

## THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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THE DOMINION.

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### Averting the Tragedy of the Washtub.

Dissatisfied with the outlook at home, and attracted by the glamor of the city, the country girl is drifting from the farm. In many cases it may be a life blunder, but still she goes. On the mothers and daughters who remain behind the burden grows heavier. Domestic service has fallen into disfavor. In both country and city efficient domestic help is becoming more difficult to obtain. Electricity and schools of domestic science may yet solve the problem, but what is to be done meanwhile? Labor-saving machinery has not come to the rescue of the household, as it has in the barn and on the field. In the city, wash-day has been long regarded as an unmitigated nuisance, if not a weekly tragedy of domestic peace. But the wash-woman, like the archæopteryx, will soon be an extinct species, and the place that once knew her will soon know her no more for ever. The steam laundry is coming to the rescue. First, it gathered in the "boiled shirt" and a few collars and cuffs, but now it appropriates all and sundry, and the householder has nothing to do but pay the little bill, which he thinks he more than saves in doctor bills and in the lessened "wear and tear" of nerves and of the whole internal domestic economy. The young man of the farm and the village, a few years ago found out that he could not wear his mother's ironing any more, so he sent it to the town laundry. Now big bundles and hampers of soiled linen come in to the steam laundries by train and stage from all parts of the country. A Wisconsin legislator suggests a co-operative laundry at every crossroad in the State to do the farmers' washing, just as the creamery or factory makes up his cheese and butter. Why not? We would not probably require so many in Canada to keep us clean, but every good-sized village or town might have its laundry that would do the washing and ironing of the district and be a paying institution. It would be a boon to the farmer's wife and give the village a new industry. The work would be more economically done, and we commend the idea to those in search of new fields for enterprise. The individual who solves this problem satisfactorily will be a benefactor to the race, and his name will be revered by womankind when Carnegie and the Scotch universities are forgotten.

## STOCK.

### Tuberculin Test--Sources of Fallacy.

On page eight of the *Jersey Advocate and Dairyman* for May 22, 1901, is an account of a tuberculin test made on a herd of seventy-six Jerseys. In writing of this test, the owner of the herd said: "Of the whole number, only three reacted, and they were the thriest and healthiest looking cows in my herd. Not one of these showed any symptoms of disease of any kind—no cough. One had a calf two months old; the other two were due to calve in two months."

Now, tuberculin consists of the concentrated, sterilized liquids in which the bacillus tuberculosis has been grown. It consists of chemical poisons which the bacillus secretes or manufactures. Having no living germ, it cannot increase its own substance, nor can it cause tuberculosis in a healthy system, as it is soon thrown out of the body through the kidneys; yet, none the less, it is the immediate agent through which all the destructive work of tuberculosis is carried on.

The explanation of the reaction under tuberculin may be very simply stated. The dose is made so small that it will not affect a healthy cow under ordinary conditions. In the slightly diseased cow the system contains a certain amount of tuberculin produced by the bacillus, but to this the system has become accustomed, and it causes no very appreciable fever. But when, in addition to the test, the small amount of tuberculin used for the test is introduced into the body of this cow, the increased dose acts on tubercles and nerve centers alike, and a fever sets in. A rise in temperature of 2 degrees, 2½ degrees or more, results in from eight to twenty hours.

There may be other reasons why the bodily temperature of a cow should rise at the time tuberculin is administered aside from the tuberculin itself. In the case of the test mentioned in this article, the veterinarian who first tested the herd should have inquired into the immediate history of the cows which "reacted," and tested them again after an interval of about a month.

The proximity to calving was undoubtedly the cause of the rise of temperature in the case of the two cows which had not yet calved, while various conditions might have been the cause in the other animal.

During the time allowed for febrile reaction to set in after tuberculin has been injected in a cow, some changes in the regular current of life may take place; for example, a rise of the temperature of the air, exertion on the part of the animal, privation of water at the usual time, retention of milk at the regular milking period, coming in heat, and, in short, anything that tends to excite the animal. Any of these conditions may cause a rise of temperature above the normal in any given animal. From this we can gather, in conclusion, that a cow cannot always be condemned the first time that she reacts. If, however, tuberculosis is known to exist in the herd, and a cow reacts, we have more ground for suspicion.

In making a test, each cow's temperature should be taken three times before tuberculin is injected, and the average of the three times taken as normal for her. And no disturbing conditions should occur just before or during the test that might cause a rise of temperature.—*Floyd S. Barlow, in Jersey Advocate and Dairyman; Cornell University.*

### The Argentine Embargo Against all Countries.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—As we have a regular correspondent in Buenos Aires, we are from time to time kept more or less informed as to what is transpiring there in live-stock matters, and recently the party who acts for us there has been trying to induce us to make further shipments of Shorthorn cattle and Shropshire sheep to that country. Though considering the matter, we at the same time were not very much inclined to do so, for the fact that the two former shipments that we made there proved so very disastrous. However, we may say that for the present at least we need not further consider the matter, as we to-day (June 15th) have a letter from Buenos Aires, dated May 10th, in which it is stated that the Government of that country passed a law on the previous day prohibiting the importation of cattle, sheep and swine for a term of six months at least, but our letter further states that this embargo may be extended indefinitely, and the embargo is against all countries, so that we as well as all others are shut out for the time being.

Russell Co., Ont.

W. C. EDWARDS & Co.

### Diarrhea in Foals.

A sick foal is recognized as a very delicate animal to deal with, and when grass is plentiful and the dam is a good milker, attacks of diarrhea are by no means rare. In such cases it is no bad plan to draw off considerable of the dam's milk several times a day, so that the youngster will not become gorged and its digestion put wrong. Even with this and other precautions, cases of diarrhea will occur, and for which the safest dose to give is from 2 to 3 ounces of castor oil administered on an empty stomach, and followed for some days by small doses of dried extract of malt, mixed with a little milk drawn from the dam.

### A Pointed Enquiry by Mr. Ellis.

SIR,—I am this morning in receipt of the printed rules and regulations governing the exhibit of Canadian live stock at the Pan-American Exposition. From a Holstein cattleman's standpoint, I wonder why our Governments are so anxious in assisting the Pan-American Exposition, when every appeal made by our own Toronto Industrial was turned down? Fancy paying the expenses of transporting cattle to and from Buffalo, paying the expenses of two men in charge, paying the expenses of feed while at the Exposition, and for what end? If a Canadian Holstein breeder should be successful in carrying off premiums, thus advertising his and Canadian stock there, he can only feed his vanity. As far as the American market is concerned, the barriers in shipping pure-bred stock of Canadian registration are practically prohibitory. The selfishness of the Reciprocity Act, by which pure-bred animals are supposed to be admitted from Canada to the United States free of duty, and likewise from the United States into Canada, is made apparent when you couple with it the regulation enforced whereby the term "pure-bred" is only admitted when backed up by the fact that the animal must be registered and recognized by the American associations. The fact that it is recognized by a Canadian cattle association is not sufficient proof for the U. S. Government that the animal is pure-bred. Now, as conditions are at present, we admit American animals into our country duty free. The American Government will not admit our animals, and, therefore, it is a one-sided arrangement. We are shut out from their market, but they are not shut out from ours; and still, in the face of this fact, our Governments are making extraordinary efforts and going to great expense in advertising our stock in a prohibitory field. Don't you think, Mr. Editor, that some of our leading Canadian shows could stand a little bit of this governmental assistance with very much better results?

Yours respectfully,  
York Co., Ont., June 19th, 1901. WM. ELLIS.

[EDITORIAL NOTE.—A good many people outside the ranks of Holstein-Friesian cattle breeders in Canada will probably say "Hear! Hear!" to the spirited note of enquiry which Mr. Ellis has raised. He overlooks the fact, however, that the Canadian stockman who wishes to dispose of an animal at Buffalo when the show is over, is also accorded the privilege of having a dose of tuberculin injected into its system, or else it must come back. Take another department: From a trade standpoint, our fine dairy exhibit at the Glasgow Exhibition is likely to be far more advantageous to Canada than that at Buffalo, because a tariff practically prohibitive shuts our butter and cheese out of the Republic, but in Great Britain Canadian produce is appreciated and freely admitted.]

### A Tribute to the Cow.

At the opening of the great Wornall-Robbins Shorthorn sale, held at Kansas City on March 5th, 1901, Col. Woods, the auctioneer, paid the following beautiful tribute to the cow:

"Grand and noble brute; of all God's animal gifts to man, she is the greatest. To her we owe the most. Examine into all the different ramifications and channels of our commerce into which she enters, and note the result should she be blotted out. A Sunday stillness would then pervade the great stock-yard industries of our large cities, and grass would grow in the streets. Seventy-five per cent. of the great freight trains that plow the continent from ocean to ocean would sidetrack, for there would be nothing for them to do. Fully 50 per cent. of the laborers of America would draw no pay on Saturday night, and our tables would be bare of the greatest luxuries with which they are loaded. The great western plains that she has made to blossom (financially) like the rose, would revert to the Indian, from whence they came, and millions of prosperous homes would be destroyed.

"None other like the cow; there is not a thing in her make-up, from nose to tail, but what is utilized for the use of man. We use her horns to comb our hair; her hair keeps the plaster on our backs; her skin is on all our feet and our horses' walls; her hoofs are made into glue; her tail makes soup; she gives our milk, our cream, our cheese, our butter, and her flesh is the great meat of all nations. Her blood is used to make our sugar white, and her bones when ground make the greatest fertilizer, and even her paunch she herself has put through the first chemical process for the manufacture of the best white board paper, and it has been discovered that that paper is the most lasting material for the manufacture of false teeth. No other animal works for man both day and night; by day she gathers the food, and when we are asleep at night, she brings it back to re-chew and manufacture into all the things of which I speak. She has gone with the man from Plymouth Rock to the setting sun; it was her sons that broke the first sod in the settler's clearing; it was her sons that drew the prairie schooner for the sturdy pioneers, as inch by inch they fought to prove that: 'Westward the star of empire takes its way,' and the old cow grazed along behind; and when the day's march was done she came and gave the milk to fill the mother's breast to feed the suckling babe that was, perchance, to become the future ruler of his country.

"Who says that what we are we do not owe to man's best friend, the cow? Treat her kindly, gently, for without her, words fail me to describe the condition of the human race in this country."