

sorting his apples for market kept the decayed fruit for the use of his family, and when there was none of this kind to be had it was necessary to wait until some of the fruit showed signs of decay.

Every person who is interested in keeping up the reputation of our fruit should endeavor to place nothing that will endanger its reputation on the market. As the trade with other countries is likely to increase considerably in the near future, it necessitates growers to raise a good supply of choice fruit. In some of the best fruit districts it is reported that numbers of apple trees are being cut down to be replaced with other varieties of fruit trees. It is possible that this may be carried a step too far, and leave us unprepared to supply an increased demand for sound fall and winter apples, that may be kept in their natural condition longer than any other fruit grown in this country.

APIARY.

No. 9 -- Marketing Honey.

BY A. E. HOSHAL, LINCOLN CO., ONT.

A first requisite in the marketing of extracted honey for table use is quality. Nothing but an absolutely first-class article should ever be placed upon the market for this purpose. Good extracted honey will cultivate a taste and sustain a demand for itself, while that which is a little off in quality will destroy such a taste and consequently with it the demand for extracted honey. A beekeeper who may happen to have some off-grade extracted honey on hand had better use it for stimulative or winter feeding, make vinegar of it, sell it for manufacturing purposes, or, if the worst must be done, throw it away, rather than place it upon the market for table use. And so long as beekeepers persist in extracting their honey before it is well capped and thoroughly ripened on the hive, just so long will they have some of this kind of article to dispose of.

Comb honey in sections should never be marketed in the cases in which it was stored by the bees, but should be removed from these, the sections scraped clean of propolis, and, unlike extracted honey, graded into about three grades. Each grade should be crated by itself in new, clean, fresh-looking shipping crates, and the honey which is seen through the glass in the side of each crate should be a fair sample of that within. These crates can be obtained from any apiarian supply dealer, and those holding twelve sections each usually take best on the market.

For marketing extracted honey in bulk we have nothing better than the 60-lb. square tin can encased in wood. With these extracted honey can be shipped anywhere with safety, and is in convenient shape. For retail purposes neat packages holding 1, 2, 3, 5 or 10 lbs. will be required. If the honey be peddled, or sold at home, a 5 or 10 lb. tin pail will be much in demand, but if placed in a grocery or other store packages holding 1, 2 or 3 lbs. will sell decidedly the best.

I know of no article where cleanliness, neatness and taste count for more in marketing than with honey. Let it once get daubed about, or on the outside of the package, and it is a sticky mess, attracting flies and other insects and retaining whatever dust or dirt comes in contact with it, making of it the repulsive rather than the attractive sweet of nature. Comb honey which may have become daubed should be returned to the bees for a half hour or so to be cleaned up again. All shipping crates for comb honey should have their bottoms covered on the inside with a loose paper, the edges being turned up about five-eighths of an inch, so as to form a kind of shallow paper tray, and in this tray small cleats so placed as to support the sections when placed in the crate. The paper trays will catch all drippings from the honey and prevent it getting outside of the crate, while the cleats supporting the sections will prevent them becoming daubed, as they otherwise would if allowed to rest on the bottoms of these trays.

It is best, usually, that extracted honey reach the consumer in liquid form; also, in placing it in grocery or other stores for the retail trade it should be in such packages that it will be impossible for it to spill or slop out, even though it should be turned upside down. Each package should have upon it full directions for liquifying the honey it contains should it granulate in the consumer's hands, also be neatly and tastefully labeled, and bear the beekeeper's name and address.

Be willing to pay a fair wage to those who will undertake to sell for you, and don't expect them to be able to sell your honey at a higher price than what you can yourself, unless they have a better article. Possibly the best way to arrange all this—and it is done and recognized in about all kinds of commerce—is to fix the selling price, and then allow a certain percentage off to the trade, or those who sell our goods for us. If a grocer or other merchant will undertake to handle your honey, then don't go and retail to those who might otherwise become his customers, nor peddle it through-out his market field at the same price which you charged him for it. This would be refusing to pay an honest wage to those who work for you, besides cutting the price of honey and doing much to drive your own product out of the market. Yet, how many beekeepers there are who do not recognize this.

Apiary Exhibit at the Western Fair.

In this favorite department there were five exhibits of honey, although only three were on an extensive scale. The stream of visitors that passed through this building each day appeared to overlook the smaller exhibits in their eagerness to gaze upon the display of honey in the center of the building. The tasteful way in which the three principal exhibitors had their goods arranged was admired by many. It required considerable patience, as well as a large expenditure of money, to place these exhibits in the way they appeared. Mr. Miller, of London, was awarded sweepstakes for his exhibit, and it was certainly a credit to him. Mr. Coleman was placed second; and John Newton, Thamesford, third.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquiries must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.]

Veterinary.

COW WITH SORE TEATS.

SUBSCRIBER, Carleton Co., Ont.:—"Please state cause and give treatment for a cow whose teats became sore and tough like leather after being fed upon rape and clover for a short time?"

[We suppose the cow was on ordinary pasture before being changed to the rape and clover. The sudden change of food has no doubt deranged the system, and the teats have perhaps first chapped slightly by coming in contact with the rape when damp. It is probable that some poisonous substance may have got into the chaps when the cow was in the clover pasture. Try an application of equal parts turpentine and olive oil for a couple of weeks. Then apply iodine ointment as follows: Potassium iodide, two drams; iodine crystals, one dram; salicylic acid, one dram; lard, two ounces. Rub into the teats well every day. To purify her system give a teaspoonful sulphate of iron, a tablespoon baking soda and three tablespoons ginger in a pint of warm water daily for two days.]

BLOODY MILK—MARE RUNNING AT NOSTRIL.

S. W. BISHOP, Sinaluta:—"1. We have trouble with one of our cows every few days. When we go to milk her we get hard lumps of clotted blood from one teat just a little; then milk looks bloody for a mess or two, then seems all right for awhile again. What is the matter and what shall we do for her? 2. Mare, 4 years old, caught cold last winter, and had very bad breath and run at one nostril, whitish looking stuff; she got the bad breath two or three times during the winter; now for a long time she has had no bad breath, but still runs at one nostril the same stuff. She generally appears dull; have been giving her some condition powders lately; appears a little brighter; now breathes hard when pulling hard or steady?"

[1. There are various causes for bloody milk, such as injury, the too liberal feeding of rich food, eating plants of an acrid nature, etc. If the animal is at pasture take it in and put it in the stable for a few days. Give Epsom salts, one pound; nitrate of potassium and ginger, of each half an ounce, dissolved in one quart of hot water. Bathe the udder with cold water and rub in the following liniment twice daily: Soap liniment, four ounces; tincture of opium, one ounce; fluid extract of belladonna, half an ounce. 2. If possible have your mare examined by an experienced veterinary surgeon. The running at one nostril, if not caused by a caries tooth or some other local cause, is indicative of a contagious disease.]

Miscellaneous.

KNAPWEED (*Centaurea nigra*).

JAMES LAITHWAITE, Huron Co., Ont.:—"I enclose you a sample of a bad weed. Kindly identify it and refer to its habit of growth, etc."

[The weed is knapweed (*Centaurea nigra*), a troublesome perennial in European meadows and fields. It grows from one to two feet high and has purplish flowers, somewhat resembling a Canadian thistle head, but larger. It may be easily recognized by its fringed brown scales surrounding the head. When the heads are ripe they break up and fly like thistle down. It has a narrow, rough leaf. It ripens usually from July to September, and should be vigorously combated in order to prevent its getting a foothold. Thorough autumn cultivation, followed by a well-worked hoes crop, should be good treatment. JOHN DEARNESS, I. P. S.]

BORDEAUX MIXTURE.

G. C. HURON CO., Ont.:—"In your last issue you advise Bordeaux mixture for diseased pear trees. Please say in your next number what the mixture is, as I would like to try it on a diseased tree?"

[Copper sulphate, 6 lbs.; quicklime, 4 lbs.; water, 40 to 50 gals. Dissolve the copper sulphate by putting it in a bag of coarse cloth and hanging this in a vessel holding at least four gallons, so that it is just covered by the water. Slake the lime in an equal amount of water. Then mix the two and add enough water to make forty gallons. It is then ready for immediate use. It will adhere better if about a pound of hard soap be dissolved in hot

water and added to the mixture. It is useful for rots, moulds, mildews, and all fungous diseases.]

HEIFER DEVELOPING UDDER—CEMENT FLOOR FOR POTATOES.

W. EVENS, Simcoe Co., Ont.:—"1. I have a heifer aged about two and a half years, which has an udder nearly half grown, although she is not in calf. Her udder was a considerable size a year ago. She often bellows. Under these circumstances is it likely she would make a good cow? 2. I have a cement floor in part of my cellar, about six feet wide across one end. Is the cement floor likely to injure potatoes if left in the cellar till spring, the rest of the cellar having no floor?"

[1. The only case similar to the above heifer we have had in our own experience was with a yearling from an excellent dairy mother. When she was about a year old two or three calves commenced sucking her in the field, with the result of bringing her to her milk. We milked her for a short time and allowed her to go dry. Her udder remained large and she afterwards became an excellent dairy cow. We did not attribute her good quality to the early development of udder, but to her ancestry. If the heifer in question has never been sucked, the abnormal development of udder and continued bawling would seem to indicate an unusual development of maternal instinct. We would give her a trial as a dairy cow. Will other dairymen who have had similar cases report to the FARMER'S ADVOCATE? 2. There is no better floor upon which to keep potatoes over winter, or at any other season, than one of cement. We have kept ours on cement for fifteen years and consider it ideal.]

WHERE TO PLACE THE TANK.

SUBSCRIBER, Elgin Co., Ont.:—"I have had a windmill erected on my barn. Whether is the basement or the barn floor the better place to set the tank?"

[The placing of a water tank for the use of the stock and other purposes is a very important question. It is necessary first to place it in such a position that there will be sufficient fall from it for all requirements. It would not be a difficult matter to do this had it not to be protected from frost. Where it can be conveniently arranged, the best place to set a tank is under ground. If there is sufficient rise at the back of the barn to obtain a fall, the tank may be sunk in the ground, and if it is properly protected on the surface there will be no danger of the water freezing. A wooden tank can be used to good advantage, and if given an application of a "wood preservative," of which we carry an advertisement, it will last for an indefinite period. Cement concrete is also largely used for cisterns and tanks. The objection to placing the tank on the barn floor is the difficulty of keeping out the frost, and also the space which it occupies. If it is placed in the basement freezing will be avoided, but it must be raised off the ground and a solid foundation placed underneath in order to obtain the necessary fall. A number of farmers who have built their windmills away from the buildings have a small building lined with brick erected over the tank, and sometimes used for other purposes. A large stove is placed in the building and a fire kept going in severe weather. We would like to get the opinion of any of our subscribers who can speak with authority upon this subject.]

THE VALUE OF MANURE.

READER, Middlesex Co., Ont.:—"Please state value of a ton of straw for manure; also its value as compared with farmyard manure?"

[We do not think straw would be worth much to be turned under as manure where the soil is light. It may be that "Reader" wishes to exchange straw in the town for manure. If so, we may quote from Dr. Lawes' table on the manurial value of substances. A ton of oat straw is worth \$2.90; wheat straw, \$2.68; and barley straw, \$2.26. The value of barnyard manure will depend upon the class of stock kept, the food on which they are fed, and the care taken of the manure. If it is exposed to the atmosphere for a long time it will decrease materially in value. Much of the liquid may be lost by allowing it to escape by leaching. The Ohio Experiment Station places the value of ordinary barnyard manure at \$2.50 per ton in the three grain crops following the application. Dr. Voelcher, in analyzing manure fourteen days old and comparing with the price paid for artificial manures, estimates the former to contain constituents to the value of \$3.30 per ton.]

HOW TO DESTROY ANTS.

READER, Wentworth Co., Ont., asks for a remedy to destroy ants.

[There are numerous ways to destroy these troublesome pests, though they may not always be found successful. A small bag of sulphur kept in a drawer or cupboard, or saucers of olive oil set where they are, will drive them away. A strong solution of carbolic acid and water kills all the ants it touches. Rubbing the woodwork and shelves with camphor will usually drive them away. But whatever means is used it is necessary to persevere, as it may take time to drive them out. In our own experience we have found green tansy or spear-mint placed where they frequent to have good effect. It has also been suggested that the mounds can be discovered and its inhabitants destroyed by hot water or coal oil by following them from the cupboard to their home. We invite correspondence from any of our readers who have met with success in combating these insects.]