

The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine

PERSEVERE
AND
SUCCEED

ESTABLISHED
1866

REGISTERED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE COPYRIGHT ACT OF 1875

LV.

LONDON, ONTARIO, SEPTEMBER 23, 1920.

1461

EDITORIAL.

A generation of younger men are breaking into the show-ring game, and they are acquiring themselves well.

Silo filling is at hand. Remember that the silo is no place for the slacker. Corn must be thoroughly tramped, especially around the sides, if there is to be a minimum of waste.

There may be certain features of the fair which attract urban dwellers more than do farm products, but agriculture, after all, is the foundation upon which any exhibition, large or small, is built.

Breeding classes of heavy horses were not as strong as they should be at the fairs this fall. There is a splendid opportunity now to rejuvenate the horse business and put it on the proper basis of quality and substance.

It was a sorry day in many districts when the cheese factory or creamery was disposed of. These valuable community institutions should be retained for, even if they are not in use, they have a good influence on the price of milk.

Can the present price of sugar in Canada be justified? It would seem not, and all the time the fruit industry is suffering because people refrain from canning fruit with sugar at the present price. Oh, that a Daniel should pass judgment!

Our educational institutions of an agricultural nature must hasten to keep abreast of the times in regard to farm machinery. It will profit a student very little if he knows all the science regarding soils but cannot operate tractors and other farm implements that have become so common. This is a machine age, and farmers must be tolerably good mechanics to work a farm reasonably well.

Last year the National Dairy Council saved shippers of milk \$240,000 by demonstrating to the Board of Railway Commissioners that, in the interest of all, milk should be carried at the old rate. Although the Railway Commission has again allowed very substantial increases in both freight and passenger rates, the National Dairy Council was successful in obtaining a continuance of the old rate on milk being shipped in baggage cars. The National Dairy Council is vindicating itself and is worthy the support of diarmen generally.

A large milk-products company, operating in Western Ontario, with factories at Brownsville, Belmont, Burford, Hickson and Glanworth, announce that they have "manufactured stocks on hand sufficient for several months, for which there is no immediate market." Contracts have been annulled, and they consent to manufacture patrons' milk into butter, deducting five cents per pound of butter as a making charge, and also charging against the patron the cost of hauling from receiving points to their central plants. Patrons are placed in a very unfavorable position under this arrangement. Furthermore, they are now as busy as during any time of the year, they are not equipped for butter-making at home, and unfortunately cheese factories and creameries have been abandoned by producers and largely absorbed by this company in the districts where they operate. It is very unfortunate indeed that such an eventuality should arise at this time, but patrons are thrown back upon their own resources and will have to organize some method of disposing of their milk profitably. Already milch cows have gone to the butchers. The situation now existing will be a severe blow to the dairy industry in the districts mentioned.

A New Class of Exhibitors.

During the last year various government institutions have invaded the show-ring in Eastern Canada and brought the question into prominence whether government institutions should enter into competition with breeders and private individuals. Considerable can be said for and against such a practice. It has advantages and it has disadvantages. Some breeders and exhibitors, while not openly hostile, are not too well pleased with the innovation, while others welcome the agricultural colleges, schools and experimental farms to the showing fraternity. So far, good rather than harm has been done, but a future policy should be agreed upon in order that breeders and exhibitors may know what to expect in the way of competition and from what source it is coming.

The Dominion Experimental Farms System is making steady improvement in the quality of breeding stock maintained, while the provincial institutions, such as the Ontario Agricultural College, or, on a smaller scale, the Kemptville Agricultural School, are in a position to make creditable entries in a good many different breeds. The feeling is prevalent in these circles that they are entitled to full recognition and that the best way to obtain it is to come out into open competition with breeders and reveal what they have to the public. On the other hand, breeders can argue that government institutions, whether Dominion or Provincial, are supported out of public funds and a private exhibitor, as an ordinary taxpayer, may be contributing to his own defeat. Up to the present no great hardship has been inflicted upon anyone, but if the practice is right more educational institutions of an agricultural nature should exhibit their live stock, and, with increased entries, private breeders and exhibitors might be squeezed out of the good placings and robbed of the honors for which they would be striving.

It would be a splendid feature of all exhibitions if the institutions dedicated primarily to the good of agriculture would come forward with the best from their herds and flocks, but we are convinced that they should compete among themselves and leave the regular classes to breeders and private exhibitors. It has been suggested that this method should prevail up to the championship, which should be open to all and sundry in order that the best animal might win that signal honor.

So long as the public institutions continue to show in open classes it would be better, we believe, if they would limit their entries to animals of their own breeding, except in the case of herd or flock sires. This would leave little ground for complaint and place everyone on practically the same level in show-ring contests.

Toronto Milk Price Investigation.

For the second time the price of winter milk to be supplied to citizens of Toronto has been made the subject of public investigation by the Board of Commerce. In 1919, producers asked for a price of \$3.35 per can, and after a thorough investigation a compromised price was agreed upon by the Board, which remained in effect until May 1, 1920. The producers then secured an average summer price of \$2.60 for the months of May, June, July and August. It was not as high a price as the producers felt they should have received, but it was accepted on the understanding that they were to receive a winter price for an extra month, beginning September 1. Accordingly, \$3.25 per can of 82½ pounds delivered was agreed upon to take effect September 1 and continue throughout the winter. The Board of Commerce, however, issued one of those well-known restraining orders and called for an investigation in Toronto, on September 9. The first order of the Board was modified, pending the investigation, so that the price of \$3.25 per can is still in effect at time of writing, notwithstanding the two-day investigation

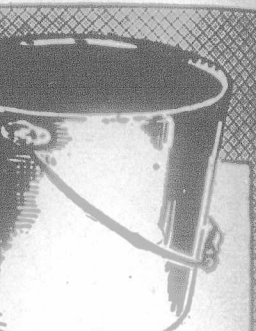
with severe cross-examinations, a great array of counsel and much legal argument.

Unfortunately, the real issue was not given due promise at the investigation, namely, the question of a fair price to the producers of milk. Counsel for the Board of Commerce and for the City of Toronto endeavored to make much of the inefficiency of diarmen generally, and to establish that the Ontario Milk Commission's report was inaccurate and biased. Major Duncan, counsel for the Board of Commerce, assumed a prejudicial attitude, and in true legal manner, perhaps, arrogantly attempted to discount the accuracy and the reliability of evidence submitted by the producers. The producers had testified as to the difficulties connected with dairying, as well as to the cost of production, yet opposing counsel endeavored to question this practical evidence and figures bearing the stamp of both the Provincial and Dominion Governments. The Board of Commerce, as a court, were of course anxious to get at all the facts, but we believe they would accomplish their purpose far better with a smaller array of counsel, and a better feeling on the part of all throughout the investigation. Producers are not criminals to be tried before the bar of justice; they are producing a commodity which urban dwellers require, and consumers set up certain standards which must be complied with as regards sanitation, cleanliness, etc. Those who produce such a vital commodity as milk are entitled to a fair price, and anything short of justice and equity in this regard will simply discourage production and inflict increased hardships on the consuming class. Farmers are not anxious to burden any other class, but they do not want the burdens of other people passed on to them. After sitting through the investigation we are convinced that the Board of Commerce could have met a representative of the producers, a representative of the distributors, a representative of the city and agreed upon a fair price inside of two hours.

The Egg and Poultry Trade.

Of no mean importance in Canadian trade is the trade in eggs. Among agricultural products it has abundant possibilities of enlargement, and as an export product there are already indications that if we continue in the future as in the past, particularly the last two or three years, to send overseas eggs of high quality and strictly graded, we can expand our market there, almost at will. Canadian agriculture has indeed made rapid strides forward in the handling of eggs during the last couple of years, and a full measure of credit in the progress that has been achieved should be freely given to the Poultry Division of the Live Stock Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, and particularly, perhaps, to the Chief of the Division, W. A. Brown. Mr. Brown is intensely interested in his work, and is devoting every effort to placing Canadian eggs and poultry products on such a level that they will be marketed on a quality basis. British importers have acquired a liking for the Canadian product that is really surprising in view of the fact that it is not very long since our grading standards were much below their present high level. Their attitude is, to some extent, shown by the following market statement from the Department at Ottawa: "It is thought the reason for the improved demand is that Irish arrivals have been affected seriously by disturbed internal conditions. Canadian eggs under the grading and inspection regulations compare very favorably with Irish. There is very little export movement of United States eggs. British buyers who have been here say they do not want United States eggs. They want Canadians, as they can rely on the quality of Canadians for their best trade."

There is also added encouragement to be taken with regard to the egg trade from the fact that the co-operative



EDDY Pail

of indurated fibreware—
wood pulp—moulded—
baked under terrific heat
is an all-one-piece-pail of
hardness—strong as steel
than wood.

At time you need a milk
household pail—or a butter
ask your dealer for one of

no corners or crevices,
or joints—cannot spring
become dented.

EDDY'S INDURATED BREWWARE

EDDY Co. Limited, Hal., Can.
of Eddy's famous Matches and
Toilet Paper.

THE NEW LAVAL SEPARATORS

as by themselves
re as much super-
er separators as
separators are to
setting systems.

Laval Company, Ltd.
Peterboro Winnipeg
Montreal Vancouver

LOWAY 12 H.P. friction pulley



Burns
Gasoline
or
Kerosene

for power and efficiency,
and long stroke. Economy
Perfect oiling. Very econ-
omical consumption. Write for
ours. Prompt delivery.

Loway Co. of Canada, Ltd.
WINNIPEG

WINDOWS & DOORS

SIZES to suit your
openings. Fitted
with glass. Safe de-
livery guaranteed.
Write for Price List
(E). Cut down fuel
bills. Insure winter
comfort.

DAY COMPANY, Limited
FACTORY DISTRIBUTORS CANADA

Trade Marks and Designs
Procured in all Countries.
Invention given to patent litigation.
sent free on application.

OUT & MAYBEE
Toronto, Ontario

LICITORS—Fetherstonhaugh
old-established firm. Patents
Head Office: Royal Bank
Toronto. Ottawa Office: 5
Offices throughout Canada.

earn a lot of money by
new Subscribers to the
Advocate and Home
Write for instructions.