

# FARM AND DAIRY AND RURAL HOME

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**1. FARM AND DAIRY** is published every Thursday. It is the official organ of the British Columbia, Ontario, Eastern and Western Ontario, and Bedford District, Quebec, Dairymen's Associations, and of the Canadian Holstein breeders, Jersey and Jersey Cattle Breeders' Associations.

**2. SUBSCRIPTION RATES.** \$1.00 a year, strictly in advance. Great Britain, \$2.00. For all countries, except Canada and Great Britain, add 50c for postage. A year's subscription free for a club of two new subscribers.

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**6. WE INVITE FARMERS** to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles.

## CIRCULAR STATEMENT

The paid subscriptions to Farm and Dairy exceed \$300. The actual circulation of each issue, including copies of the paper sent subscribers who are but slightly in arrears, and sample copies, varies from 1,000 to 1,500. As stated, subscriptions are accepted at less than the full subscription rates. Thus our mailing lists do not contain the names of all our subscribers.

Sworn detailed statements of the circulation of the paper are filed with the post office by counties and provinces, will be mailed free on request.

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We want the readers of Farm and Dairy to feel that they can deal with our advertisers with the assurance of our advertisers' reliability. We try to admit to our columns only the most reliable advertisers. Should any advertiser have cause to be dissatisfied with the treatment he receives from any of our advertisers, we will investigate the circumstances fully. Should we find reason to believe that any of our advertisers is dishonest, even in the slightest degree we will discontinue immediately the publication of their advertisements. Should the circumstances warrant, we will expose them through the columns of the paper. Thus we will not only protect our readers, but our reputable advertisers as well. In order to be entitled to the benefits of our Protective Policy, you need only to include in all letters to advertisers the words "I am your advertisement in Farm and Dairy."

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## FARM AND DAIRY PETERBORO, ONT.

### EXPRESS RATES ON BUTTER

Comlines among factories manufacturing the same line of goods are regarded with favorable eyes by economists because that, by concentrating their forces, manufacturers are able to cut down expenses and manufacture more cheaply. It is generally admitted that small factories are at a decided disadvantage in competing with larger ones, other conditions being equal. Creamerymen find it hard to understand why this rule, which applies with such force to all other lines of human endeavor, does not apply to the setting of express rates as well.

Elsewhere in this issue Mr. Wm. Newman, of Victoria Co., Ont., tells how his express rates increased in 1908 by 20 per cent. and again in 1911 by 20 per cent., or a total increase in express rates for the eight years that he has been in business, of 40 per cent. At the same time the business that he has given express

companies has increased by 500 per cent.

Mr. Newman's experience with express companies is not the exception; it is the rule. At almost every point where butter is made the amount shipped has greatly increased in the last few years. And the advance in express rates has been general. The expenses of operating express companies surely have not increased sufficiently to make the advances reasonable even did the quantity shipped remain stationary. When we take into consideration the great increase in butter shipments from all points in the province, we would naturally expect a reduction rather than an increase in express rates.

These increases in rates are not due to operating expenses on the part of express companies, rather are they in line with their well-known policy of bleeding their patrons to the last cent that their patrons' business will stand.

During recent years the capacity of the express companies has been somewhat checked by the Dominion Railway Commission that has endeavored to put express rates on a more reasonable basis. Through the instrumentality of Farm and Dairy there is now a recommendation before the Board that the last increase in rates of 20 per cent. (the return charge on empties) be done away with. There is a responsibility on the executive of the Dairymen's Associations in Eastern and Western Ontario to make it their business to see that proper representations be made to the Board, which will lead to the adoption of this recommendation.

### ABOUT JUDGING FARMS

While Mr. Simpson Rennie elsewhere in Farm and Dairy this week has enumerated and enlarged upon the various points looked for by judges when they are scoring a competing farm in a prize farms competition, we would be sadly misled were we to suppose that any one farm meets the requirements looked for in all particulars. It is a noteworthy fact that farms strong in one particular are weak in others and farms apparently strong in all departments have many loopholes apparent to the eye of the trained judge. Fine large barns and large houses, while they are in a sense an advantage provided they are in keeping with the requirements of the farm, are not the great deciding factors in causing any one farm to win out over another. Note this in the scale of points as commented on by Mr. Rennie. It is surprising often to find how much better some farms will score than the casual observer would estimate from first appearance.

When considering the matter of taking part in a farms competition, one must remember that even if his farm falls short of being his ideal, the other fellow's farm, in all probability, falls equally short, probably in some other particulars, in the eye of the judge, if not to its proprietor.

There were many farmers surprised at the splendid stand their farms were able to take in the last dairy

farms competition. There will be more surprises this year in connection with the International Dairy Farms Prize Competition. There is little to lose and most everything to gain from being a competitor in the contest. So enter your farm and enter it soon while you may before the date of entry closes.

### POWER OF INDEPENDENT FARMERS

The farmers of the United States have great power, as they are organized a million strong in their National Grange. We are beginning to find the power of our own farmers' organizations, as we have had it demonstrated through the National Council of Agriculture with its monster deputation of farmers that gathered in Ottawa last December and laid their demands before the Government. The future is pregnant with still greater things to accomplish.

A year ago, it appeared that Farmers' Clubs were to have a brilliant future and do a great work in Ontario. Many of them have succeeded splendidly. A number of them, however, have found it exceedingly difficult to maintain the interest. Some have disbanded. Others who wanted to discuss the all-important tariff question have found that they are not free to bring up such matters in Farmers' Club meetings. They now realize the need for some organization in which they can discuss public questions that are of great importance to them. The remodelled Grange, as we have it in Ontario, gives all the educational advantages of the Farmers' Club, and furthermore provides for social and influential work as well. That is why the Grange is becoming increasingly popular.

One thing has been made clear. That is that our farmers are in need of organization independent of all Government assistance and influence. It is most gratifying that so many farmers have given evidence of appreciating the situation, and are taking step to connect with the Grange, under the auspices of which their voices will be most effectively heard by the powers that be.

### A HAPPY DAY COMING

It will be a happy day for Ontario, and for many of the other provinces as well, when alfalfa is generally and liberally grown by our farmers. The claims made for alfalfa seem almost too good to be true. But farmers who have grown the crop are satisfied; they are even enthusiastic about it. Were alfalfa only half as profitable as it is claimed to be—yes, even one quarter as profitable—it would still give returns exceeding what we now get from many crops we grow.

The adaptability of alfalfa to our soils is a certainty. We can grow the crop. A goodly number in almost every section of the province have grown it successfully, and not one alfalfa grower has yet been found that is satisfied that alfalfa is a money maker. While last winter was unduly severe upon alfalfa, and other clovers, fall wheat, and even grass,

too, our alfalfa-growing farmers report that they are in no wise discouraged and have seeded liberal acreages to the crop again this spring. Several farmers have written Farm and Dairy that they will sow some alfalfa yet this season, sowing it without a nurse crop. In passing, our readers are again reminded that there is yet plenty of time to sow alfalfa, if it be sown alone, as has been recommended in recent issues of Farm and Dairy.

We all ought to grow the alfalfa crop, and when it is generally grown, then, as Mr. Jos. E. Wing has said of Pennsylvania, will our fields be covered with healthy regardless of sheep, or floods or drought; the meat and pigs will be fat and content; the villages, even, will feel the influence of the alfalfa plant, for labor will be in greater demand; land values will advance; the boys will stay on the farms, where they will be needed, and new evidence of prosperity will be seen on every hand.

Everything is now in favor of cured cheese, the Glasgow importer notwithstanding. The superiority of the cool cured cheese over

### Cool Cured cheese cooled in an ordinary curing room

has been established beyond peradventure. The question is beyond argument. Cool curing is not an experiment. That it is a benefit is an established fact, and it is acknowledged by all of our leading dairy authorities that cool cured cheese is the supreme product.

United States farmers, through their organization, the National Grange, have thoroughly discredited the old belief that far-

mers can not and will not make themselves felt in matters of national importance. Reports from Washington, as noted in Farm and Dairy last week, show how well the farmers in the United States are organized. In their fight against reciprocity their representatives are stationed at Washington, and they have retained highly paid legal advisers to direct their movements. The manufacturers organized though they are, have not been able to put up the same strong united front as have the farmers, and they are falling in behind rather than ahead of the farmers' organization in their efforts to prevent the reciprocity pact becoming ratified.

"Birds of a feather flock together." Look through the advertising columns of this journal and see the fine plumage. Then glance at a cheap publication that does not

boast a feather for the reliability of its advertisers and see birds of other colors. The hues are as numerous as the shades of the rainbow, and about as definite when it comes to placing your fingers on them. By Farm and Dairy's Protective Policy as published on this editorial page every week, we ensure to our readers the reliability of our advertisers.