

CANADIAN CHEESE IN BRITAIN.

I am indebted to one of the largest produce firms in Manchester for the following report: "We are pleased to state that the improvement in Canadian cheese this year has been well maintained, and one of the great difficulties that we had to contend with last year, which was the shipping of cheese in the green state, has been noticeable by its absence this year. The goods have come forward not only in good condition, but the averaging of the same has been fairly well effected."

"We are now nearing the close of one of the most exceptional seasons we have had. The make opened up at the early part of the season very late, and we are going to close the season with a great shortage of cheese on that of last year. Our home make has been exceptionally large, which has filled up the shortage in Canadians, and all through the season domestic has been placed on our market within a few shillings of Canadian prices, thus causing a good healthy home demand. It is only within the last two weeks that there has been any noticeable falling off in the make. This week there is a great shortage, and it has dropped off fully 30 per cent. of what it was a month ago."

"The Canadian season, from a financial point of view, has been disappointing, owing to the great speculation of a few who have tried to corner the market, and have evidently realized their object to a great extent. The result of this has caused prices to advance very rapidly during the last two or three weeks. What the future result of this manipulation will be we cannot say, but certainly it is not conducive to a healthy tone of trade from our point of view. There is every prospect of a huge make from New Zealand and Australia; we ourselves having in sight our first consignment, which is quite a month earlier than usual."

"We are looking forward next year to a better Canadian trade, and if only this system of manipulation could be kept out of your market we should have a much healthier tone, and one that would be beneficial to every one on both sides."

P. B. McNAMARA.

"Canadian Commercial Agent."

WEED AND FEED.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In view of the food supplies available for dairy cows in this locality, and their value, fewer cows will be milked this season than last. Considering the enhanced prices of milk and dairy products, we would advise economy in feeding, weeding out the inferior cows, selling or slaughtering them, as they will not pay for wintering with hay at \$22 per ton. For the profitable production of winter milk, our plan of feeding is to feed all we can make the cows eat of the best food we have or can purchase. We have 150 tons of clover silage in stock which we will feed this winter.

Sardis, B. C.

A. C. WELLS & SON.

GARDEN ORCHARD.

AVOID USING READY-MIXED PAINTS ON FRUIT TREES.

In reply to a letter of inquiry as to his past winter's experience in protecting fruit trees from mice, W. T. Macoun, Horticulturist, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, writes that he has no changes to suggest in his paper on "The Protection of Fruit Trees," read before the Ontario Fruit-growers' Association last winter, and practically no additional information to offer.

"We have not found any injury from the use of paint, so far," he says, "and the mice have not been bad enough the last two or three winters to say definitely whether it is effectual or not, but no tree with paint has been injured by mice. Considering the good satisfaction obtained from the use of building paper, I hesitate to recommend paint, as an instance has come under my notice where paint caused serious injury in an orchard when used for borers. Ordinary white lead and linseed oil appear to be quite harmless, but when boughten paints are used, made, perhaps, with mineral oils, injury may occur, which was the case in the instance referred to; hence, if paint is suggested as a preventive, caution should be impressed on fruit-growers against using boughten paints."

"Prof. Sears' method of wrapping with paper is good. We prefer leaving the paper as loose as possible, providing it is well tied, in order to afford an air-space between the paper and the tree. However, it cannot be left very loose. The main objection to Prof. Sears' plan is that it takes more paper and is not quite so easily put on. We cut the paper in strips before using, which economizes it very much."

"I am glad to know that you are dealing with this subject in 'The Farmer's Advocate,' as injury from mice in orchards just coming into bearing brings great discouragement, and has been one of the chief if not the greatest reason for reducing the amount of planting done in Easter and Central Ontario, and the Province of Quebec."

HORTICULTURAL PROGRESS.

Prepared for "The Farmer's Advocate" by W. T. Macoun, Horticulturist, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

Annual Report of the Quebec Pomological Society for 1906:

The Quebec Pomological and Fruit-growing Society of the Province of Quebec, is the Provincial Fruit-growers' Association for Quebec Province, and receives a grant from the Provincial Government to aid it in its work. The report for 1906, which was recently received, shows a membership of only 106 persons. This is too small for so great a Province as Quebec, where fruit has been grown as long or longer than in any other part of Canada. It would seem that a determined effort should be made to increase the membership of this Society, which has done so much towards the progress of horticulture in Quebec. The annual report contains 152 pages, in which are printed many valuable papers which were given at the summer meeting of the Society in 1906, at Chateauguay Basin and Como, and at the winter meeting at Knowlton. These papers include, "The Great Fameuse Apple," "Conclusions Reached After Nineteen Years' Experience with Large Fruits at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa," "Orchard Drainage," "How to Improve our Old Orchards," "The Preparation of House Plants for Winter," "The Preservation of Fruits for Home Use," "Composition of Soils and Location of Orchards," "Selecting Trees for

Autumn.—Langford Beauty, St. Lawrence, Wealthy, Alexander.

Early Winter.—Fameuse, McIntosh, Wolf River.

Winter.—Canada Red, Scott's Winter, Golden Russet, Baxter, Milwaukee.

From Three Rivers to L'Islet, both included, east and south:

Summer.—Yellow Transparent, Lowland Raspberry, Duchess.

Autumn.—Peach of Montreal, St. Lawrence, Wealthy, Alexander.

Early Winter.—Fameuse, McIntosh, Wolf River.

Winter.—Scott's Winter, Canada Baldwin, Milwaukee, Baxter.

From the extreme north, Kamouraska and Charlevoix, east and north:

Summer and Early Autumn.—Yellow Transparent, Duchess, Charlamoff.

Autumn and Winter.—Wealthy, Patten's Greening, Hibernial, Longfield.

Crab Apples.—Whitney, Martha, Transcendent, Hyslop.

POULTRY.

STARTING A FLOCK.

To persons wanting to begin raising fowls, and to those who are tired of going along slipshod fashion year after year, the best advice is to begin right. Get a good start, and half the battle is over. If you are new at the business, read and study all the things you can about poultry, and that will do no harm if you are tired of unbusinesslike methods and want to make money. The old saying, "Be sure you're right, and then go ahead," is peculiarly fitted to this business. A good start means everything in making a success later.

Several things enter into getting a right start. In the first place, too much money should not be spent; in the second, you must be sure you have time and patience for the work; and third, you must study conditions. It is foolish and useless to introduce a few pure-bred chickens into a mongrel flock and expect them to be the leaven that will leaven the whole lump. Many have tried this plan, and have failed miserably. Neither is it advisable to put pure-bred, or any other kind of fowls, into a filthy house, thinking you will house them there for a short time, and clean up later on. Put off buying your fowls until everything is ready. Clean up the premises thoroughly, and plow under every bit of soil fouled by chickens that have belonged to you or anyone else before starting. Get your yards and coops into good condition, and then go ahead.

Save money on everything but your stock. Make your coops out of old boards, and cover with straw or corn fodder; make coops for little chicks out of store boxes; nest boxes out of cheap boxes; use old dishes for drinking vessels, and in every way economize so as to keep expenses down. Chickens do just as well in a cheap coop as an expensive one, provided it is dry

and warm. Even a framework of poles banked with fodder or straw to be burned the following spring has been known to keep chickens safe and warm all winter, and one successful chicken-raiser always uses the family supply of fire wood, raked up into walls and covered with straw for her fowls. In this way she has a new coop every fall, and thinks the chickens do better. Of course, she has a permanent house too, but she likes the "wood house" for the winter season.

It is poor economy to starve the chickens under the impression that you are economical. Better feed them well and rush them to market than to have a lot of hungry, peeping fowls at your heels whenever you set your feet outdoors. A hen will lay just as fine eggs in an old water-pail filled with straw as in a patent nest box; but she must have her crop well filled with seasonable food to make her worth anything as a layer or for the table. If wheat is very cheap in your locality, do not discard it for expensive corn, but manage to give the fowls plenty of good food, and use a variety. Milk, alfalfa, corn, table scraps, fresh meat and other things will keep the chicks in good condition.

Don't waste money buying a lot of medicines in the start. Just remember that lice and filth are the bottom of most poultry evils, and determine to be without



The Dairymaid. Photo by R. R. Sallows.

a Cold Climate," "Growing Grapes for Home Use," "Perennial Flowers," "Orchard Experiments in Eastern Quebec," "The Manufacture of Maple Syrup and Sugar in Canada in the Past and Present," "Some Methods of Marketing the New England Apple Crop," "Garden and Orchard Insects in Quebec Province in 1906," "Some Lessons in Orchardng from the Field of Practical Experience."

There is much useful information especially applicable to the Province of Quebec in these papers, and the report should be in the hands of every fruit-grower there. The annual membership fee is \$1.00, which will insure getting the report and participating in a plant distribution in the spring. Peter Reid, Chateauguay Basin, Que., is the Secretary of the Association, and is eager to get members.

The Association last winter prepared a list of varieties of apples recommended for different parts of the Province of Quebec, which is printed in the report. It is as follows:

From Three Rivers and Sorel, west and south: Summer—Yellow Transparent, Lowland Raspberry, Duchess.