

Dairy Associations could not spend money to better advantage than in giving prizes for the best set of herd records of milking cows in the Province.

The Canadian Apple

We have been compelled to say some strong things during the past few weeks in regard to the packing and shipping of apples to the British market. However, what we said has been fully borne out by later reports from that market, showing that a large portion of our fruit arrives in poor condition. The compliment paid to Canada and the Canadian apple trade in the following paragraph taken from *British Refrigeration and Allied Interests* will, therefore, be somewhat refreshing to our readers:

"It is satisfactory, from the Imperial standpoint, to note that in the import fruit trade, and especially in the apple department, the British colonies have the greater share, as compared with the rest of the world, while outside the colonial division the other Anglo Saxon branch of the race sends over as much as all the combined foreign producers put together. In the colonial division Canada is the leader, sending over the Atlantic a quantity which is six times as great as the whole amount from the other colonies. Amongst the Australias, Tasmania send six times as much as Victoria, which again sends double the quantity that South Australia exports, while New South Wales is so far behind that it can only be said to be just in the trade. The Cape so far has not taken a representative position, but when political matters settle down in that part of the world fruit raising may have some chance of development. The total amount of apples imported during the last year was about three and a half million bushels, a total which was below the average for the previous five years; but the returns for the current year will, it is anticipated, compare very favorably with any in existence, the value of the trade now being definitely established in the minds of the colonial producer. So much is this the case in Victoria that local fruit growers are keenly on the alert for any movement which is calculated to benefit the trade, or widen its sphere of operation. A standard or uniform fruit case is at present a recognized want, and an active agitation is in progress to have a definite standard adopted and enforced. In this respect Canada again shows the way. Baskets are the favorite receptacles for use in the Dominion, and to insure that a standard size only shall be used, basket-makers are to be compelled by law to mark every basket which is below standard capacity with the word "short," a fine ranging from five to twenty-five dollars being the penalty for omission. This effort on the part of Canadians is indeed a step in advance, even of the much vaunted go-a-head propensities of the United States, for the St. Louis Fruit Exchange has been compelled to resort to a threat of boycott against all apples offered for sale which are packed in other than the orthodox manner."

How Much Water Does a Cow Require?

The watering of live stock is an important part of the farm work. But, while all animals on the farm require more or less attention in this particular, none need it more than the cow giving milk. Many farmers fail to realize the importance of giving their milch cows all the pure water they require both winter and summer. The amount of water a cow will drink depends upon the kind of feed she is getting. Where roots or ensilage is fed the amount of water required is considerably lessened, because there is a considerable amount of water in these feeds. Cows, as a rule, require more water during the winter than during the summer when on fresh pasture, and a cow in a full flow of milk requires a great deal more than one not in milk. In

fact, a cow cannot give the very best returns in the milk-pail unless she is liberally supplied with drinking water.

Several experiment stations in the United States have tested this question with somewhat varying results. At the Copenhagen station it was found that 76 cows required an average of 97.9 pounds of water per day, or about 12 gallons each. At the Pennsylvania station it was found that cows averaging 773 pounds in weight confined in stalls in the summer and living on fresh grass drank 61 pounds each per day, while confined in stalls at a temperature of 73 degrees, and fed on dry grass they drank 107 pounds.

According to Prof. Henry, cows, generally speaking, require about four pounds, or a half a gallon of water, to each pound of dry matter in their food. A New York authority says that provision should be made for eight gallons a day per cow in order to be sure of a full supply. At the Geneva station it was found that cows in full milk required about four and three-fifths pounds of water for every pound of milk. It follows, therefore, that the heavier the milk the larger the amount of water is necessary.

Whether the water should be warmed or not during the winter is a somewhat disputed question. Many claim that if it can be supplied at the temperature of well-water in winter it does not need heating. Where the water is pumped into a tank in the stable, and is allowed to stand a while before being given to the cows, the chill will be taken off and the water made more palatable. At the Indiana station some experiments were carried on along this line, and it was found that there was a falling off of eight per cent. in the flow of milk when the temperature of the water fell from 79° to 38° Fahr. The question of water is, then, an important one for those engaged in winter dairying, and should be given more attention by our farmers generally.

Russian Beef for England

According to the London *Daily Graphic* an expert British commission, consisting of two members of Parliament, a distinguished English veterinary surgeon, and one or two others accompanied by a number of the Moscow Agricultural Society, has lately made a tour of Southern Russia with a view to the formation of an English syndicate for importing on a large scale live stock and dead meat from that country into the British markets. The *Graphic* in commenting on the work of the Commission says:

"The result of the prospecting commission's researches in these provinces will not be made known for some weeks still. It may be taken for granted, however, that if the projected company be floated, and the British public find Russian beef as tough, filamentous, and juiceless as the growling garrison at Malta has found it for the last ten years, and as all British residents in South Russia know to their disgust, the new venture is not likely to flourish. Apart from this gastronomic prejudice no enterprise of this nature is likely to succeed in face of the immense and now perfectly organized competition of Australia, the United States and Canada."

CORRESPONDENCE

\$100 Per Annum

To the Editor of FARMING:

I have the honor of replying to your questions as follows,

(1) About fifty or sixty hens and one trio (male and two females) each of turkeys, geese, and ducks might be kept on the average farm. From fifty to sixty chickens could be raised each year, the pullets kept for laying and the cockerels killed and sold on the market. From each trio of turkeys, geese and ducks twenty to thirty young birds might be raised. That will be all that the average farmer can take care of properly.