is bound to grow still more if we can send forward the right kind of product. Professor Robertson says that one defect in the management of the poultry business in Canada is that people do not properly fatten their poultry. There is then room for greatly extending this trade by properly fattening the poultry for export. Fattening takes from three to five weeks, and should be given special attention by every person who keeps fowls. It is possible to increase the weight of the average fowl sold on the markets in this country by from three to seven pounds each, and why should not the farmer get the benefit of this extra few pounds when he sells his birds? The poultry-fattening stations now being carried on by the Agricultural and Dairy Co. nmissioner will pay for themselves a hundred times over if they can induce and show the farmers of this country how to fatten their poultry for market.

The two following tables taken from a bulletin issued by