

The Makers' Corner

Butter and Cheese Makers are invited to send contributions to this department, to ask questions on matters relating to cheese making, and to suggest subjects for discussion.

The Dividend Question

Jas. Sorenson, in the Dairy Record.

WHEN all patrons of a cooperative creamery are also stockholders of the creamery, it is not very difficult to settle the dividend question, but in many creameries there are some non-producers who own stock and these do not object to a good dividend, as the other fellow has to pay it. The best way of settling the dividend question is to decide right from the start that no dividend shall be paid, and simply pay a fair rate of interest to all who have money invested in the creamery. This is absolutely fair, both to the stockholder and non-stockholder, and a man has no kick coming if he receives fair interest on his investment, and the patron owning no stock could not raise a valid objection to this either.

For the benefit of those who still believe in a big dividend, we might cite the case of a cooperative creamery which came under our immediate observation. This creamery had close to one hundred patrons and about half of the patrons were stockholders in the creamery. The stockholders were all patrons with few exceptions, which gave them the full benefit of the creamery as a market for their cream, but they also had full control of the affairs of the association, and when it was time to decide on the amount of dividend that should be paid, the temptation was too much for them, and this creamery paid from fifteen to fifty per cent. dividend for several years. Another had feature was that it was decided that no more stock should be sold because this would cut down the full annual dividend.

The trouble with this system of graft was, however, that it wouldn't stand the test of time, and the patrons who were not stockholders got wise to the fact that their own neighbors were robbing them of some real good money, and these non-stockholders finally served notice on the stockholders that the high dividend must stop or there would be another creamery in town. The final result was that the dividend was cut out altogether and only fair interest was paid on the stock. It was also decided to sell stock to anybody who had cream to sell, and true cooperation triumphed to the benefit of everybody in the community.

Milk Can Regulations

INFORMATION regarding the new Dominion law relating to the stamping of milk and cream cans, was requested by Mr. Mac, Robertson of the Belleville Creamery at the recent Eastern Dairymen's Convention. Mr. Robertson had recently purchased some new cans and had to pay \$10 extra because they were stamped according to government regulations. Formerly, creamery men could buy eight or ten gallon cans without their being stamped to indicate capacity. Although creameries have to pay for the inspection of the cans they use, the new regulation is of no value to them because they pay for their cream by weight. As very little information seemed to be forthcoming at the convention, Farm and Dairy communicated with the Weights and Measures Branch of the Department of Inland Revenue at

Ottawa. The reply received from E. O. War, Chief of the Branch, is as follows:

"For the starting point of this regulation, I must refer you to Sect. 71 of the W. & M. Act assented to in the House, 1908. The Department latterly became aware that large numbers of American cans were coming into Canada, containing 33.1-3 lbs., yet these were everywhere regarded and used as eight-gallon cans.

"This raises a very important consideration. If payment is made by weight by dumping the milk—why the universal equivalent of 80 1/4 lbs. per eight-gallon can? Obviously the can is still a measure — an eight-gallon measure, to be filled by the producer, otherwise payment, with decimal coinage, would logically be made on the 100-lb. basis. But the can is the intermediary of trade, hence its equivalent in weight is given. The producer fills his cans to the neck, over or sent to him, and looks for payment for eight gallons or 80 1/4 lbs. If he has filled 33.1-3 quart cans—quite undistinguishable from the 32 quart can, except under weight — what chance has he, if any, of receiving payment for the extra quarts? In fact the very existence of the 33.1-3 quart can indicated the need of inspection. Enclosed please find copy of Circular G 1187 on this subject. An official amending circular will likely be issued in a short time, making the violation as follows:

(1) All dairy cans of the railroad type must be inspected and stamped before going into use as to accuracy of contents.

(2) Where such cans are used as 'carriers,' the milk and cream being bought and paid for by weight, no further inspection will apply, other than to see that such cans are not being used as 'measures.'

(3) Where such cans are used as measures of capacity—of which there are large numbers—periodical re-inspection will apply.

"Now if cream cans are exempt from subsequent inspection, why inspect at all? Because the same type and size of can is used indiscriminately for both milk and cream, and if the cream can was exempt, unstamped cans would get into use for milk — with resulting prosecutions. The one inspection for such is no great hardship, and it will entirely prevent such doubtful cans as the present 33.1-3 quart can getting into use.

"If cans used as 'carriers' became 'dented' it is of no great consequence as payment is made by weight. In such cases, if the can used as a 'measure' was 'dented' to make its capacity 'short,' the offender, owner or user is liable to no prosecution therefor, inspection and discovery of such measures being liable to be made at any time."

A Sure Cure

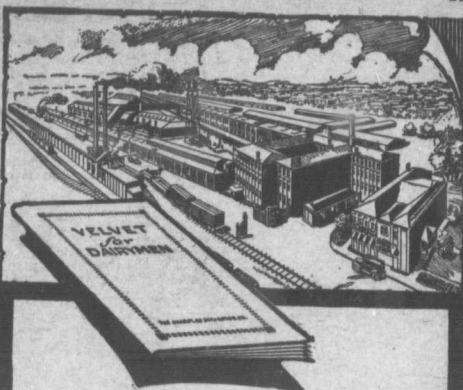
IT is related of a rural editor that he received this question from one of his readers:—

"What is the matter with my hens? Every morning I find one of them laid out stiff and cold on the hen-house floor."

Next day this answer duly appeared in the query column:—

"Your fowls are suffering from death. It is an old complaint. The only treatment that we can prescribe is burial."

A city milk dealer in Montreal was getting about the worst milk of any retailer in that city. He adopted the sediment test and the discs were sent back to the producers with a few remarks. In five months this man was getting the best milk in Montreal.—Geo. H. Barr, Chief of the Dairy Division, Ottawa.



More Dairy Dollars

We have found a way to bring you more dollars without increased expense. We call this new profit 'velvet,' because it comes so easily. Our new book, 'Velvet for Dairymen' tells all about it.

Your separator is losing cream, no matter what the make. A famous experiment station says, "The use of the gravity can, a low speed of the separator, and an excessive rate of inflow cause heavy loss in butter fat." They have proven that 95% of all farm separators are turned below regulation speed. When the speed slackens, a lot of the cream escapes with the skim milk—and with the cream goes the profit.

The annual loss from imperfect separation is \$47 on the average farm and upon many farms it is \$100 and more. That's the tax you pay because you can't turn your separator at just the right speed all the time. But with

THE NEW SHARPLES SUCTION FEED

Separator you get all the cream at any speed.

A wonderfully simple invention enables the bowl to drink in just the right quantity of milk to insure the closest possible skimming. You may turn slow and make the work easy or you may turn fast and get through quicker. You simply won't lose cream with the 'Suction Feed.'

You get smooth cream of an even grade whatever the speed of the separator. Uniform cream makes fancy butter that brings top prices.

The supply can is only kneigh. There's no hard lifting to empty heavy milk cans.

The new machine has all the features that have made the Sharple's Tubular famous and many other new vital and exclusive features found in no other separator.

Send now for our new book, "Velvet for Dairymen," and learn how to secure this new dairy profit. Address Dept 77

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