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FARMING

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TOPICS FOR THE WEEK

Our Clubbing List.

	Regular price.	With FARMING.
Canadian Magazine	\$2.50	\$2.50
Toronto Weekly Globe	1.00	1.50
Toronto Weekly Mail and Empire	1.00	1.40
Farm and Fireside	1.00	1.40
Montreal Daily Witness	1.00	3.00
Toronto Morning World	3.00	3.00
Montreal Weekly Witness	1.00	1.60
Family Herald and Weekly Star	1.00	1.75
London Weekly Free Press	1.00	1.75
London Weekly Advertiser	1.00	1.40
Ottawa Semi-Weekly Free Press	1.00	1.60
Hoard's Dairyman	1.00	1.75
Rural New Yorker	1.00	1.85

Do Not Make any Cheese Till May 1st.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Butter and Cheese Association of Eastern Ontario, held in Kingston last week, the following recommendation was made regarding the make of cheese for 1898:

"That in view of the fact that a large quantity of cheese of the manufacture of the year 1897 is still in the hands of the dealers and unconsumed, be it therefore resolved, that in the opinion of this board, it will be in the best interests of the dairymen of this Province that no cheese be manufactured before the first day of May, nor after the last day of October during the present year."

The recommendation of this important organization should be adopted by all the dairymen in the Province, and for that matter, in Canada. If the cheese market is to be relieved of the large stock of last year's goods on hand some definite action of this kind on the part of our dairymen is necessary. We cannot hope to go on increasing the make of cheese each year and expect that it will always command a high price. Many of those who understand the trade best believe that we have already reached the maximum in regard to the quantity of cheese we are exporting to England. True, the consumption of Canadian cheese in England is increasing every year, still there is a limit to the capacity of the British consumer in this particular, and we must repeat what we pointed out in last week's issue, that if all the factories would agree not to open till at least May 1st and to close each year at the end of October, the very best interests of our cheese export trade would be served. It would seem to be the height of folly for our dairymen to go on loading up the market at the present time with a lot of early made cheese, especially when such early made fodder stuff is inferior in quality to the later makes. Even if the supply of early fodder goods is not large it always has a depressing effect upon the market, especially when it is

in the over-loaded state it is in at the present time.

As we pointed out last week it will pay the dairyman better to make butter during the early spring and late fall. The prospects for butter just now are good. Fine, fresh creamery butter meets a ready sale at remunerative prices and it will be much more profitable to make butter during the early part of the season and have the skim-milk returned for raising the calves. This whole question is of vital importance just now, and factorymen should arrange for meetings of their patrons at once and decide not to make any cheese till the cows are on the grass.

The Dairy Test at the Brantford Show

Criticised and Defended.

At the special request of one of our patrons we publish the correspondence which appeared in *The Holstein-Friesian Register* recently, relating to the conduct of the dairy test at the Provincial Fat Stock and Dairy Show at Brantford last December. As Mr. Clemons points out, it would have been better if the criticisms regarding the test had been made in some Canadian paper in order that those directly interested might be able, if need be, to defend themselves.

"I believe I owe it to Holstein breeders to give an explanation of the record of the Jersey cow herein mentioned, Fancy of Oakdale. It is a pretty high record for fat and may be quoted now or in the future. I wish to show up a few facts to show how unworthy of credence it is. It may be safely put down with those of Princess and Toltec Fancy, unworthy of belief. Our reporters here are silent (for business reasons), but they are not bats and knowing how this record was made, do not waste any praise on it, a record which if straight, is worthy of all praise.

In the first place this cow was entered as under thirty-six months, her horns were nicely smoothed off, but her owner forgot to knock out her teeth. As she had a full mouth and every appearance of being a cow, it would not go down. She was actually put in as a heifer. The first milking of the test, the scales were out of order and a new pair had to be got, and the test commenced over again. Before the test was tested again, the Jersey man was given to understand his "heifer" would be thrown out, he then acknowledged she was older and put her in the cow class. I am told he added another cow's milk. We know when she was watched the cow gave 16 lbs., the product of eight hours, when not watched 26 lbs. was weighed as the product of eight hours, which shows fraud on the face of it. Fancy a cow making 26 lbs., testing 4.7 per cent. in eight hours. Again this cow was put in as milking over 200 days and was allowed 20 points for that reason. Of course nobody would believe any such thing. Why the testers did not throw her out is a mystery to me. Our cows showed no such variation. Calamity Jane gave second day of test with forty or fifty people looking on, 28½ noon, 28½ night, 28½ morning 85 lbs. in twenty-four hours. She was the sensation of the show and everybody wanted to see "the cow that gave so much." This with dogs running around kept the cow disturbed and she only tested 2.7 per cent. first day, 51½ lbs. milk and 2.9 per cent. second day; tested the week previous, lowest 3.1 per cent. highest 3.8 per cent., average 3.46 per cent. for a week.

We got more total solids and came out ahead by a comfortable margin in spite of 20 points allowed the Jersey and added milk. A mistake was made in figuring up and it was first reported that the Jersey had won. I insisted on having a look at the book and found one cow was only down for 116½ lbs. milk, instead of 166½.

You have now the inside history of this badly managed test. We have surmounted all obstacles and added another victory for the black-and-whites." A. & G. RICE.

Editor Register:

"Subjoined to your report in the February number of the recent Provincial Fat Stock and Dairy Show is a letter from the pen of Mr. Geo. Rice regarding the Jersey cow Fancy of Oakdale, and her performance at said fair. Now, as superintendent of the dairy department of the fair, I desire to take exception to some of Mr. Rice's statements.

In the first place, the cow Fancy of Oakdale, was entered by her owners, Messrs. J. H. Smith & Son, in the proper class, and not as Mr. Rice states, in the class for heifers under thirty-six months. Messrs. Smith also entered two heifers, but did not bring them to the fair, and the entry number properly belonging to one of these heifers was

placed on Fancy of Oakdale. This is how the first milking of this cow happened to be placed to the credit of the two-year-old heifer. When weighing the first milkings it was found that the scales were not exact, and it was decided to drop this milking and start the test afresh. I then went to Mr. Harry Smith and warned him that his cow was in the wrong class, and that other breeders were ready to enter a protest against her on the question of age. Mr. Smith admitted the charge, and thereafter her milk was properly credited. You may be sure that after this I took particular care that this cow should be closely watched at every milking, and I deny emphatically that Mr. Rice has any grounds for his statement that she was not properly watched. We had thirty-four cows and heifers in the test, an unprecedented number, by the way, and it was no easy task to get men out at 5 o'clock in the morning to watch all these milked.

Mr. Rice claims that the fact of this cow giving sixteen lbs. at one milking and twenty-six lbs. at another proves the test to be fraudulent. Now anyone can see that sixteen pounds was considerably below her average milking, and it is accounted for by the fact that the cow was not milked clean that night, so that a phenomenal milking might be shown next morning. This gave Mr. Smith no advantage, and he had a perfect right to do it, if he so desired, although I can not see why he should wish to do so. I agree with Mr. Rice that it was highly improbable that this cow had been in milk for 200 days; but neither Mr. Palmer, the tester, nor myself had any authority to throw her out of the test on that account, if we had desired to do so. If Mr. Rice or any other breeder had any evidence to offer on that point, why was not a formal protest filed with the secretary, and such evidence brought forward to substantiate it? I have yet to find a Fair Board imbecile enough to throw out a cow on the strength of idle gossip.

In justice to Mr. W. J. Palmer, who had charge of the testing, I must say that the trouble with the scales at the beginning of the test, and the consequent postponement, made the time between the end of the test and the close of the fair too short for the proper calculation of all the records made. Mr. Palmer's mother was almost at the point of death at the time, and it is not to be wondered at that, with this trouble weighing upon his mind in addition to the bustle and hurry incident to the desire to get all the tests figured out before the show closed, he and his assistants allowed a clerical error to creep into the figures of Calamity Jane's test. If it had not been for the unfortunate circumstance that Mr. Palmer was called away to his mother's bedside before the mistake was discovered, it would have been rectified at once. In conclusion I may say that in my opinion the officers of the fair did everything possible under the circumstances to make the test a success. Talk is cheap, especially in foreign papers, but why does not Mr. Rice make the same charges in our Canadian papers, so that the parties interested might give him an opportunity to prove his statements? At any rate if he desires to kill the dairy department of the winter show which has done so much to demonstrate the capacity of the Holsteins, he is taking the best possible method to attain his object."

G. W. CLEMONS,
Supt. Dairy Show.

Co-operative Pork Packing.

A new co-operative farmers' industry has sprung into existence during the past few months that is arousing considerable interest in some sections of the country. At Stouffville and Bowmanville co-operative concerns will soon be in operation for packing pork. These factories will be run on a purely co-operative basis and will be owned and operated by the farmers in these districts. They are modelled somewhat after the co-operative cheese factories, the producer, or the man who supplies the hogs, to share in the profits after the expenses of operating are deducted.

At Stouffville every person becoming a shareholder must be a hog producer to the company. Not being a hog producer will debar any person from becoming a shareholder. Each shareholder must deliver at least five hogs for every share he becomes a holder of. Toronto prices will be paid for all the hogs supplied. It is claimed that this will insure the producer one dollar per hog more than he is getting under the present system, as no middle man comes between the farmer and the manufacturer. All shareholders shall be paid six per cent. on all the stock they hold as first lien on profits. After this every person will receive the full profits according to the number of hogs delivered by him up to fifty hogs per share. Any