

as they often are? There is no get-rich-quick scheme about it.

As to my name, H. S. Austin is welcome to it; it is a name that I am not ashamed of either as a man or a farmer.

Bruce Co., Ont.

SAMUEL HILDRED.

Performers Breed Performers.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

This has been proven true time and time again, but in no case is a more valuable lesson to be learned than in the study of the breeding of Calamity Starlight Butter Girl, that made the sensational record of 176.9 pounds of milk, testing 5.5 per cent. fat, in the three-day public test at the Winter Fair. Her nearest female ancestors for several generations have qualified for the Advanced Register on performance, as also the sires in her pedigree. Seven of the males in her pedigree have gained a place in the Advanced Registry on the performance of their daughters. Further than this, perhaps, is the unequalled fact that her female ancestors for four generations have been winners at public tests. Her dam, Starlight Calamity Countess; her sire's dam, Lady Wayne Norine, and, further back, Calamity Jane 2nd; and last, but not least, Calamity Jane—these have all won a place in public test, as heifers or cows, during the test of the past 16 years. The Jap would probably say it was the spirit of her ancestors that spurred her on to do such great work. Certainly, a cow that has four generations of public-test winners behind her, should feel very much at home in public.

Another lesson to be learned is that an animal must be given a chance and have proper care, if she is to reach the full measure of her ability.

"Full many a flower is born to blush unseen,
And waste its sweetness on the desert air."

And many a cow has not reached the limit of her capacity, because there has been too much straw stack, too much barnyard, too much neglect. This animal was sold at my dispersion sale. Mr. Huley did not purchase her then, but as he had another from the same sire make a very fine record, he purchased her on that account. And she certainly did repay him for the good care he has given her since he purchased her. Breeding and proper care to develop the young things must go hand in hand to bring results.

GEO. RICE.

POULTRY

Fresh Eggs in Winter.

Now that winter is here, the hens require special care in order to persuade or induce them to lay eggs. In the first place, every old hen should be marketed, then the young ones will fare better. A beautiful, red-combed flock of active Plymouth Rock pullets is something every farmer's wife possessing them is proud of. Eggs are generally scarce during November and December, but, under proper management, the pullets should lay in January. Almost every person relishes fresh eggs in winter, when they are scarce and dear, better than they do in summer, when they are plentiful and cheap. "How to make the hens lay in winter," is the problem that many farmers' wives are trying to solve.

Two farmers' wives were attending the market one day. One of them had a large basket of fresh eggs; the other had only a few. The latter asked her neighbor, "How do you manage to make your hens lay so well during the winter season?" "Why," answered the other, "I feed them six times a day, and always scatter their grain among litter to make the hens take exercise." That is the secret. Isn't it almost a wonder the woman gave it away? Yes, we must keep the hens busy scratching if we want to be kept busy carrying in eggs. Certainly, good attendance is absolutely necessary. One woman told me that she almost lives with her hens. She is always running out to the hen-house with something nice that she knows the hens will relish. She keeps them well supplied with fresh water, and gives them lots of oyster shells. They pay her by giving her basketfuls of fresh eggs. We must take an interest in our hens if we want them to pay. They should be well supplied with good egg-making food. The henhouse should be ventilated, yet free from drafts. Wheat and buckwheat should be fed at least three times a week; oats, boiled barley and potatoes, should be fed in moderation. Change their bill of fare sometimes, for, like ourselves, they require a variety of food. Cabbage and turnips, raw, are much relished. Milk is excellent and also meat scraps. Hay seeds should be strewn on the henhouse floor. The house should be kept clean and dry. Biddy will manufacture eggs if we give her proper food and keep her busy. And it is surely worth while, when eggs are at 35 cents a dozen.

A. R.

P. J. I.

GARDEN & ORCHARD.

Quebec Vegetable-growers Hold Profitable Convention.

Over a hundred representative Vegetable-growers, principally from districts on the Island of Montreal, attended the second annual meeting of the Quebec Vegetable-growers' Association, held at St. Laurent, Dec. 14th. The session occupied the afternoon and evening, and, judging from the interest taken, the time was all too short to properly discuss the various addresses.

The old officers, with the exception of some changes in the executive committee, were re-elected: President, Paul Wattiez, Outremont; Vice-Presidents, J. McEvoy, Rosemount, and J. B. Beyries, Cote St. Paul; Secretary-Treasurer, Anatole Decarie, Notre Dame de Graces.

The following resolutions were adopted unanimously:

Resolution Regarding Organization.—Whereas, this Association has been incorporated under the "Co-operative Agricultural Association Act," by the Department of Agriculture, Quebec, and a sum of \$400 per annum granted by the said Provincial Government; therefore, resolved that this Association convey to the Honorable Minister of Agriculture of the Province of Quebec the thanks of the vegetable-growers of the Province for the valuable assistance thus rendered.

Resolution Regarding Experimental Work.—Whereas, problems of special interest to the Vegetable-growers should be worked out on some of the vegetable-growing lands situated in the principal vegetable-growing districts of the Province; therefore, resolved that, in the opinion of the members of this Association, such experimental work should be undertaken by this Association, for which one acre or more of land should be rented in one or two places for the purpose of conducting said experiments, the work to be carried on under the supervision of the Executive of the Association.

Resolution Regarding Standard Weights for Vegetables.—Whereas, owing to the standard weight per bag for certain vegetables not being the same in different Provinces of the Dominion, and the standard weight per bushel of certain vegetables being greater than their actual weight per measured bushel; therefore, resolved, that this Association recommend the Dominion Government to pass such law as necessary to legalize the following weights throughout Canada:

	Lbs. per Bag.	Lbs. per Bushel.
Potatoes	80	60
Onions	75	56
Beets	65	50
Carrots	65	50
Parsnips	60	45
Artichokes	70	56
Green peas, unshelled.	30	30
Snap beans	30	30

Further, resolved that this Association appoint delegates to join with a similar delegation from the Ontario Vegetable-growers' Association, to wait upon the Government at Ottawa to urge the passage of such legislation.

Fruit-growers' Views on Reciprocity.

There is no doubt that the great body of Canadian farmers, especially those producing export commodities, such as wheat, cheese and cattle, are convinced that their best interests, as well as the best interests of the Dominion generally, lie in a reduction of our present tariff, secured in part, if possible, by reciprocal trade arrangements that will open the American market to our producers. The only general classes of agricultural producers holding materially modified views on this question are the growers of small fruits, vegetables, and other minor lines, produced in insufficient quantities to supply the domestic market. It is only such products that can be materially increased in price by protective tariffs. But even fruit growers are coming to realize that access to the American market would partially, and in some cases more than fully compensate them for the opening of our own markets to foreign competition, while, of course, consumers on both sides the line have considerable to gain thereby. If the reciprocity extended to free trade or reduced tariffs in implements, tools and appliances, the gain to our producers would almost certainly overbalance the loss. At all events, it is but right that we should present the fruit growers' view of the case. At the mass meeting in Ottawa, preceding the interview of the farmers' delegation with the Government, a telegram was received from the Niagara District Fruit growers' Association, representing that, whereas the United States Government has made overtures to the Canadian Government with a view to reciprocity, and whereas the United States tariff on fruit is much higher than the Canadian tariff, resulting

in some cases, to the detriment of Eastern growers; therefore, it was urged that the matter of reciprocal-trade treaty with the United States should be given the most serious consideration, and whatever action was taken should be done only after consultation with the officers representing that Association, and that all possible preference should be given the Mother Country.

It is gratifying to note that, in regard to the actual position declared for, this resolution is substantially in accord with the platform adopted by the farmers' delegation.

APPLE-GROWERS' VIEWS.

Supporting the unanimous opinion of the tariff delegation in favor of reciprocity with the United States in all agricultural produce, Jas. E. Johnson, President of the Ontario Fruit-growers' Association, offered a few explanations as to how reciprocity would affect the interests of our Canadian fruit-growers, and particularly our growers of apples. "The district I represent," said Mr. Johnson, "is yearly becoming more largely engaged in orcharding. In this, as in many other sections of Canada, the apple business is being rapidly improved by co-operation of the growers in the care of their orchards and the marketing of their fruit, and the recognized superior quality of our fruit guarantees that, with expert methods, we can more than hold our own in any open market. In the County of Norfolk we have a co-operative association engaged in the handling of apples. This association was organized five years ago, and in 1910, even with the short crop, it sold nine times the quantity of fruit handled in the first year it was organized. The prospects for further development of the apple business in Ontario, under the co-operative system, are very bright, indeed.

"But, while the business of apple-growing is profitable to-day, its extension would be promoted by the opening of wider markets. The Republic to the south, with a population of ninety millions or so, and a rapidly-growing demand for all kinds of food products, would be an excellent additional market for our fruit. Even in the face of the duty prevailing, the shipments from our Association this past year to the United States were 6,000 barrels, while 25,000 barrels went to the Northwest, and 5,000 barrels to England and Scotland. Had there been free trade in apples, we would have been able to sell our whole crop 50 cents a barrel better than we did. There are varieties of apples, such as Greenings, Belleflower and Tolman Sweets, which are not wanted at all in the Northwest, but are readily taken at a good price in the United States. Apart from this, there are localities in Canada which could import American fruit to advantage, and many sections in the United States which could use our fruit to even greater advantage. In years of scarcity, the Canadian West would like to draw upon the Pacific Coast fruit more largely than it does, while, in seasons of more heavy production, we would be greatly benefited by an additional market. This illustrates the advantage of reciprocity.

"At present the Canadian apple-grower is discriminated against. The United States tariff on apples is 75 cents a barrel, while American apple-growers shipping into Canada have to pay only 40 cents a barrel duty. This is unfair, and I respectfully ask, on behalf of Canadian fruit-growers, that you, as representatives of the Canadian people, will endeavor, in any reciprocal trade negotiations, to have the American fruit tariff lowered to at least the same figure as the Canadian tariff. Further than this, we would welcome and request a complete withdrawal of all duties on apples entering either country. Reciprocity in apples would benefit consumer and producer alike."

Speaking for Nova Scotia, S. C. Parker, Secretary of the Nova Scotia Fruit-growers' Association, said, briefly:

"Our industry is rapidly growing; with increasing production, we see the importance of as wide a distribution as possible. We are convinced that a fair measure of reciprocal trade with our neighbor at the South would be of immense advantage to all our horticultural interests. Of even more importance is our trade with Great Britain. That country is our best customer, and any preference looking toward increase of trade with the Mother Country, will certainly improve our industrial condition."

Mulcted by Freight Rates.

Following a short address by Jas. E. Johnson, in the mass meeting at Ottawa which preceded the interview with the Government on the tariff question, a Mr. Paynter, of Saskatchewan, urged that Ontario apple-growers ought to get after the question of freight rates to the West. This past season his brother had brought two carloads of apples from Owen Sound; on one of them the freight was \$345, including a charge of \$18 or \$20 extra for ice, at a season when fruit should be warmed rather than cooled.