

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE & HOME MAGAZINE

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THE DOMINION.

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A Word with Agents.

We have been advised that some persons claim to have been offered the FARMER'S ADVOCATE at a less rate than \$1 per year. We therefore desire to state that no agent or other person has been authorized by us to do so, and that no subscriptions can be accepted at less than \$1 per year. In other words, we adhere strictly to our regular announcement, as published in each issue of the paper.

Attention is specially directed to the attractive premium announcement on another page.

Cheese Branding.

Mr. McLennan, M. P., has reintroduced his Bill at the present session of the House of Commons, which requires the word "Canada," the day and month of manufacture, the registered number of the factory, and the initial letter or letters of the Province in which the factory is situated, to be stamped or branded, both upon the cheese and the box, in letters not less than three-eighths of an inch high and one-quarter of an inch wide. The proposed Act also requires every cheese manufacturer to take out a certificate of registration from the Dairy Commissioner at Ottawa.

One original intent of this Bill, when the agitation sprang up last year, was to prevent cheese of one month, say in early summer, being sold by dealers as of September make, but the main advantage is to secure to Canada the splendid reputation of its cheese, by preventing any such "filled-cheese" (a U. S. product) slander as was circulated last season in the Old Country. With this feature of the Bill we are in hearty sympathy, but seriously question the wisdom of the registration clause, which will certainly be regarded with indifference, if not positive disfavor, on the part of many factorymen. Similar objections would be raised to branding either the name of the factory or a registered number upon the cheese, though, if factories saw fit to specially designate their make, that can be left optional. The word "Canada" should be a sufficient stimulus and safeguard to makers.

The recent Dairymen's Convention at Woodstock, probably the largest ever gathered in Canada, endorsed branding upon the cheese the date, month, and "Canada," but disapproved of the registered number. We are favorably impressed with the idea of putting on the initials of the Province, as indicated in Mr. McLennan's Bill.

The Ontario Creameries Association.

The annual convention of the above Association at Cornwall, Ont., on January 14, 15 and 16, was, we regret to note, not very largely attended, owing, doubtless, to its out-of-the-way location. President Derbyshire made the encouraging statement that Canadian creamery butter shipments had doubled last season. He urged a longer butter-making season by co-operative methods. He differed with those who had suggested uniting the Creameries Association with the Dairymen's Association, as he thought a special organization was needed to promote the butter business. Mr. A. A. Wright said the butter men would be the dairy giants of the future, and if any one attempted to put their hand on this organization, they would rise in their might and, in the words of Artemus Ward, exclaim, "Why is this thusly?" In reference to the idea of further promoting better exhibitions, Mr. J. S. Pearce suggested adding experiments and object lessons to show the different qualities of butter. Mr. Croil did not favor concentrating the prize money at one exhibition. Prof. Shutt emphasized the necessity of having wells so located that the water could not be contaminated by soakage of barnyard or house filth. Prof. Brooks, of Amherst, Mass., gave a comprehensive scientific address on the fertility of the farm. Mr. Wright suggested that the Government have an agent in England, not to sell Canadian butter, but to look after it on arrival, and report as to condition, with hints as to coloring, salting, packaging, etc. Addresses were also given by Prof. Robertson; C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture for Ontario; Prof. Fletcher, Prof. Barre, and Prof. Dean. The latter indicated the value of testing cows, by referring to the O. A. C. herd, in which yields varied from over 10,000 pounds each of milk and about 400 pounds of butter in a year to a little over 3,700 pounds of milk and 143 pounds of butter. Mr. D. M. McPherson, M. P. P., spoke on economy in milk production. Mr. Mark Sprague, Inspector and Instructor, reported that during the past year, one cream-gathering and 18 separator creameries had been started. Out of 112 creameries only 9 were yet "pooling" their milk. The ADVOCATE is certainly surprised to learn that there are still to be found creameries so far behind the age as to be "pooling" milk, however cheese factories may cling to that discredited system. Directors were elected as follows:—President, D. Derbyshire, Brockville; First Vice-President, Wm. Halliday, Chesley; Second Vice-President, T. J. Miller, Spencerville. Directors—Division No. 1, J. Croil, Aultsville; Division No. 2, A. Campbell, Ormond; Division No. 3, Chas. Johnson, Athens; Division No. 4, John Sprague, Ameliasburg; Division No. 5, A. A. Wright, Renfrew; Division No. 6, F. L. Green, Toronto; Division No. 7, John S. Pearce, London; Division No. 8, W. G. Walton, Hamilton; Division No. 9, A. Q. Bobier, Exeter; Division No. 10, A. Wenger, Ayton; Division No. 11, Jas. Struthers, Owen Sound; Division No. 12, James Carmichael, Arva; Division No. 13, John Zenkann, Wellesley; R. J. Graham, Chairman.

Mr. Sprague was reappointed Secretary, Instructor and Inspector.

The new Strathroy Dairy School opened on Jan. 21st, with 15 students, and the number increasing daily.

The Western Ontario Dairymen's Convention.

(Continued from page 31.)

The Hon. John Dryden, referring to the work of the Dairy Association, expressed perfect satisfaction in the economical expenditure of the "grant" contributed. He maintained that the present grip upon the English market for our cheese has been the result of education and general co-operation. A continuation of the success of dairying depends upon wisely directed effort upon the part of breeder, feeder, and manufacturer.

Swine Husbandry (by Mr. Theodore Louis, Wisconsin).—Swine raising is closely allied to dairying, because the former makes a profit by consuming the by-products of the latter. To conduct this branch profitably, skill is necessary. One of the first considerations should be comfortable shelter. Mr. Louis condemned the straw pile as a sleeping place, claiming that lame loins and coughs are to a great extent due to bad shelter. When large numbers of hogs are allowed to pile up in straw stacks, as is too frequently the custom in Wisconsin, heavy losses occur by reason of bad health. Comfort to a hog means the same as to any other animal. A house seven by eight feet is best for breeding or feeding hogs. This size will accommodate four in summer or five in winter. A hog house should be on an elevation to insure good drainage. When a large house is built, Mr. Louis recommends a single row of pens, opening to large, dry yards on the south side. The stalls should be seven by eleven feet, and every breeding-pen should be provided with a fender or board, projecting six inches from the wall and eight inches from the floor, to save young pigs from being overlain by their dams. Through the entire length of the pen was recommended a passage five feet wide. This should be right against the north wall. Sufficient trough room should be provided, so that all the pigs can feed comfortably together. The V-shaped trough suits Mr. Louis best. His pig yards, which are seven by twenty feet, are divided by movable hurdles. The pen has a window above each door, and a loft above the stalls to hold bedding. Weigh scales are set so that the platform is level with the floor. When these are wisely used, and an accurate record kept of gains made and food consumed, they become one of the best educators possible in successful feeding. While a hog will, if allowed, consume sixteen pounds or more of skim milk, eight pounds is as much as can be profitably fed at a feed. To 100 pounds of skim milk Mr. Louis would add thirty pounds of corn or barley meal, or of barley and rye, for fattening pigs. Feeding whey alone is not profitable, neither is it wise to keep any food in barrels to become sour before feeding. When one, in dipping from the barrel, has to hold his nose with one hand and the dipper with the other, very much of the value of the food has been lost. Souring develops alcohol and vinegar, neither of which have a good effect in hog feeding. In the last stages of fattening, however, a slight acidity in the food may be an advantage. A 100-pound pig requires two and a half pounds of properly-balanced, digestible food to sustain life for one day. It requires four and a half pounds of a like food to produce a pound of growth; therefore the profit may be all lost by unwise compounding of the ration, or by just feeding enough to sustain life. It is profitable in every case to grind grain. We must feed against temperature, therefore the value of warm pens. Exercise is a consideration of money. Large yards must be used in high feeding, if best results are to be obtained. Mr. Louis claims that hogs root for phosphates, and not for mischief, as is generally supposed. He, therefore, believes it wise to supply a condiment for their consumption to satisfy this craving. To six bushels of charcoal cob he adds six pounds of salt, one bushel of wood ashes, one and a quarter pound of copperas, dissolved. This is thoroughly mixed and placed in a self-feeder, so that the hogs may help themselves at will. The use of this mixture greatly assists digestion and assimilation. The charcoal is prepared by building a pit and commencing a fire in it, then filling it with corn cobs, and when the whole mass becomes aglow the pit is sealed up air-tight and left to cool, when the coal is ready for use. Charcoal made in this way contains all of its carbon, which is not the case when burned in the open air. As hogs near the finishing period their organs become more or less covered with fat, and therefore lose power, which condition increases the desire for this mineral product. They will even eat sandstone, and soil, if the needed elements are not supplied in some other way.

The speaker, in discussing the boiling of grain, considers such a practice useless when carried beyond heating the food up until the starch grains are bursted. The feeding of warm food saves animal heat, therefore saves food.

The brood sow, while nursing, gives as much milk in twenty-four hours as does a cow that gives 3,000 pounds in a year. This has been found, not by milking the sow, but by weighing the litter every twenty-four hours for several days after birth. She must, therefore, have a well-balanced and easily-digested ration. A good ration is made up of two parts shorts, one part corn meal, and a small quantity of oil meal. The oil meal keeps the sow from becoming constipated. The young pigs are taught to eat by throwing to them a few handfuls of oats on the floor occasionally.

In speaking of his hog-pen floor, Mr. Louis expressed a liking for wooden floors, quite level. He

diseased caused physic In dairy tests wide berth thermocurled known chosen, good de for bre suckling twice th not goo Prof address practice keeping humor, sows, ar sods, th which They h all tim proper to feel v The deliver which h so that dollars labor to raise th