

STAMPING EGGS.

Some associations have marketed their eggs under a trade-name, and individuals have marketed eggs under a special trade-mark, with only fair results. There are too many ways for the storage or held (pickled) egg to fall from their own basket into another under the present system to allow this practice to continue if better results are wished.

The theory that a stamp placed upon eggs would offset all difficulty of selling a good product has been cast away. This act of stamping did help producers for a very short time, but it has been found that some of the stamped eggs were placed in storage for a while when the price was low, then taken out when the market price was higher, and retailed as "Fresh Number One."

Again, it has been known where unscrupulous persons have secured stamps and used them on a poor-quality egg, selling them for a high-grade article.

Others have put eggs on the market in their own cartons, and have not stamped the eggs, relying on the carton to do the advertising. After the carton has advertised certain brands of eggs and built up a good trade for the retailer and the producer, the trouble begins. Persons have been known to collect the empty cartons and place other eggs in them, retailing them under the name of the owner of the carton.



Eggs displayed for consumption in direct rays of sun.

To obviate this, it is not a difficult matter for the poultryman, or, better, poultry association, to have a certain carton and seal of their own. The carton may be plain or decorated, as suits the association. The seal or sticker should be one which is out of the ordinary class, large enough to cover one-half the top of the carton and three-fourths of the side. The printing on the seal should mention the fact that, once this seal is broken, neither the association nor any of its individuals are responsible for the quality of eggs in the carton.

A difficulty may arise from this—people other than the association members may have seals made which resemble the association seal. To prevent any such fraud, the same seal may be used by all producers in British Columbia having the one seal made in a good design and copyrighted to prevent deception. The different associations may then have their own separate cartons, numbers of members, etc., on the individual's carton and eggs.

Such a practice, however, calls for the co-operation and hard work of each member of each and every association. It also calls for every egg sold by associa-