

mustiness and making the eggs next to useless for export. Mustiness may also be caused by feeding damaged foodstuffs, such as mouldy maize, wheat, &c., while mouldy bread will have a similar effect.

"*Grass Eggs.*"—These are eggs showing a greenish discoloration. The overfeeding of rape is a common cause of this trouble in hen-eggs, while in the case of duck-eggs the feeding of acorns will bring about a similar undesirable condition. Grass eggs are absolutely unsuitable for export.

Packing.—Many cases of eggs are likely to arrive at the collecting-depots in a broken condition owing to improper packing, although a little care and attention on the part of the producer would prevent this. Never pack in rough-and-ready boxes with straw chaff, or breakages will be the result. Eggs packed in chaff are unsuitable for export in shell; besides they are useless for pulping purposes. The only safe course is to pack the eggs in wire carriers or in cardboard fillings which are made for the purpose. To ensure perfect condition it is necessary to pack the cases so that the contents cannot shift, no matter in what position the package is placed. Wood-wool pads, one placed on top, bottom, and centre of the case, will ensure this where cardboard fillings are used, while the case should be packed in such a way that there is a slight bulge in the centre of the lid. The lid should be nailed at each end, and the middle left free to create a springy condition. It is important that the crates be properly addressed, and the word "Eggs" stamped well over the box in order that the railway-men, carters, and others may see at a glance what the case contains.

GENERAL.

What applies in the case of eggs in the shell intended for export applies with equal force to eggs intended for egg-pulp. The same great care should also be exercised with all eggs intended for consumption on the local market. Whether for the oversea or the local market, it should be the aim of all producers to establish a reputation and then maintain that reputation. This can be achieved only by placing in the hands of the consumers guaranteed eggs in the best possible condition and style.

If the impending trial shipment of eggs is to prove a success the producer must in the first place send to the collecting-depots only eggs that are fresh in the strictest sense of the word, and clean and properly graded. It then lies with the depot-managers to carefully test, examine, and repack the eggs in standard cases so that they may be in the best possible condition for official grading. The next step is to place them on board ship as soon after grading as possible. Given these conditions, the rest lies with the experts in refrigeration.

Election of Board of Agriculture.—At a recent meeting of the Board of Agriculture a letter was received from the agricultural and pastoral societies in the Nelson, Marlborough, and Westland Districts suggesting that the regulations relating to the election of members of the Board be amended so as to permit of the election being conducted by post. It was decided to recommend the matter to the Government for favourable consideration.