

Butter-Making Competition

A few weeks ago we drew special attention to the fact that a *butter-making* contest will take place at the Toronto Industrial Fair this fall. This is the first contest of this nature that has ever taken place on this continent and we trust our dairymen and farmers will patronize it liberally, not only by their presence but by competing for the prizes, which are valuable. This is an entirely new venture in this country and upon its success this year will largely depend whether it will be made a prominent feature at the leading dairy exhibitions in this country. Such a contest will certainly prove to be a great educational feature of our shows and if successful could be enlarged to take in cheese-making as well.

Mr. H. J. Hill, Secretary of the Industrial Fair, has issued a special circular to dairymen containing the part of the prize list referring to this competition, from which we take the following :

(Entrance Free.)

SRC.	CLASS 66.	1st.	2nd.	3rd.	4th.
17.	Open to students or ex-students, male or female, of any Dairy School or Agricultural College, or makers in any established Creamery or Butter Factory, in the Dominion of Canada or the United States.....	\$40	\$30	\$20	\$10
18.	Open to butter makers, farmers' wives or daughters or help, male or female, in any Farm Dairy in Canada or the United States.....	40	30	20	10

RULES.—1. Ripened cream will be supplied free of charge, and the butter will be the property of the Association. The amount of cream to be supplied competitors will be decided by the judges.

2. The competitors will be supplied with churns, butter-workers, pails, salt, etc., and will be required each day to leave everything clean and in working order before leaving the Dairy. If any competitors wish to provide utensils for their own use they may do so.

3. Each competitor will be required to make four batches of butter. Competitors in Section 17 will operate in the forenoon; competitors in Section 18 in the afternoon.

5. Competitors will not be allowed to work the butter with their hands.

6. Butter must be made into pound prints and wrapped in parchment paper.

7. In awarding the prizes the following will be considered: Quality and quantity of butter; method of making; cleanliness and care of utensils in finishing each day's work.

8. Satisfactory evidence will be required from competitors that they are eligible to compete in the section in which they are entered.

9. Entries must be made with the secretary of the Industrial Exhibition Association, Toronto, on or before August 5th.

N.B.—A lecturer will be in attendance during the entire time of the competition who will explain details to the public.

Entries positively close August 5th.

Sheep versus Cows

A very interesting discussion has been going on in one or two of our exchanges from the Eastern States as to whether keeping sheep or keeping cows is the more profitable for the farmer. Of course, as is usual in such cases, the discussion has ended without any definite conclusion being reached. Our belief is that it will pay every farmer to keep both sheep and cows. Sheep need comparatively little care, and fit in very well with the work necessary to manage properly a herd of cows. Sheep farming and beef raising also go well together, and whatever line of stock farming the Canadian farmer may engage in we think it will pay him to keep a few sheep.

But, coming back to the discussion in question, some interesting figures were given as to the relative profits in keeping sheep and cows. In the comparisons made ten cows are set off against 100 sheep. We quote one which is that of an enthusiastic sheep raiser, and we would be glad to hear from some of our Canadian farmers as to whether these figures can be borne out on this side the line.

"In my opinion, on many farms which now keep only cows, sheep would be more profitable. They would surely bring an equal return at one-half the labor, and where labor

costs money at much less cost. The average farmer who keeps only cows and sends the product to a creamery finds at the end of the year that he has had to put much costly feed into them, and that a large part of his monthly creamery checks have gone to the grain dealer. Sheep require very little grain if fed the same good hay which one would feed his cows, and they will get much goodness from fodder which a cow would not look at. They require comparatively little care, except during the lambing season, one half-pound of grain per day per sheep for three months is all most sheep need. As near as I can ascertain, a cash account with ten cows and one hundred sheep would be something like this: Value, equal; pasturing, equal; hay consumed, equal; value of manure, nearly equal, as sheep manure is so much richer.

10 Cows.	
2,500 lbs. butter at 20:	\$500
10 calves at \$7.....	70
Skim-milk.....	50
	\$620
Less grain fed.	\$200
	\$420
100 SHEEP.	
90 lambs at \$4.....	\$360
500 lbs. wool at 15c.....	120
	\$480
Less grain fed....	\$40
	\$440

"This shows sheep ahead, and I think the cows are given the advantage, for few herds of ten cows will bring in \$500 for butter, while \$360 worth of lambs from one hundred sheep is not so difficult a job. Some will say 'I get more than that out of my cows.' I don't doubt it. But with the same management you could get more out of one hundred sheep. Many do. It is not uncommon for a fifty-pound lamb to sell in March for \$7 at ten months. One surely cannot get two hundred and fifty pounds of butter per cow without putting into her \$20 worth of grain. If anyone can show that the ten cows are more profitable for the average New England farmer with plenty of pasture who has to hire much help, I should like to see how he does it.

The San Jose Scale Problem

By Wm. Lochhead, Professor of Entomology,
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During the month of April I had unusual facilities for the study of the San Jose scale problem. At the request of the Minister of Agriculture for Ontario I made a trip to Maryland and Washington for the purpose of learning the best methods of fighting the pest by fumigation. In Maryland the orchards were in a very pitiable state, but under the careful inspection of Prof. Johnson a halt has been made to the spread of the scale. No half hearted measures have been adopted, for whole orchards have been uprooted and burned, while no compensation has been allowed the owners of the trees. Prof. Johnson is quite hopeful of the result of his work, but he does not hesitate to assert that were he to relax his efforts for a single season the scale would have control of the orchards of the State.

The fruit-growers of Ontario, who are viewing with indifference or mistrust the efforts that are being made by the Government, should read attentively the following words of Prof. Johnson: "I do not wish to present this terrible pest any worse than it is, but if a person, even the most skeptical, can look at figures 3 and 4 (Bulletin 57, Maryland, photographs of two orchards killed by the scale, one orchard contains 300 acres and the other 28,000 trees), and read the account of this outbreak, and then reaffirm that there is nothing to fear, I am willing to make the assertion that such a person is not a capable judge to pass an opinion."