

fatal. In a very obstinate case, castor oil or warm treacle should be given in frequent doses. If this does not result in the removal of the egg, the vent of the hen should be held for a few minutes over a jug of boiling water, in which ten drops of iodine to a quart of water has been added. This almost invariably gives relief, but should only be resorted to as a last extreme.

If egg-bound be not due to the presence of a very large egg, it is a more serious matter, as it means that there is either a broken egg in the oviduct, or scrofulous deposits. A bird suffering from this complaint is in great pain, and if it is not a valuable bird it is better to kill it, and so end its misery. In any case, it is exceedingly difficult to cure, death nearly always resulting. Very plain food should be supplied, and an aperient given, the one mentioned in connection with the previous complaint being perhaps the best—one grain of calomel and one-twelfth grain of tartar emetic. A small dose of aconite every two hours is useful, and frequently gives relief.—[E. T. D., in English Agricultural Gazette.]

Egg-eating Hens.

Next to feather-eating, egg-eating is the most reprehensible vice to which hens are subject. It is not easy to detect. Very often there will be a shortage of eggs which cannot be accounted for. The unsuspecting poultrykeeper wonders why his hens are not laying, when, as a matter of fact, they are laying all the time. Then he suddenly discovers that one or more of his birds are in the habit of consuming the eggs as fast as they are laid. The awkward part of it is that the eggs are consumed so as to leave no trace, and it is only by catching a culprit in the act that one can make sure. When so caught, the best plan, if the bird is not a valuable one, is to wring her neck, otherwise she will speedily communicate the habit to the rest of the flock. Once acquired, there is nothing more difficult to stamp out. Among other things, I have tried filling an egg, after blowing out its contents, with cayenne and mustard, but while in some instances it has proved efficacious, in others it has failed, so that I am strongly of the opinion that the neck-wrangling process is the sovereign remedy. The cause of the vice has been attributed, among other things, to a want of egg-forming material, in the shape of oyster-shell and grit, to lack of exercise, and to eggs which, owing to there being too few nest boxes, are laid on the floor and in the run, and so get accidentally broken. A lack of shell-forming material is undoubtedly responsible for much of the mischief, but want of occupation, such as might easily be afforded by hanging a cabbage in the run just out of reach of the birds, or providing a scratching shed, is quite as common a cause.—[W. R. Gilbert, in Farm Poultry.]

THE FARM BULLETIN.

Requirements of the Fancy Trade in Foodstuffs.

Appealing to its readers to bestir themselves and endeavor to capture a share of the trade in fancy food products, now so fully enjoyed by the French, The Irish Homestead employs some piquant observations and metaphor, which we reproduce in part for sake of the naivette of the diction, as well as the point of the argument.

HOW TO ALLURE THE MILLIONAIRE.

The cream of the trade is a most desirable thing. Cream is the best part of milk, and while whole or skim milk is a refreshing enough beverage for those who have never swallowed cream in delicious spoonfuls, once you know what cream is, a glory has gone from mere milk, and in skim milk there is no delight at all. Every trade has floating on its top a section which is the cream of that trade. Our trade ranges between the whole and the skim-milk class. The kind of first-class trade we refer to is done with dealers in the West End shops in London and their like in the important towns in England, men who cater for the Park-lane millionaire and for folk whose incomes are between the thousands and the millions, who are willing to pay any price for what they eat, and for the perfect and complete satisfaction of whose appetites their tradesmen spend sleepless nights, and range the world for articles whose flavor is flawless. The eggs which these lordly people eat must be hurried from the nest into the boiling pot, so that Time, the rava-er, cannot impair their bloom or steal the most imperceptible flavor from them. The butter must look and taste as if it was made by flower-like dairymaids, whose snowy fingers fluttered about it like butterflies, and suggest country innocence, "dance and Provencal song and sunburnt mirth." The fruit must look as if it might have tempted Eve to leave Paradise for its sake—pears that hardly seem to have any bodily substance, only a melting and delicious abandonment, as if they loved being eaten, and yielded up their sweetness with delight; and strawberries that lie on their cream, alluring as fairy children in their cradles. The people who supply delights like these are the people whom farming pays, whose bank accounts come out with a good margin on the right side at the end of the year. This is

the kind of trade we have not touched, but the entering into which ought to shine before the eyes of the producer as the economic heaven at the end of his labors.

OUR RIVALS.

The French are the only people who have got a hold on this first-class trade. They are an artistic people, and their butter, their eggs, fruit and vegetables are finally deposited in the millionaire and the aristocrat; they have learned how to appeal to the senses, and they get paid accordingly.

THE WAY INTO THE MARKET.

This market cannot be captured all at once. It is possible, of course, that, with good luck, some one might surprise his way into it. An almost imperceptible falling-off in the flavor of butter or the freshness of eggs, which had twice offended the imperious chef of a millionaire, would make the provision dealer haste to afford a chance to a new producer. But it is not well to trust to luck. The market must be slowly captured point by point, in the way that the Japanese laid siege to Port Arthur. There are many high-class dealers who will not haggle about the price of eggs so that they can be got clean and fresh. The three-days-old egg is the egg for the high-class trade. It will have no speck of dirt on it, but will rival new-cut and polished Parian marble in its dazzling and lustrous purity. It will never have suffered the indignity of having been kept over for a rise, and its trade-mark will soon come to be associated with days happily begun, and the consumer will turn his eye round in the morning, looking for the familiar stamp, and he will sniff with justifiable suspicion at the mere anonymous egg, when its undistinguished shell is offered to his gaze.

HONESTY INDISPENSABLE.

Our Irish trade is all second or third class at present. Second-class trade is all right, and a country can live very well if it has a good second-class trade like the Danes. But we ought to have a good share of the first-class trade—the trade which is now in the hands of the best class of English producer or the French producer—the trade in irreproachable eggs, in really choicest butter (not the article so called satirically), and in early vegetables and fruit; and this trade we ought to be able to secure a share of; and it only needs energy on our part to enable us to do so. When a man has got his produce right, and can be sure of his supply, his customers will soon recognize the fact, and he will after a little get his own prices. But there must be no holding over, not in the most falling market, no speculation, no dillydallying with his precious eggs, whose freshness is their sole virtue. If he yields to this, and his customers feel that he is unreliable, they turn elsewhere, like Diogenes, seeking for an honest man. Honesty pure and undiluted pays in the long run best. We know in an earlier and better world virtue was its own reward. The recompense has seemed too shadowy for a good many people nowadays, and, as we wish to appeal to all, we say not only is virtue its own reward, but, when applied in business, there is a handsome bonus as well which will appeal to a good many people, and will come in handy."

East Prince, P. E. I.

The hay crop was a good average one. The quantity was considerably increased because a large number of fields which in the spring were intended for pasture—because of the good pasture season were not needed, and so were mowed for hay.

The weather all through haymaking was ideal; not a bit of hay was spoiled. The oldest inhabitants say they never saw a better hay season, taking it all through, than we had this year. The days, as well as the nights, were extremely hot, but this is just what the crops needed. Lately the weather has taken a cooler turn, with frequent showers. The prospect is good for an abundant harvest, although some of the early oats and wheat are affected with rust. I am sorry to say that in some sections of the Island the wheat crop is entirely destroyed by the jointworm, and the farmers are mowing it down for green feed. This will be a great loss, and it is thought that, in order to overcome this pest, the farmers will have to give up growing wheat in those affected sections for a few years. Insects of all kinds seem to be more plentiful this year than usual. The potato-bug and the horn-fly are extremely hard to keep down this season. The turnip and mangel crops everywhere are very promising. Corn also is a heavy crop; the hot, dry weather suited the corn to perfection, but when we come to the potato crop, it is the most sickening this Island has had for a long time. Many farmers have a very fine crop, while others have a partial or total failure. I have not yet been able to find out why so many fields of potatoes missed in coming up. Some were no doubt planted on wet land, and as the spring was very wet, it did not suit for potatoes; others were planted on good dry soil, some early and some late, and yet are badly missed. Potatoes for the local trade are very scarce, and are worth about 40 cents per bushel; the new ones will be ready for use in a few days. Some pieces of late oats are going to be quite short, if the dry weather continues.

Now is a trying time to keep up the milk supply. The grass has been getting dry and scarce, and the flies thicker and more savage, and it is hard—almost impossible—to keep the cows from shrinking in their milk. Yet, with a good liberal feeding of green peas, vetches and oats, it can be done. In a week or so the early

turnips will be ready to feed, and this, I consider, is one of the best and cheapest feeds the dairyman can raise for his milking cows.

The fall exhibitions will soon be on, and we are looking for the best show of live stock this fall that ever was shown in Charlottetown. The horticultural and other departments will no doubt far exceed other years, as the fair is open to all Canada. Those also who enjoy a good horse-race, will no doubt be pleased. All farmers, at least, should attend their own exhibition, for in so doing they cannot fail to learn and be profited.

Oats are down a little, 40 cents being about the price; flour, \$2.25; hay, \$8.00; eggs, 15c.; cheese, 11c.; factory butter, 24c.; good dairy butter, 20c. Island apples are hardly ready, but a few early, wormy ones are selling at 60c. per bushel. Farm help is almost impossible to get, yet little Prince Edward Island could send off 821 able men on the excursion to help the farmers in the Northwest COLIN C. CRAIG.

Good Season for Quebec Dairymen.

In writing you last month, I stated we were having the most excessive drouth we had experienced for many years, with the result of short pasturage and a reduction in the milk flow. We have had a few showers that have freshened things up somewhat, but afterwards is nothing to what we usually have at this date. Most farmers are feeding their cows grains, or forage crops, or both. Those dairymen who provided a soiling crop will reap the benefit manifold. Those who have not done so will see the wisdom of providing for a dry spell by putting in a soiling crop another season. The excessive heat and the horn fly also aided in reducing the milk flow. The reduced flow will be made up by the extra prices for dairy products, and the shippers of milk and cream to the City of Montreal have put up the price of milk one cent per gallon from Sept. 1st to May 1st, 1907, and 10 cents per gallon for cream. This will give the shipper 18 cents per gallon for September, 16 cents for October, and 15 cents for the winter months, delivered in the city. Never was there such a shortage of milk in the City of Montreal as at present. Dealers are offering big prices to get a supply. This week will see the harvest completed and threshing well begun. Grain has been a splendid crop on all but the low-lying lands, where it was injured by the wet in June. The later-sown grain is not as full and plump as usual on mucky soils. It was affected by rust. The root crops are not promising, but the corn crop is excellent, and silo-filling will next be in order. Our stockmen have started out for the shows, and have had difficulty in bringing out their animals with the usual bloom on them. Our district show takes place here on the 13th and 14th of September, and is usually one of the best shows in the Province, outside of Sherbrooke. We expect it will be ahead of former years in quantity and quality of stock. Cheese sold on the board here last week at 12c., and butter at 22c. Huntingdon Co., Que. W. F. STEPHEN.

Fair Dates for 1906.

Table listing fair dates for 1906 across various Canadian provinces and territories, including St. John, N. B., Winchester, Ont., Canada Central, Ottawa, Western Fair, London, Michigan West, Grand Rapids, Sussex, N. B., New York State, Syracuse, Guelph Central, Chatham, N. B., Arthur, Mount Forest, New Liskeard, Peel Co., Brampton, East Parry Sound, Burk's Falls, South Ontario, Oshawa, Dominion Exhibition, Halifax, N. S., Provincial Exhibition, New Westminster, B.C., Atwood, Blackstock, Clifford, McGillivray, American Royal, Kansas City, Mo., Prince Edward Island Agr. and Industrial Exhibition, Caledonia, International, Chicago, Ontario Winter Fair, Guelph.

[Note.—For general list of Ontario fairs, see "Farmer's Advocate," August 23rd, page 1343.]

Managers of fairs whose dates do not appear on our lists will confer a favor on our readers by sending in their dates.

The Western Fair.

The Western Fair at London this year promises to be the best of a long succession of good ones. The display of horses and all other classes of live stock will be the best ever seen here. The dairy show will be of special interest and better than ever before. The beautiful grounds and buildings have been much improved. The speeding in the horse-ring promises to be a first-class performance, and the attractions before the grand-stand, we are assured, will be of a better class than ever. Western Ontario farmers have reaped a generous harvest, and can well afford a few holidays, and no better opportunity offers for this than the Western Fair, where pleasure may be united with information and instruction.