

amounted to about 7 cents on the pound. As a result of this, prices at the sale of the United Dairymen Co-operative were lower by three-quarters of a cent for No. 1 colored and eleven-sixteenths of a cent for No. 1 white, than the previous week. Cheese boards that had held meetings on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday were not affected. Trade with the United Kingdom was quiet because of exchange, and by September 4 the market was weakening. During this week the biggest drop was shown on the Kingston board, where white and colored cheese sold at 25 11/16 cents. During this time, also, there were threats of a serious strike of coal miners in Great Britain, and this also affected the cheese market to some extent.

During the following week, ending September 11, the market was also quiet, owing to continued weakness of foreign exchange and to a limited cable demand from the United Kingdom. It was reported at that time that the then rate of sterling exchange did not permit of sales at a profit on bids received from the United Kingdom. There was a limited demand from Europe for colored cheese and also some demand from the British West Indies for paraffined large cheese and twins. During this week prices ranged from 25 7/16 to 26 13/16 cents, the latter price having been received for a limited quantity on the Picton board.

During the next week the unsatisfactory condition as regards foreign exchange and cable demand continued, thus making a third week of a weak cheese market and a decided slump in prices. During the previous week the United Dairymen Co-operative, Montreal, made no sales of cheese; 2,197 boxes were offered, but all bids were refused. These cheese which were again offered on the week of September 18 were not sold. Prices during the week ending September 18 varied on the local boards from 24 3/4 cents to 26 3/16 cents. At the close of this week the United Dairymen Co-operative reported in part as follows:

"We were not able to sell any of the cheese last week that were carried over from our sale of the 10th inst. as the export trade with Great Britain was lifeless, and the Montreal exporters were entirely out of the market unless they could buy at a very low figure. In accordance with our expectations sterling exchange improved last week to the extent of 4 1/2 c. on the pound, but this advance did not appear to help the export business. The fact seems to be that Great Britain is well supplied with cheese at the present time, and that importers there are determined to force down prices of Canadian cheese for the balance of the season. The New Zealand cheese-making season has commenced and offers from that quarter are being made at lower prices than from Canada. This New Zealand competition prevents any speculative buying in Great Britain and offsets the effect of the large decrease in the make of cheese in Canada this season.

"The first part of the week some of the country boards made comparatively good prices owing to buying for Western Canada but this trade is now about supplied for the season and the latter part of the week prices on country boards were lower. We had the largest attendance of the season at our sale on Friday and the prices bid were higher than expected by many in the trade. If foreign exchange keeps on advancing we may see an improvement in the demand from cheese from the Continent of Europe with which business has been quiet of late."

At the following sale on September 27, more satisfactory conditions prevailed. The market letter sent out to companies consigning to the Co-operative auction sale at Montreal shows that there had been a decrease in the total receipts of cheese at Montreal of 11,547 boxes from August 28 to September 25, as compared with 1919, and that the decrease in Montreal receipts from May 1 to September 25 had amounted to 116,922 boxes. The comment of W. W. Moore, Manager of the Company, is quoted as follows for this period.

"We offered on Friday last 1898 cheese of which 312 were white and 1,586 colored. We sold all the cheese at the following prices: 176 special colored at 25 1/2; 1,372 No. 1 colored at 25 13/16; 38, No. 2, colored at 25 cents; 302 No. 1 white at 25 1/2; 10, No. 2 white at 24 3/4. The following factories graded specials: "Gordon Model," "Cold cured No. 6," "Kidd No. 2," "T. W. No. 1" and "Brickley." Another factory would have graded specials if the vat numbers had been marked on the boxes. We sold cheese from 47 factories with two shipments outstanding making for 49 for the week. Considering the unsettled condition the cheese market had been in all week, and the further weakness that developed in foreign exchange, we consider that the above sale was very satisfactory. The attendance was not so large as at some of the previous sales but the bidding was more spirited, and the whole sale only lasted 15 minutes. The decline in sterling exchange during the week amounted to 6 cents on the pound, but cable enquiries for cheese from Great Britain were better, and there was also a slightly stronger demand from the Continent.

"We feel very much gratified at the splendid manner in which our factories received the news that we carried over the cheese at our 15th and 16th sales. We did not receive a single request for advance payment on the cheese although we were prepared to do this if any of our factories requested such accommodation. We believe that the spirit of loyal co-operation shown by our factories under the trying conditions of the past two weeks is a good omen for the future success of this company. The fact that we refused to sell at the two sales undoubtedly had a good effect on the buyers on Friday last, as the dragging tendency noticeable at the two sales in question was entirely absent at the last sale.

"The news received on Friday that the threatened strike of the coal miners in Great Britain had been

postponed a week helped the export cheese market, and if a settlement of the difficulty is effected, as now appears probable, we should see an improved demand from Great Britain during the remainder of the season."

POULTRY.

Egg Laying Contests.

The egg-laying contest now being conducted at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, under the regulations of the Canadian Record of Performance "A A." had, up to September 3, reached its forty-fourth week. There were 49 pens of 10 birds each entered in the contest, and the highest record pen had laid up to that time 1,693 eggs, the best bird in this pen having laid 219 eggs; the second best, 195 eggs; and the third best, 191 eggs. The next highest pen was a pen of White Leghorns, with a production of 1,473 eggs, while two other pens of White Leghorns had laid 1,415 and 1,403, respectively, and a pen of Rhode Island Reds had laid 1,410 eggs. The highest individual production of any hen was 223 eggs, produced by a Barred Rock. All of the hens, in fact, laying over 200 eggs in this period, and there were only three out of 490 birds in the contest, were Barred Plymouth Rocks.

The egg-laying contest being conducted by the Poultry Department of the Agricultural College, Truro, N. S., shows higher egg production in two pens than the leading pen in the Record of Performance contest at Ottawa. In the Nova Scotia egg-laying contest, however, there are only five birds per pen, and from the 150 birds constituting the 30 pens in the contest there are six birds that have laid over 200 eggs in the 44-week period. One pen of five birds has a recorded performance of 977 eggs. These are Rose-Combed Rhode Island Reds, and one of these five birds laid 232 eggs, while another laid 229 eggs. The highest individual record of performance in this contest has been made by a Barred Plymouth Rock, with 237 eggs to her credit. The second highest pen to date is a pen of Barred Plymouth Rocks, with a production of 931 eggs from five hens, no one of which had laid 200 eggs up to September 3.

Jewish Holidays and the Poultry Market.

Farmers with surplus poultry for sale during the late summer and fall could probably offer their stock to a more favorable market if some regard were held for the dates of Jewish festivals. Highest market prices are paid on such occasions for fat, live poultry. Thin, unfinished birds have little or no market value, and the Poultry Division of the Live Stock Branch, Ottawa, is authority for the statement that in catering to such a trade it will pay producers to finish their stock and market it in the best possible condition. Some of the dates of Jewish festivals are now past for this year, but we give herewith the list of dates from September, 1920, to September, 1921. The kinds most in demand are also given, and these dates should be found useful in the future with regard to the conditioning of birds for market.

New Year, September 13-14, 1920.—Best market days, September 8-10; kinds most in demand, fat fowls, turkeys, ducks and geese.

Day of Atonement, September 22, 1920.—Best market days, September 16 to 18; kinds most in demand, all prime stock wanted, especially spring chickens and roosters.

Feast of Tabernacles, September 27-28, 1920.—Best market days, September 23 to 25; kinds most in demand, ducks, fowls and fat geese especially.

Feast of Law, October 4-5, 1920.—Best market days, September 30 to October 2; kinds most in demand, prime quality of all kinds wanted.

Purim, March 24, 1921.—Best market days, March 21 to 23; kinds most in demand, fowls and hen turkeys. Passover, April 23-24, 1921.—Best market days, April 19 to 21; kinds most in demand, turkeys, fat fowls, ducks and geese.

Last Passover, April 29, 1921.—Best market days, April 26 to 28; kinds most in demand, prime quality of all kinds wanted.

Feast of Weeks, June 12, 1921.—Best market days, June 9 to 10; very little extra demand for this holiday.

HORTICULTURE.

Storing the Vegetable Crop.

The vegetable crop has been an abundant one in most places in Canada this year, and many persons will have a large quantity to store. It is important that care be taken in storing so that losses will be reduced to a minimum.

Potatoes should be dry when stored and where possible put where the temperature will not go above 40° F. or below 32°. In order that the surface of the potatoes can be kept dry and in the best condition to avoid rotting, provision should be made for air to pass underneath and through them. If they are stored in considerable or large quantities such provision is made by keeping the potatoes about six inches off the floor by first putting down a slatted temporary floor with the boards just close enough so the potatoes will not fall through, and a similar slatted temporary wall a few inches from the permanent wall would permit a still freer circulation of air. Keeping them in crate-like boxes with openings between the boards on tops and sides is a good method.

Beets, parsnips, carrots, salsify and turnips keep best under conditions somewhat similar to potatoes, though it is not so important to keep them dry. Indeed in the average cellar they are liable to become too dry and lose their firmness. If there is danger of this they may be kept in boxes and covered with a sack kept wet. In a warm cellar they will grow.

Onions are very liable to rot unless kept in a dry place. Keep them spread out as thinly as possible. Where quantities are small, an attic room where there is no frost will be found a good place to store them.

Cabbage will soon wilt in a warm dry cellar. Keep them outside as long as possible by protecting them with leaves, straw, or soil. If they begin to crack before it is time to pull them, loosen them in the ground by twisting the plant and thus checking growth. When stored where the air is very dry they keep better with the roots and stems left on, and wrapping each head in a newspaper will prevent wilting to some extent.

Celery is left outside until danger of severe frosts. To keep well in store it needs a moderately dry, well-ventilated, cool cellar for best results. The celery should be planted in the cellar in rows close together in sand or light soil, separating each row with a lath or other pieces of wood to keep the tops somewhat apart and better to ensure a circulation of air. The soil should be kept moist but the tops dry. Avoid wetting the leaves and stalks if watering is necessary.

To store green tomatoes to ripen them put in closed boxes or drawers where they will be in the dark and in a moderately warm place.—Experimental Farms Note. C. E. F., Ottawa.

W. T. MACOUN,
Dominion Horticulturist.

FARM BULLETIN.

Notes From Cumberland County Nova Scotia.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The seeding season in this locality, though a little late, was fairly dry, and a considerably larger than average acreage of grain was got in in good condition. June was too dry for a rapid growth and consequently the hay crop is considerably below the average, and not much more than half of that harvested in 1919. The early-cut hay was got in extra good condition, but frequent showers and some heavy rains toward the last of the haying season injured a good deal of the hay.

The first two weeks of September was showery and quite warm and caused a good deal of loss in grain that had not been cut, as it was badly lodged and there was a heavy loss by shelling. One of the heaviest losses caused by this bad weather is the injury to the quality of the straw, as it is badly needed to help out the fodder supply.

Grain crops on the whole are above the average, but the quality will hardly be up to average, owing to bad harvest weather.

Potatoes are considerably better than an average crop, but some fields are rotting quite badly.

Prices of poultry and dairy products are as good as ever, but cattle and dairy cows are rather lower owing to the scarcity of fodder.

Hay is worth from \$25 to \$30 according to quality, and oats about \$1.25.

Turnips are coming on splendidly now, and though the acreage is not up to former years, owing to the scarcity of farm labor, the turnip crop and the large increased acreage in grain will put the live stock through the winter with as large an outlay for millfeeds as usual.

Taken altogether 1920 is likely to turn out one of the best years the farmers of this County have had for some time. C. H. BLACK.

Fall Fairs Give Way to Severe Storm.

A severe storm broke over Western and North-western Ontario last Friday that did considerable damage to property and crops, and caused dozens of fall fairs to be postponed. In some districts a heavy fall of snow for the season occurred, which, added to the heavy weight of fruit on the branches, caused much damage to trees. Corn not then cut, and there was plenty, was badly mixed up, and in some cases laid flat on the ground. Wellington, Grey and Simcoe Counties were apparently in the path of the storm and were severely chastised, but the damage, varying in intensity, was wide-spread throughout Western Ontario. The fall-fair season was at its height last week, and many events were postponed in the hope of better treatment from the weatherman at a later date.

Silo filling has been going on apace, but early this week there were many fields of corn still standing in Western Ontario. Most of it is still green and shows no touch of frost. Withal it has been a remarkable autumn, and the rain which fell quite generously on Friday last will give an impetus to fall plowing and bring the fall wheat along.

Borden Company Reducing Milk Prices.

Another evidence of chaotic conditions in the milk situation in Western Ontario is the announcement by the Borden Condensery Company, at Ingersoll, that the October price for 3.5 per cent. milk will be \$2.50 per 100 pounds, as compared with \$2.85 per 100 pounds for milk of the same quality in September. In addition to this price reduction the receiving station of the Borden Company, at Putnam, west of Ingersoll, has been closed down indefinitely.