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The statement of North Augusta Cheese factory for the season of 1908 shows: Total pounds of milk delivered, 1,479,263; total number pounds of cheese, 135,455; total money, \$16,071.07; average price per pound of cheese, 11.88 cents; average number pounds milk for one pound of cheese, 10.92; average price paid per ton \$19.60; cost of manufacturing, per pound, 1½ cents.

Grenville Co., Ont.

W. B. MOFFATT.

A dairyman gives the following as a safe rule to follow when selecting a dairy cow: "Choose, first of all, a good type—deep body, large heart-girth, firm abdominal wall, indicative of good constitution. Then look for a well-balanced udder, well forward and up behind, giving great length of attachment to the body, and good, squarely-placed teats."

POULTRY.

A Boy's Poultry Experience.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

My father takes "The Farmer's Advocate," and I think I get as much good out of it as he does. I am greatly interested in the Poultry Department.

My poultry house is 10 x 15, boarded on studding inside and out, and filled with straw between. There are two windows in the south side, 3 x 3, one being cotton, and one glass. The door is in the west end. The ceiling is boards, laid with a space between them, and straw overhead; this keeps everything dry. There has never been any frost on the glass this winter. The cotton window gives plenty of fresh air, and the straw overhead absorbs the moisture. It is very cold sometimes here, but the fowls are always lively and healthy. The roof is peaked, and shingled with cull shingles. There is no cornice on the ends of the rafters, and the space is not filled in between the rafters, where it rests on the studding under the eaves on each side. This is a good place for the escape of bad air that comes up through the straw.

In the morning the chickens get a good feed of oats, well scattered in the litter. This keeps them scratching most of the morning. At noon they get a hot mash or a feed of chopped vegetables, consisting of turnips, cabbage, small potatoes, or any other vegetables that are handy; these are all chopped fine. The fowls like this, and eat it greedily. Sometimes a little charcoal is good, or some good poultry food. At night they have been getting oats and peas, but the peas are not good for them, being too fattening. I intend feeding wheat after this, but it is rather dear here. They get fresh water, with the chill taken off, three times daily. I always try to keep grit before them. I can get it here at all times of the year, out of the bed of a stream. I have eight Plymouth Rock pullets and one cockerel in this pen. Hoping you will be able to find space for my first letter to "The Farmer's Advocate, and wishing it every success.

Bruce Co., Ont.

FARMER'S SON.

Methods and Results in 1908.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Our poultry house is built in lean-to style, south of our hogpen, the stone wall of which forms the north wall for the henhouse. There is one long window, made up of small panes of glass, extending about two-thirds of the length of the building. A door communicates with the hogpen, to which the hens have access at all times of the day. It provides a good recreation ground, and is roomy and warm. The nests are mostly built on the ledge of stone wall, in the hogpen. At night, the chickens are shut up in their own house, and generally fed there, their grain being scattered in the straw on the floor, thus affording them healthful exercise. We feed them three times a day. In the morning their feed was generally grain; barley, oats or peas were the grains fed, and never the same twice in succession. At noon we sometimes gave a hot mash of boiled potatoes and mixed chop, of which they were very fond. We had some buckwheat in the shed, and threw them a couple of these to keep them busy in the afternoons. At night we fed them grain again, different to that of the morning feed. Besides this, they were given mangels every day. Ashes and sand were before them at all times. We also gave them a little oyster shell every morning. We kept the roosts and nests sprayed with a mixture half coal oil and half of a liquid lice-killer, and this kept them practically free from vermin. For drink, they were kept supplied with clean water, and all the sweet milk we could spare them.

We commenced 1908 with 75 pullets, having killed all our old hens. Forty of these pullets were hatched May 6th, 1907, and the remainder May 28th, 1907. They were incubator

chicks hatched and raised with a hot-water incubator and brooder. They commenced laying the middle of January, 1908, and below we give the monthly egg receipts for the year:

January, 7½ dozen; February, 58 1-6 dozen; March, 109 1-6 dozen; April, 127½ dozen; May, 123½ dozen; June, 96½ dozen; July, 98½ dozen; August, 83½ dozen; September, 74 dozen; October, 14 dozen; November, 7 dozen; December, 13 dozen—making a total for the year of 812½ dozen.

The proceeds of those sold amounted to \$140.07, besides the eggs used for home consumption. As we kept no record of the cost of feed, we cannot say just how much was profit, but do not think we would be overestimating to say at least half was clear. Owing to the better prices, our winter eggs paid much better than the summer eggs, but, of course, they also cost more, as hens find a great deal of their feed in summer.

March was our best month for cash, as the eggs sold realized \$25.

Besides our egg receipts, we sold chickens to the value of \$120, and kept over 30 young pullets; so our poultry receipts for the year, including value of pullets kept, would at least total \$275. This year we intend keeping about 100 hens. Our hens are all Barred Plymouth Rocks, not pure, but a very good strain. We are keeping a record again this year.

Ontario Co., Ont.

AN AMATEUR.

A P. E. Island Flock Record.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

As you are asking for reports from farmers' poultry flocks, I will give you ours. In 1908 we kept about 85 hens, in two flocks. Size of houses are: First one, 12 x 30, with 50 hens; second one, 15 x 15, with 35 hens. Our favorite breed is the Buff Leghorn, some pure-bred, and some three-quarters-bred. They laid all the year, to the amount of \$135 worth, the average price received being 17 2-3 cents per dozen. About 90 chickens were raised, 45 pullets and 45 cockerels. The pullets we value at 35 cents each, which amounts to \$15.75, and the cockerels at 25 cents each, \$11.25. Total, \$27.00. Amount of feed consumed during year was, 150 bushels oats, at 50 cents, \$75; 25 bushels of wheat, at \$1, \$25; 40 bushels small potatoes, at 23 cents, \$9.20; together with some bread and oatmeal fed to chickens, amounting to \$2, which makes \$112, and leaves a profit of \$50. We consider \$50 profit, together with the manure, very fair remuneration for labor expended, as the work is very light and easy to perform. The houses were not up-to-date, there being only two small windows in each house, and no ventilation, except by door. There was a floor in smaller house; the other had none. No difference was noticed in health of birds or number of eggs laid. This year we have a new house, 13 x 30 x 7, and are feeding 125 in one flock, which is much easier and, by paying more attention to ventilation, feeding and caring for birds, hope to get better returns, with less labor. Eggs are selling now in our market town of Summerside at 25 cents per dozen, and seldom get above that during the winter, so, you see, we will have to be content with small prices until we get the tunnel and can send them to large cities on the mainland. And yet we farmers think that hens pay as well as any other live stock, and often get worse treatment, too. Not long ago I heard a farmer boasting about his egg receipts, and I ventured to ask him how often he cleaned the henhouse. "Not until spring," he said, which means every six months. If hens were only given a chance, kept free from vermin, given exercise by scratching for their grain among clean straw, supplied with gravel, broken oyster-shells, skim milk, water, and as varied a diet as possible, greater profits would be forthcoming.

JAMES STAVERT.

Prince Co., P. E. I.

GARDEN & ORCHARD.

Apple-growing in Peel County.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have lately become rather interested in our orchards. There are a few questions I would like to have answered, to see if there is really any reason for so many of our orchards being so sadly neglected.

1. Has it been proved at any time that apples can be grown as a profitable crop in the climate such as we have through the northern part of the Counties of Halton, Peel and York? Or, is the climate of the southern counties much better for this crop?

2. What particular varieties thrive best in these counties, and what varieties would be the most salable?

3. What percentage of our apples are exported to the Old Country, and what per cent. consumed at home?

4. Is it the best grades that are sent away, the culls being consumed at home?

5. What is the average price per barrel that farmers receive?

6. Are there any of our pears shipped to the Old Country?

7. Will they ever be able to grow apples, pears and such fruit in the Northwest, this side of British Columbia?

8. Would you give a rough outline of what you would consider the proper way of caring for an orchard?

Peel Co., Ont.

Ans.—1. I believe it has been proven many times over that the very best varieties of apples can be successfully and profitably grown in the section of the country you mention. I have at various times judged the fruit exhibits at fall fairs in these counties, and am sure, from what I have seen, that as good apples can be grown in the northern parts of Halton, Peel and York as in almost any section of the Province. No doubt, nearer the lake, in the southern sections of these counties, the crop may be more certain, on account of less liability of the blossoms to be injured by late spring frosts; but these occur so rarely that this is a matter which need hardly be considered by growers who cannot all be located along the lake-front.

2. The climate in that section of the country will permit of all the best varieties being grown. It is well, however, not to grow too many varieties in a commercial orchard. The list might, as a rule, be narrowed down to a half dozen of the leading varieties, such as Northern Spy, Baldwin, Greening, King, Ribston, and Blenheim. No doubt, many would wish to include in such list the much-discussed Ben Davis, but we believe that, although this variety has been a very profitable one, the markets of the future will be more discriminating, and demand only those varieties of the best quality, and for this reason we think it would not be well to plant too largely of varieties of such inferior quality as Ben Davis.

3. I am unable to say just what percentage of the apples in these counties is exported, and what is used locally. I am inclined to believe that at present more is used locally than is exported, from the fact that commercial orcharding has not been given the attention in this district that it should have.

4. Where the apple crop has been sold by the barrel, only the best grade of apples is taken by the buyer, and the culls left for home consumption. Unfortunately for the reputation of the Canadian apple trade, this practice has not been adhered to as strictly as it should have been, for, in many cases, where the crop is bought on the trees, as is often the case, little or no culling is done, and the good and worthless apples are shipped out in the same barrel, which discredits Canadian apples generally when they appear upon a foreign market. This method of buying and shipping has done more to injure the Canadian apple trade than anything else that could be mentioned.

5. The price usually received by the farmer from the apple-buyers when the crop is purchased either on the tree or by the barrel varies from 50 cents to \$1.00 per barrel. Usually, when bought by the barrel, the latter figure has been the prevailing one; whereas, I know of growers who have been shipping and selling through the co-operative associations in the northern part of Halton County, having obtained between \$2 and \$3 per barrel. The sooner apple-growers realize that the most successful way of marketing the apple crop is through a co-operative association, the sooner will they receive full value for the fruit, and the sooner will apple-growing be recognized as one of the most profitable industries.

6. There have been a number of successful attempts to ship pears from Ontario to the Old Country market, but so far the export in pears has not increased largely. There is no doubt that, when picked at the right stage of maturity and carefully packed, pears can be successfully placed in the Old Country markets; but the tendency of this fruit to ripen in shipment makes the business much more precarious than apple-shipping. Nevertheless, we believe that in time pears will be much more largely shipped from here to the Old Country than at present.

7. It would be unwise for a "tenderfoot" to prophesy as to the possibilities or otherwise of fruit-growing in the Northwest. There is no doubt, however, that there is a vast extent of country in the Northwest where fruit of this kind will never be grown, although there are possibly sections in Alberta, near the foothills, where fruit may in time be more or less extensively cultivated. The reports of recent trials made in various parts of Alberta indicate that fruit may be grown there when the conditions suitable for fruit-growing in that district are better understood; but I believe that for many years to come the Ontario grower will have a splendid market for fruit in the Northwest, unless, through neglect of the opportunity now offered, he is excluded from that market by competition from British Columbia and adjoining American States.

8. The proper management of an apple orchard