

## The Canadian Dairyman AND Farming World

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### EXTEND THE CO-TESTING WORK

Reference has frequently been made in these columns to the work of the co-testing associations, but, from conversations with several of our subscribers, it seems necessary to correct one or two misapprehensions. Over eighty associations have been organized by officials of the Dairy Division, Ottawa, but there is plenty of need for eight hundred. This work of the Dominion Government is solely for the educational and pecuniary advantage of the farmer, no revenue accrues from it to the Department, the testing is absolutely free. Many men seem to have been under a wrong impression in this respect.

No other work yet undertaken by the Department is of more direct and immediate benefit to dairymen. It is not in any sense an experimental

or aimless undertaking. It is the immediate application of a sound business principle to the every day life on the farm. Are there poor cows in the herd? This work supplies a ready answer. How can a profitable herd quickest be built up? This work shows the way.

Practical co-operation of this nature should extend to more operations on the farm. Such work as this should rapidly extend, and should be assisted in every way possible by the Dominion authorities. As the visiting Scotch agricultural commission remarked recently, more attention has to be paid to the individual members of the dairy herd. No pains should be spared in seeing that this initial step in dairying—truly our national industry—is thoroughly understood by every farmer in the land, and that this sure foundation stone is well and truly laid. One elementary principle of profitable dairying is to work economically with suitable material and machinery. In this respect every dairymen needs to assure himself that each one of the cows in his herd returns a profit, hence the object and methods of this cost testing work need to be minutely explained in every remote district and section, so that every dairymen may share in this grand forward movement, this united effort to raise the whole industry to a more profitable level for the milk producer. For every dollar the Dominion Government spends in this work, the country will receive—indirectly, it is true, but none the less surely—hundreds of dollars in return.

### A WOMAN'S LIFE RUINED

When less than a month ago we drew attention in these columns to the unwise action of those directors of agricultural societies who offer inducements to men and women to risk their lives at their exhibitions in order that they may pander to the unhealthy desire of a certain class in almost every community to see people endanger their lives, we little thought that the truth of what we thought should be illustrated by a serious accident to one of the women performers at the Toronto Industrial Exhibition. Owing to a pig giving way to the performer fell from a high wire to the ground and was injured, it is believed, for life. It is feared that she will be a permanent invalid.

There was not a person in that crowd who wanted to see such an accident. They were all sorry when they found that it had occurred. Still, as long as people will encourage such exhibitions of daring such accidents will occur. Only recently, in the State of Maine, a man was dashed to death in the view of thousands of people while making a balloon ascension at the local fair. It is time that the public asserted itself and that it gave the directors of exhibitions to understand plainly that such features at local fairs are undesirable and that if accidents occur the directors will be largely responsible therefor. Such features are closely related to the bull fights of ancient Spain. Surely we have got past them.

### SHOULD BE REGULATED

"A peculiar feature in connection with the cheese business is that some manufacturers are always ready to argue that they are making no money, yet, have you ever noticed that these same men are always ready to buy a cheese factory offered for sale. If there is no money to be made in the business, why do they continue to invest more money in factories? Seems rather funny doesn't it, nevertheless, it is a fact. Some of them must have a little gold mine somewhere, for no man is going to continue running a business year after year, and losing money." — The Ottawa Valley Journal.

Such insinuations as the foregoing are mischievous. They stir up a feeling of antagonism or distrust between the patrons of factories and the cheese manufacturers. There are some cheese manufacturers, in fact a considerable number, who are making money from the manufacturing of cheese. During the past few years, however, it is probable that more manufacturers have lost money than have made it. The Journal concludes that because some manufacturers are always ready to buy a cheese factory, they must be making money. It is probable that if the Journal were to conduct an investigation, it would find that the men who sold their factories, sold them because they had lost money, and because they had become completely disheartened in the business. If these men had a good thing in their cheese factories, they would not be anxious to sell them. Men are not anxious to sell anything that is paying them good money.

We have argued before, and we still argue, that something should be done to protect the manufacturer as well as the joint stock factory, from senseless competition. When a man has invested several thousand dollars in the erection and equipment of a cheese factory, he should have some reasonable assurance that a new factory shall not be established in his immediate neighborhood, and thereby completely ruin his investment. We do not say that farmers should be prevented from erecting their own cheese factories. On many occasions, however, farmers have erected cheese factories in opposition to a manufacturer, with the result that neither they nor the manufacturer made money as long as the competition between them lasted, or until one or the other gave up and went out of the business.

What is needed in Ontario, is some regulation requiring that before a cheese factory or creamery is erected, its plans and specifications shall be submitted to the government, which shall have power to investigate, and report as to whether or not such a factory is required in the section, and whether or not the plans of the building are in accordance with the new sanitary legislation that is proving so beneficial to the dairy interests of the province. Were there one hun-

dred less factories in Ontario, east of Kingston, the quality of the cheese manufactured there would be twenty-five per cent. better.

### A LESSON OF THE SHOW RING

Probably nowhere is the value of careful and thorough work more in evidence than in the showing of live stock. With the competition as close as it frequently is, it takes but little to turn the scale in favor of another animal. As the Canadian National Exhibition this was noticeable in many classes. Good animals which, had they been in other hands for a few weeks previous to the show, would probably have given a different account of themselves. Unfortunately for breeding stock, show condition counts for too much in the eye of the average judge. Time and again otherwise good animals were kept from premier honors owing to another carrying more flesh and being in slightly better blood.

Now-days if one would make sure of taking off the coveted honors his exhibit must be faultless in so far as he can possibly make them. The last ounce of extra flesh, the extra grooming and the many little things of which the expert showman is master, makes the difference between winning and losing. If one would win he must master these details and show his stock to their best possible advantage. The training one receives in showing stock tends towards thoroughness in other lines of work. Truly there is no other branch of caring for live stock which calls for so much thoroughness and pains-taking effort as does showing.

### The Public and the "Thriller"

(The Globe.)

When "Thriller" acts go wrong and performers are killed or seriously injured it is the custom of those having to do with their presentation to declare that the public demands such performances. The public of Canada, in the main at any rate, is sound at heart, and has a right to resent this attempt to fasten upon it the responsibility for "death-daring" performances, and their ill-consequences when accidents happen. The time has arrived for amusement managers to awaken to the fact that a display of skill in which danger to life is reduced to a minimum, or clean, wholesome fun-making devoid of all danger, is what the Canadian public wants.

The majority of people in Canadian crowds seeking amusement always feel intensely relieved and pleased when the "thriller" gets through with safety, and they can watch, without the fear of witnessing a horrible tragedy, other items on the programme. The blame for the daily risk to life in a hundred forms, under the guise of amusements, rests not with the public, but with those who are slaves to the idea that above all else they must have an act that will chill the blood of the crowd and keep the spectators in momentary dread of disaster. The public has a right to expect amusement managers to give what it wants, instead of attempting to saddle it with the responsibility for accidents in performances that have no legitimate place in twentieth-century civilisation.