

tons of 8.5 per cent. was to a very considerable extent caused by a drought in Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec, though the growing demand for the rapidly increasing Canadian population was a great factor in the question."

He further says: "New Zealand eased the shortage from Canada so far as this country is concerned by sending 4,637 tons more than in 1913. Had the milk which provided the increase of 3,193 tons of New Zealand butter been made into cheese instead, it would have added about 7,000 tons to the supply. This shows New Zealand's latent capacity for the production of cheese, and its ability to fill up deficiencies from other sources of supply."

The Australian cheese shipments increased 829 tons over the previous year.

It is pleasant to read that the quality of Canadian cheese in 1913, more particularly in the autumn, "was up to the usual standard." He especially commends the distinct improvement in Quebec cheese. The New Zealand goods also showed improvement, "but they still lack uniformity in flavor and make."

One statement we are inclined to doubt, in at least so far as "success" goes. "The success attained by using pasteurized milk for cheesemaking, warrants further experiments." Up to the present the Dairy Department, O. A. C., has not had much "success" in making pasteurized milk into Cheddar cheese.

The prices for Canadian Cheddar cheese were lightest in 1913, for any year during the past ten years, except for 1912. The averages were 71s. 5d. for 1912 and 68s. 3d. for 1913-14, per 112 pounds.

A very important announcement is made with reference to oleomargarine methods of advertising in the United Kingdom. "On the walls of every large town enormous colored posters are placarded, frankly calling the attention of consumers to the moderate prices and hygienic properties of margarine, and in the windows of shops selling margarine attractive colored show-cards are now exhibited in the hope that open advertising will educate consumers into buying margarine on its intrinsic merits, rather than merely as a substitute for secondary butter."

This looks like straight, open competition, which oleo manufacturers intend offering to dairy products. In this case dairymen know where they are at, and can prepare to meet the competition.

O. A. C.

H. H. DEAN.

HORTICULTURE.

A Clean and Moderate Apple Crop in 1914.

The fruit crop report augmented by telegraphic reports recently issued by Donald Johnson, the Dominion Fruit Commissioner, differs very little from that of a month ago, except that it speaks more enthusiastically about the clean condition of the output for 1914. The extremely dry season has been particularly favorable to the production of clean fruit, as damp weather is more conducive to the development of scab. In sprayed orchards the fruit is pleasingly clean, and unless inclement weather intervenes between now and harvest the crop will be one of the cleanest that was ever harvested. Owing to the dry weather, however, the drop has been serious, and some of the fruit still remaining on the trees has not developed as much as the season would warrant. This drouth was broken in many sections on Aug. 14th, and local showers of recent date have contributed to the growth of fruit which promises a very good crop. The average over the whole Dominion for early apples is set at 79 per cent., for fall apples at 76 per cent., and for winter apples 75 per cent., which gives a total average crop of 77 per cent. This is an increase of 28 per cent. over the total crop of 1913.

The Eastern and Western sections of the Annapolis Valley in Nova Scotia report an exceedingly good crop of clean fruit, and it is likewise good in the centre of the valley except where late frosts did local damage, yet in spite of this the total crop will approximate between 1,000,000 and 1,250,000 barrels of apples. The drop in Prince Edward Island was severe, but that province and New Brunswick will have a 50 per cent. increase over the 1913 crop. The Province of Quebec will have an abundant crop of early fruit to harvest if nothing unfavorable intervenes. Wealthy and Alexander are promising, while the Fameuse and McIntosh are estimated between 60 and 70 per cent. The winter varieties east of Quebec city are somewhat lighter than the fall and early sorts.

In the counties north of Lake Erie in Ontario later varieties give better promise than the early kinds, with the exception of Baldwins and Greenings, which are light in some sections of that district. The Lake Huron counties promise a full crop of early fall varieties, with winters not so pleasing. Practically all varieties are now below the normal size for this season of the

year, owing to the drouth of July and early August.

Counties on the north shore of Lake Ontario report none too favorably. The drouth has been felt severely, particularly in orchards which have not been kept in cultivation. Many Ben Davis trees are dying from winter injury, but on the whole the crops will be between 15 and 20 per cent. greater than that of 1913, and the quality generally is good.

The inland valleys of British Columbia have been more favored by the season than have other sections in Canada, and both early and late kinds promise a good crop. The fruit will mature, however, about two weeks earlier than usual and in spite of very heavy dropping the average for the district is still over 75 per cent.

There has been no change in the outlook in the pear crop. Prospects in Southern Ontario point to a yield a shade above medium. Bartlett's are generally light, with Duchess and Winter Nelis more productive than other varieties. In all other sections of Ontario the crop is practically a failure, with a few scattered exceptions in the inland counties north of Lake Erie. The plum crop is vastly different from that of 1913 which will be remembered as over-abundant, and there is no change in the outlook for peaches, being confined as they are to the counties of Essex, Kent and Lambton. British Columbia report a good crop, but they do not figure materially in Canadian prices.

Owing to the dry weather the vast acreage of tomatoes will not yield a crop in excess of 1913, and only in irrigated districts will the fruit attain the size and quantity that was expected at an earlier date.

The estimated output of apples in the four Northern Western States of Washington, Oregon,

will be forced, as the prices of necessities rise, to discontinue buying fruit. This will be much more seriously felt in Great Britain (where the apple crop also is above normal), and if in consequence, the Nova Scotia crop is thrown upon Canadian markets prices will be still lower. The apple and pear crops in Great Britain are considerably larger than last year. Pears are expected to be nearly a record crop. England and her allies are at war. This fact is at once unfavorable to all trade, and until a decisive result is arrived at prices for apples must suffer.

POULTRY.

Discard all Old Birds.

Judging from observations made on many farms very few farmer poultry keepers have any idea of the age of their fowl, most of the hens being kept until they die or become entirely useless as far as egg laying is concerned. The fall is a good time to rid the flock of all old birds and replace them with the best of the pullets raised this season, and if it has not already been done leg banding should commence with this season's operations. One of the most important considerations in egg production is the use of young birds. As a general rule it does not pay to keep a bird after two years of age, and under proper management pullets will prove more profitable producers than any other age of fowl. It is necessary, of course, that these pullets, to make the best winter layers and consequently the best money-makers, should be hatched early in the season, and in choosing those from this year's hatch to add to the laying pens this point

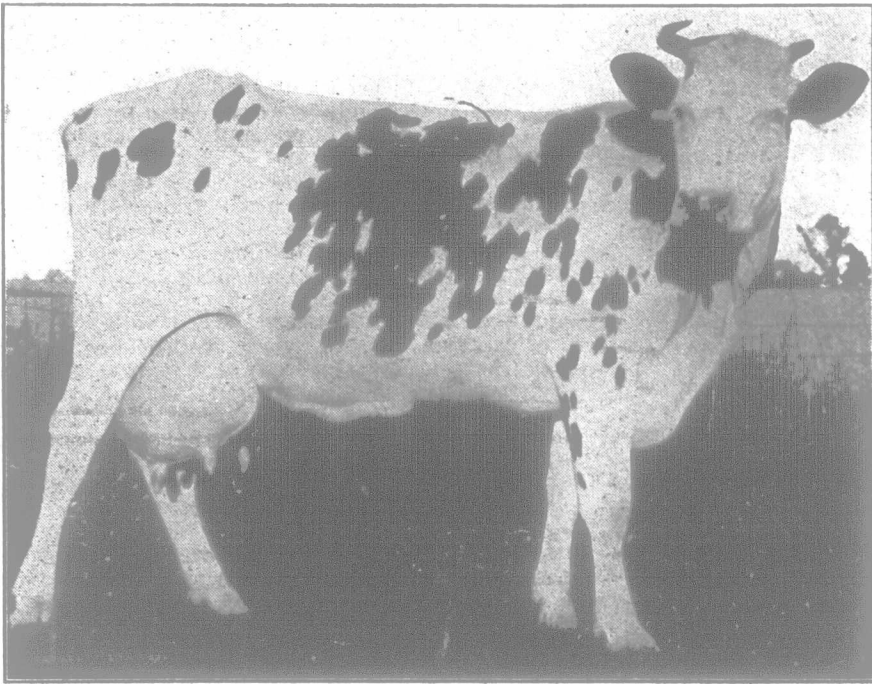
should not be overlooked by the poultryman. Choose all the early-hatched pullets that are well grown and of proper shape for their breed. Avoid all freaks; over-large or under-sized birds should be discarded. Feed is likely to be dearer than usual this winter, and the farmer cannot afford to maintain a large flock of hens from fall until spring without these hens are laying fairly regularly. All the old ones should go as soon as possible, and the pullets should be rushed along in order that they begin laying early.

In the selection of the pullets there is a point which has been hinted at in these columns, that is that the chickens which feather up earliest usually are the most consistent early layers. This has not been

proven, but indications point that it is a fact. It might be well to try it this fall at any rate. Poultry raisers know from experience that the slow-feathering birds are usually the best-feathered ones, as most exhibition birds are quite bare for a considerable time when young, getting their feathers much later in the season than birds of a recognized laying strain. Also in the selection of the young birds, to build up the flock be sure and choose the strongest and most vigorous of the lot. Don't place any of the long, thin-beaked, narrow-headed, weak-constituted birds in the laying pens, as they are not likely to last out and prove profitable for any length of time.

Every chicken should be leg banded, so that from now on no trouble in determining the age of the fowls will be experienced, and the breeder should make it a point to discard every fall all the birds which have finished their second season of laying. Poultry is a side line on most farms, but one which can be made far more profitable if due care is given. It is just as easy to feed and care for a nice flock of laying hens which are more than paying their way, besides providing fresh eggs for the table, as it is to feed and care for a flock of non-layers which all manner of condiments and attention will not make produce eggs. It is time now for a rigid overhauling of the flock.

If, as the world hopes, this is the last great war, the end of one-man rule, the complete downfall of all bureaucratic government, placing the people in power the awful slaughter will not be in vain. All great measures of freedom have been bought at great price—human blood. After the war, what? Disarming or more armament.



A Grade Holstein.

A sixty-pound-a-day cow, in H. German's herd.

Idaho and Montana is placed at 15,000 cars, while the crop in the State of New York promises to equal that of 1912 and to exceed that of last year by over 25 per cent. Present conditions in Europe have been the cause of considerable doubt in the minds of Canadian fruit producers, and the Commissioner will not at present commit himself through any definite prediction, advising, however, that the growers pick and pack their fruit properly, and if the demand at home is not sufficiently keen to keep prices at a satisfactory level, then to retain the crop in proper storage until conditions are improved.

War Affecting Apple Prices.

Summer apples have been selling at 20 to 35 cents per 11-qt. basket, \$1.25 for boxed stuff, and \$2.25 per bbl. Sale has been reported also of a car of Duchess No. 2's at \$2.25 f. o. b. shipping point. This fruit went West.

There have been few offers made for fall and winter apples since the commencement of the European war. One dollar per bbl. on the tree was offered before the outbreak of war, and some fruit was sold at that price. Up to \$2.25 per bbl. (75% No 1) has been offered. Fall apples bring \$2.25 per bbl. f. o. b. shipping point. Some owners with well-sprayed orchards are selling at \$2.25. Prices quoted for Duchess average \$2.50 per bbl. for No. 1's and \$2.00 for No. 2's, with fall apples generally a little lower. For boxed Duchess \$1.25 is expected, and \$1.00 for other fall fruit.

The situation in the apple market created by the European war seems to be well understood. Fruit is a luxury, not a necessity, and if the present war is long continued as seems likely, a large percentage of the apple-consuming public