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BOOK REVIEW REVIEW OF "A DAIRY LABORATORY GUIDE

We take it that this work, by H. E. Ross, of Cornell State College of Agriculture, Ithaca, N. Y., is intended as a text-book for dairy students, rather than as a general work on dairying for the average reader. On the whole, the author and publishers (Orange Judd Co., New York) have produced a commendable work for students of dairying.

A text-book, more than any other should be clear, concise, and free from errors. On the first two points the work would score quite high, but on the third point there is room for improvement Some of these are errors in judgment or opinion; some are, or may be, typographical errors; but some look very much like carelessness or haste in preparation. There is probably too great a tendency to "rush into print" with immature ideas, or statements which have not been carefully thought out.

As examples of what we should term errors in opinion, we may be allowed to cite the following

"The water (of milk) needs no discussion, as it is just like the water found anywhere else in nature."-p. 1.

That is the most important constituent of milk."

We have not time or space to discuss these statements in detail, except to say that these are common fallacies which have been floating about in the dairy press during the past twenty years, and which will probably require another twenty years to eradicate from the minds of dairymen.

On page 3 is what may be called a typographical error, "collodial" for

"The C. U. Butter-moisture Test"—a heading on page 23, is what may be called an error due to carelessness, or want of thought as to the position of the average reader or student who is not likely to know that "C. U." stands for "Cornell University." We confess to having studied for some time in order to know what these letters meant. This is a distinct violation of the rule for clearness in all writing, and especially for text-books.

Another curious error of the same class is found on page 28, where the author is discussing the rule for making corrections in temperature of the milk when using a Quevenue lactometer to determine specific gravity. He says, when we cool the milk down we add; when we warm the milk we subtract." As a matter of fact, we do the very opposite. I find among dairy students, and with some men who consider themselves experts, a haziness about this rule for making corrections in lactometer readings as affected by temperature of the milk. The reaso for this is that they have not thought the matter out clearly in their own minds. The only way to be sure, is to get a picture of the lactometer and the lactometer scale in the mind; then reason the effect of heat and cold upon the density of liquids, including milk; then see clearly the effect of increased or decreased density upon the distance which a lactometer will sink in the liquid-all this passes through the mind like lightning, but it is the only way to be sure

Outside of these errors, the book will be very helpful to the person who wishes a "Guide" in understanding the testing of milk for fat, solids, specific - gravity, acidity, etc., together with simple lessons on dairy chemistry.

The price of the book is 60 cents. It may be ordered through "The Farmer's H. H. D.

A Scotch nobleman happened to learn, while in Washington temporarily, that a certain distinguished family in Petersburg, Virginia, were related to him. How he found it out is not told. But at any tion, etc. upon the part of the Vir ginians he went to visit them. Exactly what the mistress or master of the Peterstorry household may bave taught their servants with regard to the manner of address proper toward a subjection of not recorded but at dinners the execution of his acres it, a colored man bented misa dish, with the perfectly and ble requist "My God, take some.

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