



Palace Road Cheese Factory. 145 patrons, 363,700 lbs. of cheese made in 1903. W. F. Gerrow, Prop.

The Outlook for Dairying

By J. A. RUDNICK, Dominion Dairy Commissioner

The manufacturing season of 1905 opens up with an exceptionally good outlook at the market end of the dairy business. Old stocks of butter and cheese appear to be well cleaned up. This is especially true of butter, of which there has been more or less shortage over the whole continent of America during the past two months.

FOREIGN BUTTER IN CANADA

In this connection the improvements in transportation facilities have been well illustrated by the recent arrival in Montreal, via London and Liverpool, of a considerable quantity of butter from New Zealand and Australia. The writer had the privilege of examining several lots of this butter during the month of March, and is bound to say that most of it was in first-class condition, although it was manufactured during the month of December and had been practically all the time since then on its long voyage of more than half the distance round the world. Several consignments of butter have also been received at Vancouver from New Zealand direct, by the Canadian-Australian S.S. line. This butter has given very good satisfaction. Of course no one expects to see a permanent trade in butter between Australia or New Zealand and Canada. The freight and duty amount to about 7 cents a pound. It is only during such an abnormal condition of the market as we have had during the past winter that it would be possible to handle this butter at a profit.

During the winter of 1903-04 a large number of grocers and merchants held too much butter and there were some losses made in that connection. Going to the other extreme in 1904-5, there seems to have been very little butter held for speculative purposes, and the winter make of butter was scarcely sufficient to supply the demand.

HOME BUTTER MARKET INCREASING

The large increase in our population means a very great increase in the consumption of butter, and our home market is expanding very rapidly. This is particularly noticeable in Manitoba and the Northwest Territories. In 1902 and 1903 the butter produced in Manitoba and the Territories exceeded the demands of the western markets, including those of British Columbia. In 1903 a carload of butter manufactured in the Government creameries in the Northwest Territories was exported to Australia and five carloads were shipped to England. During the past season a considerable quantity of butter has been shipped from the eastern provinces to

supplement the local supply in these western markets.

The shipments of butter and cheese to the West Indies are increasing and all the indications point to considerable growth in that trade. The business is largely done by firms in the Maritime Provinces, who, being in direct com-



Bruckville Cool Curing Station. Note evenness of cheese on shelves.

munication with West Indian trade in other lines, are best able to handle it to advantage.

HONEST DAIRYING BEARING FRUIT

Canadian dairymen are reaping the advantage which is theirs on account of the absolute purity of all their pro-

ducts. The confidence born of the knowledge of our laws and conditions is helping to sell our cheese and butter in competition with what comes from other countries, where these things have not received the same wise and careful attention of the law makers. It is a great thing to be able to say that Canadian cheese and butter are above suspicion in this respect.

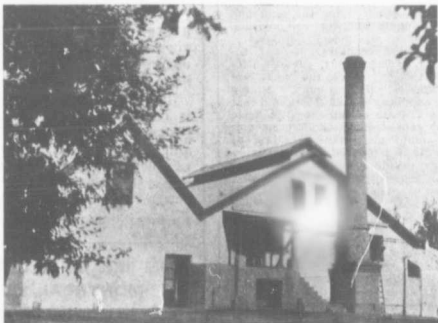
INCREASED COST OF MAKING

The actual cost of manufacturing butter and cheese has increased considerably during recent years, and one very important item, that of labor, is likely to increase still more. It would advance the business if patrons of the factories were to realize that it would be in their interest to pay slightly more for manufacturing. In order to keep pace with the advancement in the arts of cheese and butter making, better equipment and better buildings are required, and it seems to be inevitable that the price for manufacturing must be slightly increased. It would certainly pay the patrons of factories to give a little more for having their cheese and butter manufactured and then demand better service in return.

IMPROVE THE COW

A considerable amount of interest is being shown in the matter of testing individual cows, and this work is likely to have a very marked influence on the productiveness of dairy herds in Canada. It is estimated that the average yield of milk per cow in Canada is not over 3,000 pounds annually. I have had an opportunity of examining records of over 150,000 cows tested in Denmark during 1904, and as near as I can make out, the average yield per cow is between six and seven thousand pounds per year. The Danes have followed up this work of testing individual cows for several years, and they have proved that while they have increased the productiveness of their herds, they are able to produce the larger quantity of milk as cheaply and in some cases more cheaply than before the improvement in yield was effected.

On the whole, I think the outlook was never better for Canadian dairying than it is at the present moment. Cheese factory and creamery managers should, however, bear in mind that we are beginning the season with very high prices. These prices will in all probability sag considerably as the season advances. It is during a falling market that we hear most complaints about quality. There is very little complaint concerning quality, no matter what it may be, as long as the dealer is making money on his transactions.



A Butter Factory in the Argentine.