wasaasaasaasaasaasaasaa CITY MILK SUPPLY DEPARTMENT

Pagagagagagagagagagagaga Sell Milk for What it Is

G. W. Clemons, Brant Co., Ont.

For a number of years I have watched with interest the efforts of legislatures and municipal councils to regulate the sale of milk. In many cases arbitrary standards have been adopted and the sale of milk testing below a certain minimum standard has been prohibited. standard has been prohibited. Such regulations have never worked out satisfactorily, for the simple reason that the amount of fat in milk is no measure of its food value, its purity, or its wholesomeness for di purity, or its wholesometers for its victor consumption. Skim-milk with only a trace of fat is a very valuable food, containing as it does practically all the milk proteids which go to build up bodily tissue. So how can anyone be led to believe that it is criminal to sell skim-milk for what it

Milk testing from 3.2 more nearly approaches the milk of the human mother than any other grade that can be purchased, grade that can be purchased, and will be found far more easily assim-ilated by infants, children and in-valids than a milk testing say 5 per cent. Why should it be made a criminal offence to sell the milk best suited to nourish our helpless inva-lids and children.

It seems to me that the final sol-

It seems to me that the final sol-ution of the problem is to be found, not in setting up an artificial stand-ard to which all must come, but in requiring each individual dealer to guarantee his own standard, and holding him responsible if his milk be found below.

be found below.

In this way it would be possible to sell milk of various qualities, from strictly skimmed to heavy cream, upon a graduated scale of prices, with exact justice to everyone. This is the opinion of Prof. Wing, the foremost dairy authority of the property o Wing, the foremost dairy authority of New York State, and it is also the opin-ion of Mr. G. H. Barr, than whom there is no better authority in Can-ada on the subject of milk in all its forms, from the farm of the producer to the table of the consumer, whether as plain milk, cream, cheese or but

If, in towns and cities, all milk were required to be sold under the vendor's guarantee that it contained certain percentages of fat and solids not fat, it would have a tendency to do away with the sale of milk in the dirty little shops which are the worst feature of the city milk business to-day. It would hasten the day when all milk will be sold by large establishments with proper facilities for handling it, and with a reputation for purity and cleanliness to main tor purity and cleaniness to main-tain. If these large depots are owned and managed by the municipality so much the better, for it certainly lies within the province of the city or town to protect its infants and in-valids from the dangers incident to

the consumption of dirty, unwhole-some or disease-laden milk. Allowing for a little American ex-uberance of diction, the following ex-tract from the "New York Farmer" is quite "apropos."

put varying percentages of fat and non-fat solids into their milk, ac-

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cording to their breeds, their feeds, their ages, their lactation dates, their moods, their conditions and their environments. The natural range of butterfat is from 1.5 per cent. up New York, through some unexplain-ed and inexplicable becloudment of their intellects have decreed that the cows, when they put less than 3 per cent. of butterfat into their 3 per cent. of butterfat into their milk are law-breakers and "adulter-ate" their product. The same law makes the owner of the cow an "ad-ulterator" if he offers their milk for sale just as they give it. To "adul-terate" means to put in foreign substances. Nothing in that way is done by either the cow or her owner Of course, if milk, as the cow gives it with less than 3 per cent. of butter-fat is "adulterated" by analogy all with more than 3 per cent butterfat is State standard" should work both ways, but in this case it does not. The standard has only forbearance, and comfort, and profit and legal safe-guarding for middlemen, who, because of the standard, are at per-fect liberty to insist that the milk producers shall hand over to them at producers shall hand over to them at 2 or 3 cents a quart, milk that contains from 4 to 6 per cent. of butterfat, which they, the middlemen, are permitted to standardize, that is to skim down to the standard of 3 per cent. and then sell it at 8 to 12 cents a quart, while the removed butterfat is sold at cream prices. No 'adulteration' there of course. It er's cows give milk below the stand-ard. It is not "adulteration" when the middleman skims out from It robs the producer. It ignore nature. It outrages common sense It protects the middleman in his tractions from the producer and his extortions from the consumer. The middleman can test a producer's milk middleman can test a producer's milk, find it below the standard, accuse him of a crime and have him punished. The middleman can take milk above the standard and rob it down to the standard, and sell it as whole milk to the consumer, and neither the produce er nor the consumer can have the middleman punished, because he keeps in line with the unjust and absurd standard, which simply sets the limit for the middleman's wrongdoing and protects him in the injustice he prac-tises daily. It would be interesting to see some expert attempt to justify the milk standard. The state can regulate the sale of milk equitably in just one way, and that way is to legislate and provide for the sale of milk on its percentage of fat and other solid contents. This method would mean a sliding scale of prices, such as a price for skim milk, other prices for 1 per cent. up to 6 per cent. fat, contents, or for 10 per cent. 15 per cent. total solids in the milk exactly what he wishes and would pay for what he gets. Then the producers would get the real market value of their milk. Then the middleman would have to deal honestly.

At the time of my last writing 5-20 4T for an indefinite period. For two

weeks this moist weather continued. cold and warm at intervals, but sufficiently warm to start vegetation with a bound. Until the 15th May little a bound. Until the 15th may little seeding had been done, but our farmers are now busy, and with another week the bulk of seed will be sown. The warm showers every few days and the summer heat of the past week has brought along the grass with wonderful rapidity and no ow we Never have abundance of pasture. Never within my recollection have I seen grass as much appreciated as it is this spring. With scant feed in the barns and none to purchase, many a herd was turned out, all too early, to pick a living where little was to be had. Thanks to the moisture, however, there was soon enough for a full bite. This moisture and warm weather has proved to be the salva-tion of the hay crop. Our meadows got such a scorching last summer that only unusually favorable conditions will give a full crop this sea-son and so far these conditions have son and so far these conditions have been realized. Much of the new seeding had to be plowed up and re-seeded to clover and grass. Many tried the plan of discing these lands instead of plowing, hoping to get good returns. On these grass lands where the stand was thin many got on early and sowed oats and reseeded on early and with clover. These are coming with clover. These agood cut of fodder fine and promise a good cut of fodder. The milk supply is less than at but will now The milk supply to this time last year, but will now quickly increase as the pastures are quickly increase as the postures a full bite. The offerings of quickly increase as the pastures are giving a full bite. The offerings of Boards are lighter by 30 per cent. than at this time last year. Butter sold at last board meeting at 23, about three cents more than at this time last year. Cheese is selling about 11 cents or 1½ cents less than at this time last year.

at this time last year. Vegetation is about five days earlier than last season. In a few days we hope to see our orchards in full bloom. Indications are that there will be a profusion of blossoms. Many orchards in the apple-growing sections have received the first spraying of the season. We realize on the season. We realize on the season. erior fruit when spraying is properly done and at the right time.—"Habi-

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seeding had become general on the high and well drained lands and it appeared as if really all the seed would be in the ground before another week was out. But it was not so to be, for "dame nature" ordered otherbe, for "dame nature" ordered other-wise. Soon after last writing there came a deluge of rain, soaking the soil, filling the ditches and water courses to overflowing, submerging low lands and putting seeding back