

deliberation. Between now and next winter is the time to discuss it and lodge protests, if any are forthcoming. What have our dairy readers to say about it? These columns are ever open to discuss propositions of interest to factorymen, creamerymen, and dairy farmers.

Clean Out the Flies' Breeding Places.

A manure pile about the barnyard makes an ideal breeding place for flies. These then drop into the milk, or perhaps find their way into victuals on the table, and inoculate our dairy products and other foodstuffs with myriads of bacteria from the dung pile. These bacteria are swallowed innocently by people who would gag at a little manure coloration in their drinking water.

Moral.—We cannot well abolish the fly nuisance, but we can minimize it. Do not let manure accumulate in the barnyard in the summer.

Chronicles of the Khan.

THE ASTONISHED COW.

The outraged cow went forth and joined
The herd among the greenery,
"What d'ye think they did just now?
They milked me by machinery."

Butter is frequently spoiled at the milk-pail.

POULTRY.

A Splendid Trade in Poultry Awaits Us.

Edward Brown, F. L. S., Assistant Director, Agricultural Department, University College, Reading, England, is in Canada studying our possibilities as a source of supply for Britain's requirements in dressed poultry and eggs. The British farmers, he says, simply cannot meet the demand of their own markets. At present, Britain's main source of supply is Northern and Eastern Europe. Last year she paid Russia alone nearly \$15,000,000 for poultry products.

The best eggs received come from Denmark, but, on the whole, the quality of the foreign poultry products is not good.

Prof. Brown believes that Canada can supply a better quality of eggs and a finer type of dressed poultry than any of her competitors. Unfortunately, the farmers in this country are at present unable even to meet the home demand, and consequently the exports of these products to Great Britain have been materially reduced. The markets are there, and why cannot the Canadian people supply them? The United States are developing their trade in dressed poultry with Great Britain in a marvellous manner. Up to the end of April this year they had supplied fully half of the total dressed poultry consumed in Great Britain, and the quality was very good.

Discussing the methods adopted in shipping Canadian eggs to Great Britain, Prof. Brown expressed a preference for limed eggs over those shipped in cold storage, as the latter had to be consumed immediately after being taken out, for they rapidly deteriorated in quality; but limed eggs were fairly safe as a market commodity. He was complimentary to Canadian chicken-fatteners, inasmuch as they were following the same methods which had been approved for many years in the Old World. Good breeding and correct conformation in chickens intended for fattening purposes could not be too strongly emphasized.

Prof. Brown was delighted with the facilities for education and experimental work in agricultural science provided in Canada. He thought the Macdonald Agricultural College at St. Anne de Bellevue, Quebec, was destined to be the greatest institution of its kind in the world, while the Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph was worthy of all praise.

Improving the Flock.

There are three practical ways to improve farm poultry. One is to buy a mating or two of well-bred birds, and use their eggs for hatching. This is an expeditious, comparatively inexpensive and satisfactory method. If it represents too much money for you, buy two or three sittings of eggs from some good reputable breeder. Mark the chickens hatched, and start next year's flock with these. This method is a little slower, but oftentimes equally successful. The third, and most inexpensive method, is one which every farmer can practice if he will. It has been used time and again, and when common sense is exercised, it is decidedly satisfactory. Simply cull out your flock every season, saving only the choicest birds of uniform color and quality. Exchange male birds regularly with someone who is raising the same kind of poultry. The results will surprise you.

Hens Laying for the Church.

Farmers of the neighborhood of Sykesville, Carroll Co., Maryland, have organized their chickens to provide funds for the church. The eggs laid on Sunday will be placed in a basket at the pulpit every Sunday afternoon at the hour of the Epworth League meeting. Each egg will be stamped with the date on which it was laid, and the next day the eggs will be taken to Baltimore, and the originator of the plan undertakes to realize two cents an egg. In Canada such a scheme might be criticised as placing a premium on Sunday labor.

Shade for Chickens.

The little chicks, as well as the older ones, need shade during the summer months. The coop is not enough. If it can be placed under a tree or in the shade of a large building it will be much better. The best plan is to have a few trees in the chicken-yard. Many poultrymen plant plum trees in their yards. This provides shade for the fowls, and the fowls help the fruit by destroying many injurious insects which attack the trees. Sunflowers planted in the poultry-yard also make a good shade, as well as producing seed that is an excellent poultry food. You have doubtless noticed that the hens and chickens are not very active in the hottest part of the long summer days. They prefer to scratch and dust themselves in the shade. This adds to their comfort, and anything which makes them more comfortable makes them more profitable.

Grandma Hen.

Do you know how to make the toughest old hen nice and tender? An old German tailor gave this recipe, and it is good. The night before you cook the ancient fowl, wrap it closely in a damp cloth, thickly sprinkled with baking soda, and the next morning boil an hour for every year old before you roast it, with a teaspoonful or two of soda in the water. The taste of the soda goes off in the boiling water, and your chicken will be so tender as to fall from the bones. This was tried with an old hen who had seen eight summers, and it all fell apart after long cooking.

Don't think that because your chicks are now three or four weeks old that you can "take things easy" in looking after them from now on, and that they will still fare all right. They need careful, intelligent attention at this time just as badly as they have heretofore; and the more of it they get, the more profitable they will be.

GARDEN ORCHARD.

Market Prospects for Apples.

The June crop report of the Fruit Division, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, comments as follows on market conditions for apples, and the situation in regard to the apple supply:

Buyers are already in the field, and the question of prices for the crop of 1906 is being discussed. Germany and France, as well as other continental countries, report a medium good crop. The United States report a large apple crop, almost equal to that of 1904, and larger than the 1905 crop. The prospects in Great Britain are much poorer than was reported last month. The crop in Ireland will be almost a failure. The Canadian crop will probably have a large export surplus of fall and early winter apples, and a medium crop of winter apples. Canadian apples will be excluded from Germany on account of the duty, and their place will be taken by American stock. This will not affect the Canadian market seriously, as it will remove a corresponding quantity of American apples from competition in the British markets.

It must be taken into account that the European crop comes into competition largely with the summer, fall, and, to some extent, early winter apples. If the crop in Great Britain will not supply home demands, as now seems probable, the preference is given to Canadian and American apples. In fact, the superior packing and grading of Canadian apples give them a preference with dealers over all but the choicest brands of the home product in Great Britain; this is particularly true in the markets of Liverpool and Glasgow. It must not be forgotten, too, that the Canadian winter apples have the preference over American apples, at least to the extent of 25 cents per barrel to the grower.

The exports from Canada to France have been Ben Davis and Russets, for the most part, varieties not competing with the French-grown fruit.

Another factor somewhat new in the apple situation is the enormous increase in the demand for early apples from the Northwest.

BARRELS.

As Canadian cooper stock is freely exported to the United States, the American crop must be considered in the supply of barrels. New York

growers report the price of barrels at 28 to 30 cents, with the prospect of an increase. Growers who have a full supply of barrels for their stock, have a much better chance of disposing of their apples than those who have not. They can then take the choice of buyers, and can sell or hold for a limited period, without danger from frost or other contingencies. Look after the supply of barrels early.

June Fruit Crop Report.

APPLES.

As was to be expected, the reports for the month of June on apples are not quite so favorable. There are many reports of serious dropping, and the general tone of the reports would place the crop at not more than medium. In forming an estimate of the crop, the classification of apples into early, fall and winter should be kept in mind, inasmuch as the three classes may have an entirely different value.

In district 1 (counties along Lake Erie) early apples are reported almost a full crop, the fall and winter apples a medium crop, Baldwins and Spies light. If, however, the season should prove a warm one, the whole of the apples in this district will be classed by apple buyers as early shipping stock.

In district 2 (counties on Lake Huron and inland to York County) early apples are almost a full crop, the fall apples less and the winter apples only a medium crop.

In district 3 (Lake Ontario counties north to Sharbot Lake and Georgian Bay), 21% of the correspondents reported the crop light, 53% medium, and 27% a full crop.

Reports from the Annapolis and Cornwallis Valleys, district 6, indicate a crop above medium, but not quite a full crop. The tent caterpillar, the bud moth and canker worm have all been particularly severe, as well as several minor pests, in different parts of the Valleys, and it is not improbable that the codling moth will appear later. Wind storms and other contingencies will probably reduce the crop of winter apples to medium or less. Summer and fall apples will be slightly above a medium crop. Gravenstein has set very heavily, and, where they are sprayed thoroughly, will doubtless yield a large crop. Nova Scotia Kings and Russets have also set well. The Baldwins in Nova Scotia will be light.

The British Columbia crop of apples will be about the same as last year.

PEARS.

The prospects for pears have been less bright during the month. In districts 1 and 2, producing the largest commercial crop, Kieffers are reported a full crop; Bartlett's a medium crop, with many failures; Clapp's Favorite, Anjou, Bosc, and similar varieties, less than medium. This condition will also hold good for British Columbia.

PLUMS.

Plums are almost a failure, no large section reporting even a medium crop. The American varieties are producing best; the Japanese varieties are almost a total failure.

PEACHES.

Correspondents report 17% of the crop of early peaches a failure, 17% light, 35% medium, and 31% a full crop; late peaches, 12% of the crop is a failure, 21% light, 43% medium, and 24% a full crop. Early peaches will probably be sufficient to supply the demands of the market, but there will probably be some shortage of good canning peaches.

CHERRIES.

Cherries are everywhere being marketed a large crop, of good quality, and freer from insects than usual.

GRAPES.

Grapes are reported in good condition, almost equal to last year, with some complaints of winter-killing, especially north of Lake Ontario.

SMALL FRUITS.

The strawberry crop maintained the conditions reported last month. The principal markets report fair receipts, of good quality; prices were 10% higher than last year.

The estimate for raspberries, black and red, is about the same as for strawberries.

TOMATOES.

The prospects for tomatoes continue good. In the neighborhood of Weston there is a shortage of plants, owing to the burning of a greenhouse which supplied the district. A few fields have been badly injured with cut-worms, but what is more remarkable is the fact that correspondents report a very serious damage from the depredations of potato bugs, which are not particularly numerous this year. One hundred acres of tomatoes are reported in the neighborhood of Wallaceburg, Ont., for canning purposes.

FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

The continental apple and pear crop is reported medium to good. The prospects for the English apple and plum and pear crop have fallen off seriously, and if this is confirmed by next month's reports market conditions will be materially changed for early and fall apples.

A. McNEILL,

Chief, Fruit Division.

The Dominion Senate has thrown another shovelful of earth out of its grave by peremptorily striking out from the bill to amend the Railway Act Mr. Lancaster's amendment limiting to ten miles an hour the speed of trains at level crossings in thickly-populated cities, towns and villages.