

to a machine in front of the plow, "to cut the ground, so that the plow might turn it with greater facility."

In Aberdeenshire, the "twal oxen plow" was in common use up to the last quarter of the eighteenth century, in some parts to a much later date. The author of John Gibb, of Gushetneuk, tells us that a plow drawn by twelve oxen was seen at work in the parish of Culsalmond in 1807, and George Anderson, retired carrier in Rothney, distinctly remembers seeing one at work in his native parish of Rayne, albeit it is only seven years since he passed the allotted span.

A field plowed by its means had a very different appearance from a plowed field as we are accustomed to see it to-day. The soil lay more in mounds than in straight furrows, and the finished work presented a rather rough appearance. When the improved plows, introduced by James Small, Blackadder, Berwickshire, were first brought to the North, great difficulty was met with, owing to the inexperience of the farm servants, not only in the handling of horses, but also in the manipulation of the new implement.

It was no easy matter to train the plowmen to make a straight furrow; hence the remark of the last Laird of Rothney (now Drumrossie), whose patience had been exhausted in the vain endeavor: "Augh, min! It's been some confoun't idiot like you 't's cairn't up the hill o' Dunnydeer."

THE DAIRY

An Experience with Mold in Curing-room.

"Twenty-seven or twenty-eight years ago, when I was making at Perth, in Lanark Co.," said G. G. Publow recently to a member of "The Farmer's Advocate" staff, "I put a cement floor in the curing-room, one of the first to be laid in Eastern Ontario. After that, I thought I must have forgotten how to make cheese. Every morning I would go down into the curing-room and find the cheese white with mold. This would be rubbed off, but would be on again next morning. After a time, they would turn black. I thought it must be due to the fact of the factory being situated along the river. We cleaned one thing after another, but there was mold everywhere. It took four years to clean up the factory, and we never got rid of the mold until we had whitewashed the floor and walls. Mold was a serious thing then, as the cheese were often kept from the first of June to October. We had 1,400 cheese in the factory at one time. The trouble is that, when mold starts in the curing-room, the spores are liable to infect any and every part. You may clean one article, and if some other one is left untouched, the mold develops there and seeds the whole room. Every article in the curing-room of an infected factory should be washed with a solution of bichloride of mercury, one part to a thousand parts water, and the shelves should be taken out and scrubbed every time after the cheese are removed from them. This, together with free circulation of air, from which the moisture is condensed in an ice-chamber, will tend to prevent the development of this trouble."

Another Dairy Herd Competition.

One hundred dollars in cash and two valuable medals donated by Ryrie Bros. are offered by the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association to patrons of cheese factories and creameries who furnish the first, second, third, fourth and fifth largest amounts per cow of milk and cream, respectively, to any cheese factory or creamery (as the case may be) in Western Ontario, in the six months, from May 1st to October 31st, 1909. The prizes in the cheese-factory patrons' section are: 1st, a silver medal and \$15 cash; 2nd, \$15; 3rd, \$10; 4th, \$6, and 5th, \$4. Prizes are the same in the creamery section, except that the medal is a bronze instead of a silver one. Herds of fewer than eight cows are not eligible to compete. Figures must be taken from the factory or creamery books, and certified to by maker and secretary. Applications must be in the hands of the Association Secretary, Frank Hens, London, Ont., by November 30th. There is no fee to enter, but competitors must join the association, the membership fee of which is \$1.00.

It is a worthy competition. Join in helping it along, thereby encouraging the Department of Agriculture to make it a Provincial affair next year.

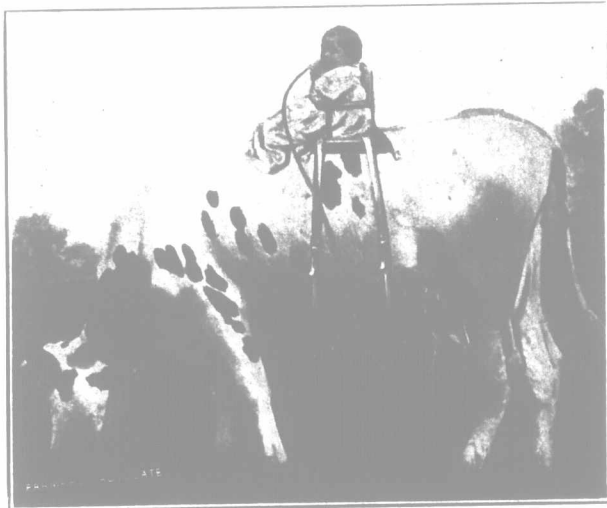
United States President Taft will open the National Dairy Show, Milwaukee, Wis., on the evening of October 11th.

In Defence of the Cow.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In your paper of Sept. 2nd I notice an article entitled, "The Cow Banishes Romance." In concluding this article the writer throws down the gauntlet in bold defiance at the dairyman's door. As I am a practical dairyman, my pen is lifted in defence of this faithful animal that has helped the farmers of this locality over many hard places. The Oxford Scribe says, at a barn-raising in their county, as soon as the last bite is bolted the young farmers grab their hats and hustle home to milk. I imagine those poor Oxford lads masticating their last mouthful as they scale the garden fence and cross the fields the nearest way, on the full run to the dear old cow stable, there to spend from one to two hours among their best friends. In two hours I can milk twenty cows. I would infer from this that milkers must be very scarce or cows very plentiful in that locality. I live in one of the best dairy sections in Perth County. I also had a large barn-raising last year,—hence I know what I say to be facts.

After the raising was over, about 30 of the young farmers enjoyed a friendly game of football, while the fence near-by seated many spectators, evidently enjoying the sport. Then, after refreshments, the young man drove up with prancing steed and flashing buggy, sought his best girl, and then was able to say with the poet,—"How dear to me the hour when daylight dies." Your writer goes on to say that the young farmers of to-day have no time to stray in the gathering twilight, under the love-inspiring moon, past the scented clover. That is quite true. After he has done an honest day's work, he would much rather hook up his glossy driver to a rubber-tired buggy and go for a drive, than go back the lane sniffing at the sweet-scented clover. I think this writer is very unjust to the dairy cow when he claims that she—poor, innocent cow—is guilty of diminishing sociability from country life and increasing celibacy. In this lo-



Holstein Milk is Good for Babies.

Device used on his business card by a noted New York State breeder of Holstein-Friesian cattle, to illustrate the claim of the friends of the breed as to the suitability of the milk of the Black-and-whites for rearing healthy young humans.

cality farmers keep on an average of four cows to every milker, hence the process of milking need not exceed thirty or forty minutes. The farmer who milks the most cows in this neighborhood can also boast of having the most sociable family, capable of entertaining their friends properly.

I think from the tone of his letter, this Oxford writer must be the happy College student, or else a very inferior kind of a hired man (one of these kind that always want off work about 5 o'clock in the evening), for he seems to be greatly annoyed because the young farmers are not giddy enough to be inspired by the ancient strains of the Irish Washerwoman. The young farmers of the locality are progressive and have no place for back numbers.

Now, if he thinks celibacy is increasing, just let him come to this neighborhood and try to hire a servant girl. He will find that ten dollars per month will not hire as good a girl as he used to get for five. Why? Because they are in homes of their own. In finishing his article he makes three sweeping statements that he leaves without proof. Are we to believe them just because he thinks so?

I think he would have some trouble to prove that the dairy cow was the main cause of race suicide. If the dairy cow banishes romance and sociability from modern country life, and bars people from pleasure and causes man to commit suicide, let us banish such animals from the earth; then what will the pessimist do for cream for his tea, and butter for his bread, and milk for an army of children? And how slow would turn the wheels of commerce if this hideous animal were to get her dues!

Banish the dairy cow from Ontario and I believe commercial depression is inevitable, and I

fail to see how this state of affairs can bring pleasure to any country.

Now, just a word in conclusion: I would like to refer this unknown writer to Geo. Rice, for years one of the most successful dairymen of his own county. Ask him if the dairy cow barred him from pleasure, if she isolated him from society, and if she ever caused him to entertain morbid thoughts of suicide, and if he endorses the far-reaching assertions—then I have picked up the gauntlet in vain. J. J. H.

Perth Co., Ont.

Cows for Milk Production.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

As to the relative economy of different breeds of cows for milk-making, your correspondent recently gleaned the following points in an interview with C. Wesley Baker, Middlesex Co.:

"Yes," he commenced, "I have had a certain amount of experience since I have been dairying. Quality and quantity are the two important things the dairyman has always to keep before him. He has, therefore, to be somewhat of a specialist to make his business a paying proposition. As to the best all-round cow for dairying, there has always been, and always will be, I suppose, a difference of opinion. I think, however, if some dairymen were to give other breeds a trial, their conclusions would be more harmonious."

"Three standard breeds of cows are the Jersey, Durham (Shorthorn), and Holstein, and all three have their staunch advocates. I have given these breeds a fair trial, and the results were interesting. The Jersey cow is undoubtedly a fine animal for butter, but she stops there, and if a dairyman secured a herd of these solely for milk production, I can easily imagine the results. There are no dairymen in this district I know of who keep these for such a purpose."

"As to the Shorthorn cow, she is a good all-round animal, and one has something to sell after her best milking days are over. But the Shorthorn dries up too quickly to suit me. Still, if one were also stock-raising for beef, she would more than hold her own."

"But I require a cow for milking purposes only, and the Holstein is my stand-by. She surpasses the Shorthorn in quantity of milk, and milks for a longer period. At least, that is my experience with them."

"A specially important thing in dairying for milk production is to keep the cows from going back in their supply, and now that the fall is at hand, and the pastures bare, the animals need special attention. A cow, once she goes back, will never be right again during the season. I grow a few acres of sweet corn every year, and, after selling the corn, I start in feeding the stalks. One gets almost immediate results, and if a feed is missed, the pail tells the tale."

"The fall, I believe, is the most trying time for the dairyman to keep up the supply. I recommend stabling the cows on cold nights and feeding them well. Pumpkins are an excellent thing to fill the pail. Some say the seeds are harmful to the cows, but that has not been my experience. They act as a medicine, I think. This much I know, the pumpkins will save dollars' worth of shorts and other grain."

As I passed through the pasture, the cows were feeding, and they looked a fine bunch of Holsteins, and seem to bear out what Mr. Baker said. Middlesex Co., Ont. W. BARTLETT, Jr.

Western Dairymen's Convention and Exhibition.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Dairymen's Association of Western Ontario, held recently in Toronto, it was decided, as already announced in "The Farmer's Advocate," to accept the very cordial invitation of the City of St. Thomas to hold the 43rd annual convention and winter dairy exhibition in that city, which is situated in one of the best dairy districts in Western Ontario. Committees were appointed and preliminary arrangements concluded. The dates are January 12th to 13th, 1910. Judges of cheese will be Messrs. W. W. Gray, Jas. Bristow and Robt. Johnston. The judges of butter will be J. B. Muir, I. W. Steinhoff and Jas. Biffin. At a meeting of the programme committee, a very interesting and instructive programme was outlined, which it is hoped will not only interest the cheese and butter makers, but also the patrons of cheese factories and creameries, and everyone interested in dairying.

In addition to the \$360.00 offered by the association in cash prizes to exhibitors of cheese and butter at the Winter Dairy Exhibition, a large list of valuable special prizes have been donated by: Heller & Merz Co., New York, \$15 in cash; R. M. Ballantyne, Limited, Stratford, and C. H. Slawson & Co., Ingersoll, each one case of Hansens' rennet extract and cheese color; the J. B. Ford Co., Wyandotte, Mich., two handsome gold watches; the Canadian Salt Co., Windsor, \$50 in cash; the Western Salt Co., Mooretown, four barrels of Purity Dairy salt; the Imperial Bank of