

In June and July they actually made and sold 10,000 lbs.

You can judge from these almost incredible figures of the size of the business, and when you examine the money paid the patrons you can understand the success of the management. For June, July, August, September and October, the months for which I have the whole figures, the patrons received an average of 81½ cents per hundred pounds of milk and these are the months in which milk is cheapest. (1) However, I must not forget to say that all this milk is bought by test and paid for according to the amount of butter fat found in it by the Babcock Tester. The arrangement is this. First, there are 44 outlying separator stations where the cream is taken from the milk. The cream is then sent to St. Alban's creamery by team or railroad. Then it is set, ripened, churned and made up into butter. To value the milk of each patron four times a week a sample of the milk is taken as it is brought to the outlying station. These are put altogether into a gem jar, one for each patron being kept with a brass label tag on it, a little corrosive sublimate has been put in the jar before which keeps the milk sweet and does not interfere with the test. Once a week the operator sends a box of these jars to the central creamery, when the chemist tests it by the Babcock tester, records its value and credits that week's milk with that value or percentage of fat. Then the number of pounds that patron delivers is multiplied by the fat percentage to find how much fat or butter there was in his milk, and he is paid accordingly. This is some trouble and expense, but the result is, first, each patron is paid according to what he really delivers and consequently is encouraged to improve his cows, feed them better and care for them better; second, there is no bother with watering or skimming milk as if any patron thinks he can keep up his weight of milk by aid of the pump when his cows are short of feed, the test simply shows that the quality is not there even if the quantity is, and he fails of his object; or if a patron chooses to take a cupful of cream for his morning coffee off the night's milk it does not matter, as the tester just docks the butter value of his milk so much, and he is not able to force his fellow patrons to share the loss of so much butter with him. This system is a great educator for the patrons, it induces them to study how to bring as good milk as possible instead of, as now here as well as in Vermont, as poor milk as possible, and it helps them very much to restrain and overcome the temptations which beset the weak brethren who think they can make a little without it being known. This concern also uses the Tester to check the skim-milk and show how well or how carelessly their operators in the outlying factories run the separators. Knowing how much butter-fat there is in the milk brought to each out-station, they know how much butter they ought to have in the cream from that station, and by testing the skim-milk they know how much fat is lost in each station. In fact the Tester is a regular policeman, and it behoves all honest and good farmers to agitate for its introduction here as the first reform in our dairy methods. It is as good in cheese factories as in creameries.

Again my letter has drawn out. I hope these facts will elicit some discussion, and if any of your readers wish for further information let them address me through your columns: I shall be glad to answer.

Yours truly,

S. A. FISHER

Registered bulls, rams and boars.

The following correspondence will be of great interest to all agricultural societies.

(1) Montreal retailers charge at the rate of \$3.20 per 100 lbs. No wonder they get rich!!!
A. R. J. F.

"At a meeting of the Directors of our society, it was unanimously decided that we should hold a competition of "the best cultivated farms" this year, as well as an exhibition of stock, &c. As we observe in the rules of the Council of Agriculture that prizes can only be adjudged to thoroughbred stock, especially as regards males. I have been requested to write to the Department to enquire if we may not assign prizes to half-bred bulls, rams and boars. All the directors unite in saying that if the prizes in question are withdrawn, many people will refuse to show and will not even subscribe to the funds of the society. I, individually, approve of the principle in itself, but there are so few in this county who possess pure bred stock that, if we are obliged to adhere strictly to this rule, the exhibitions will be pretty poor for the next few years. Another thing will come to pass, that is, that people will say that the directors are working in their own interest in only giving prizes to thoroughbred stock. If the rules of the Council be not altered in accordance with these our views, there will not be a single pig exhibited, and very few sheep, but, *en revanche*, there will be a few head of cattle, Ayrshires, and Jersey-Canadians.

Will you kindly see the authorities and reply to this at once, in order that we may finish our programme and make our report between this and the 1st of February."

Quebec, January 22nd, 1892.

Sir.—In reply to yours of 10th January, which has been referred to me, I have the honour to inform you that your society is only bound to offer prizes for thoroughbred stock as regards bulls, rams and boars. The article 81 of the rules of the Council will come into force this year. You will observe that, in future, it is forbidden to offer prizes in these three classes for non-registered animals.

I beg to draw your attention to the fact that it is at present easy to obtain in the province, at reasonable prices, male breeding stock, especially of the Jersey, Jersey-Canadian, Canadian and Ayrshire breeds, as well as of the different most approved breeds of pigs and sheep. You, better than most people, know how necessary it is to use none but perfectly pure bred males, if we wish to rear nothing but the best stock. This rule is perfectly in accordance with the best interests of the members of the agricultural societies. It is, then, most important to encourage your members to provide themselves with registered male breeding-stock, and the Council will favour to its utmost power all the rules you may establish for that purpose.

ED. A. BARNARD.

Exercise for young Cows.

Please notice what that experienced Canadian dairyman, Ed. A. Barnard, says elsewhere on "Exercise for young cows, etc." The article originally appeared in the French language, in the *Quebec Journal of Agriculture*, and Mr. Barnard has kindly given it to our readers in translation. There are few men in America who have more good and original ideas in their heads than our good friend Barnard. He will have something to say to us soon about farm buildings, and an illustrated description of an unpatented "horse-shoe truss" roof for barns, which leaves the whole interior space under the roof free from obstructions of beams, or other impediments, to a rapid handling of hay and grain.

Vermont Watchman.

Is bedding indispensable?

On the bedding question, we believe that Mr. Barnard is substantially right. We find that in the extensive dairy of