

Farm and Dairy

AND
Rural Home

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Requests shall not ply their trade at the expense of our subscribers, who are our friends, through the medium of these columns; but we shall not attempt to adjust trifling quarrels between subscribers and honorable business men who advertise, nor pay the debts of honest bankrupts.

The Rural Publishing Company, Ltd
PETER ORR AND TORONTO

"Read not to contradict and to censure, nor to believe and take for granted, but to weigh and consider."—Bacon.

A Difference in Calves

SPEAKING at the Canadian National Exhibition luncheon on Farmers' Day, Dr. G. C. Creelman took occasion to refer to the agitation against the slaughter of young calves, and drew a distinction that agitators who are long on enthusiasm and short on information would do well to consider. The speaker stated, and truly, that to raise dairy steers would in most cases be a waste of good food, and intimated that if slaughter of calves was to be prohibited at all, the prohibition should be confined to animals of beef breeding.

The agitation to which Dr. Creelman refers is of city origin. It gets its only impetus from city organizations and newspapers, which, like good mathematicians, figure that if a veal calf weighing 100 lbs. is slaughtered while a couple of years' feeding would make it weigh one thousand pounds, the country loses just nine hundred pounds of meat. What these people do not know is that farmers can raise feed and provide housing for only a limited number of stock. If they are arbitrarily compelled to feed all calves until they are two years old, they would be compelled to reduce their breeding herds to make room for the feeding animals. In the case of the dairy farmer, at least, this would result in a serious reduction in the food supply. In a recent issue of Hoard's Dairyman, it is computed that a cow producing seven thousand pounds of milk a year has in her by products, skim milk and buttermilk, as much edible nutriment, if converted into cottage cheese,

as is represented in the gains of three steers during the same period. In the light of facts such as these, slaughtering cows to make room for steers, which would be the inevitable result of such arbitrary legislation as is frequently asked for, would be foolish in the extreme. A general appreciation of the food producing ability of the dairy cow would lead to an early cessation of all attempts to prohibit the vealing of dairy calves.

Milk Prices at Condenseries

FARM and Dairy does not favor any action being taken which will restrict any class of farmers from receiving the highest possible price for their milk. This is because every action of this kind that is taken is likely to encourage city consumers, through the great metropolitan press, to clamor for further action of the same kind with the result that in the end an effort may be made to restrict the price paid for numerous other products of the farm, such as live stock, grain, milk and similar articles of food. Nevertheless, we feel that something should be done to assist the cheese factories of Ontario to meet the competition of the milk condenseries, as if many of the cheese factories are allowed to be closed the result after the war may prove dangerous to the dairy industry. Under these circumstances we feel that the latter should not be allowed to rest in the position indicated by the article published elsewhere in this issue, but that it should be considered further with the least possible delay by the directors of both the Ontario Dairymen's Associations, with the view of finding if possible some solution of the difficulty.

The Western Market

DR. J. G. RUTHERFORD, Superintendent of the Department of Natural Resources of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, believes implicitly in the possibilities of the Canadian West as a mixed farming country. Development along this line, he says, will be rapid after the war, and in this development it is expected that Ontario stock men will play a large part, which will be mutually advantageous. Speaking recently in Toronto, Dr. Rutherford said:

"The farmers and Ontario breeders of live stock should keep their eyes on the West as a market in which they will find the best field for the disposal of their live stock of all kinds. If they watch the smoke of the West they will have a good deal more money in their pockets at the end of the next ten-year period."

The speaker, probably had in mind breeders of beef cattle more particularly, but his remarks should be given equal consideration by breeders of dairy cattle. Large sections of the West are well adapted to dairying. There are good city markets; the creamery industry is well organized, and more thoroughly in fact than it is in the East and during the past couple of years the cheese industry has had a phenomenal growth. Already Western dairy products have established a reputation for quality. As grain growing gives way to mixed farming, the profit and stability of dairying will appeal to thousands of prairie farmers and the logical source of foundation stock for their dairy herds will be found in the more easterly provinces. As Dr. Rutherford says, it will pay us to "watch the smoke of the West."

A Dairy Bull Exchange

ARE you looking for a good bull to head your herd? Would you like to exchange your old herd sire, whose merit you have proven, for another bull that has been successfully used in a dairy herd? If so, a plan recently adopted in

the State of Indiana will appeal to you. There, a "Bull Exchange" has been organized under the auspices of the State Dairy Association. The Association has made itself a clearing house for bull sales and exchanges. Dairy farmers and breeders with bulls for sale write to the Association and state their offerings with price, breeding and other necessary particulars. Dairy men in need of a bull also write to the Association, and the two parties are brought in touch with each other.

There is room for a bull exchange in every province of Canada, modelled on the Indiana plan. Hundreds of good sires go to the block each year for lack of a buyer. Many are slaughtered which the owners would prefer to exchange, were there any medium through which to effect the transaction. There is some machinery needed here which, so far as we are aware, has not been provided in any part of Canada. For high class breeding stock, the advertising columns of the agricultural press will always be the best selling medium, but there is much business, particularly dealing with exchanges, that might best be handled through some special agency.

One of Our Friends

RECENTLY Farm and Dairy lost one of its good friends in the death of Mr. S. A. Patterson, of Wilnot, N.S. In his last letter to us, Mr. Patterson wrote as follows regarding the supplement, which we devoted to the United Farmers' movement in Ontario:

"Your issue of June 28th was a delight to me, and it is my sincere hope that the farmers of Quebec and the Maritime Provinces will soon become organized and unite with their brother farmers in the other provinces of Canada. I am enclosing a list of names of farmers and would like you to mail each of them a copy of your issue like you do to mail each of them a copy of your issue of June 28th, that these leading farmers, at least, may have an opportunity of reading what the United Farmers of Ontario are doing, and may see how the mass of Maritime farmers that we will soon have a farmer organization in this province."

Our acknowledgment of Mr. Patterson's public-spirited act did not reach him, as he had departed this life before the mails could carry our letter to his Nova Scotia home. Our friend was not widely known, but his influence must have counted for much in his own community. He was just one of the hundreds of clear-thinking, public-spirited men who are the great power behind the farmers' movement in Canada and who are doing their share to extend its usefulness. Without such men as Mr. Patterson to do their bit for the public weal, good movements of all kinds would be stillborn. We cannot all be leaders, but let us not be dissatisfied because of that. The real power of any progressive movement lies in the citizens of Mr. Patterson's type who enlist in its ranks. The loss of such citizens is a serious one for the community.

Prices and Values

MILK has gone to \$3.25 a hundred in some parts of New England, and the producers around Cleveland are receiving \$3.00. The chances are that a great deal of milk will be contracted for at above \$3.00 per hundred this fall. This is a good price for milk, but it is no more than milk should sell for when compared with the prices of other things.

When milk sells for 12 cents a quart, it is a cheaper food than beef at 30 cents a pound. Two quarts of milk are equal to a pound of beef. The trouble has been that the average customer does not know about the nourishing properties of milk and its importance to the welfare of a people; if they did, they would willingly pay a sufficient price for milk to assure an ample supply. That is the important factor for people to consider—Hoard's Dairyman.