

grain and ensilage I was able to produce from the application of the manure I had from my feeding during the previous winter.

LESSENING THE COST OF PRODUCTION

I cheapened the cost of production by so arranging my stables that the labor of feeding and cleaning out was made as easy and as simple as possible. I have stabling for go head, all on the same level. It is so arranged that the stables can all be cleaned with the use of a litter carrier, (the track having no switch) into a shed, where it is dumped into the spreader or truck and taken at once to the field, if so desired. The feed comes down very near the centre of the stable. The halls are all the same width, and a truck is used for feeding that just fills the space. The feeding is done from both sides of truck, with ease to the feeder. It permits of a great saving of time.

In feeding I practise regularity. I endeavor to study the requirements of each beast, and to make them clean and comfortable. I never allowed anything but gentleness on the part of the stable man, and I feed the cattle to their full capacity but not more than they would clean up. One of my greatest difficulties was to get men who would use judgment and give the cattle that careful attention that was so much required to make them give the greatest gains on the feed given them.

PREFERS TO SELL TO DROVERS

I never attempted to ship my own washed stock. I preferred to sell to a dealer a month or two before they were finished. This put me in a position to regulate the feeding, so as to have the cattle ripe by the date of the agreement. Then the period of costly high feeding was not prolonged. I was quite willing to let the drover have what he could make at the other end for the risk he was willing to take in handling them.

My cattle have gone out weighing from 1200 to 1400 lbs. each, according to the length of time they have been fed. Thus they made a gain of from 300 to 400 lbs. The price received was from five to six cents a pound. Cattle feeding gives me a home market, at fair market prices, for all the coarse feed grown on the farm. Quite often I make a nice profit besides for the risk I undertake.

A Government Inspector at the Homes of Farmers

How would you like to have a government inspector call at your house, without warning, and ask to be shown how you cared for your milk or cream and how you washed your dairy utensils? How would you like to be caught by him when you had not washed your cream separator, and to find that he had power to summons you into court and to have you fined?

It all, except the issuing of a summons, happened recently to a number of the patrons of the Peterboro creamery. Without any warning, Mr. James Stonehouse of Port Perry, Government inspector of creameries in Eastern Ontario, visited the Peterboro creamery, owned by Mr. P. Downham.

After inspecting the creamery, which was found to be in excellent condition, Mr. Stonehouse asked for a list of the patrons on some of the cream routes in order that he might visit their homes and find how they were caring for their cream and for their dairy utensils. Knowing that Mr. Stonehouse was more likely to give the patrons much valuable information than he was to have them fined for neglect to comply with all the requirements of the new sanitary law relating to the care of milk and cream, Mr. Downham gladly gave him the desired information.

Before starting on his rounds, Mr. Stonehouse called at the office of The Canadian Dairymen and Farming World, which is the official organ of the

two dairymen's associations in Ontario. On learning of his intended trip an editorial representative of the paper arranged to accompany him while he visited the different farm houses.

By way of explanation, it may be stated that Mr. Stonehouse is an official of the Ontario government. It is his duty to visit all the creameries in Eastern Ontario to see that they are kept in a clean, sanitary condition. He acts as an instructor also, and assists the butter makers with their work when they desire his aid. Whenever he can, Mr. Stonehouse goes out on the



Mr. James Stonehouse

farms to find how the patrons of the creameries care for their cream. Under the act passed at the last session of the Ontario Legislature, Mr. Stonehouse has power to prosecute any patron who refuses or who wilfully neglects to keep his separator or dairy utensils in a clean, sanitary condition. So far, Mr. Stonehouse has not prosecuted the patrons of any creamery. Such action will be taken only after the patrons have been given a first warning and when they still persist in being careless in the handling and care of their cream.

THE CONDITIONS FOUND

During the afternoon and morning that Mr. Stonehouse spent in the Peterboro section he visited the homes of sixteen farmers. The trip revealed the following conditions:

First.—That there was not a patron, of all those seen; who did not know that it is necessary that dairy utensils should be kept in a clean condition and that the milk should be separated and the cream cooled speedily.

Second.—That in a majority of cases, the separators and dairy utensils were being kept in a nice, clean condition. They were being washed after use and then rinsed in scalding water.

Third.—That, although they knew better, and admitted that they did, five or six of the patrons were in the habit of washing their separators only once a day. Pressure of other work was given as a reason for the neglect to do better.

Fourth.—Many different makes of separators were being used. At seven different farm houses that were visited in succession, seven different makes of separators were found. About one half of the separators were more or less out of order. Some of the separators were badly out of repair and were causing their owners considerable loss.

Fifth.—In nearly every case the test of butter fat was low. A good average test is 30. None of the patrons who were visited had a test that high. The average tests ranged from 17 to 29 per cent.

This meant that the patrons were suffering heavy loss through sending too much milk to the

creamery in their cream and not being paid any more for their product.

Sixth.—Only one or two knew that they were liable to have their places inspected by a government officer. All extended the visitors a cordial welcome and seemed eager to gain information.

GOOD ADVICE

Mr. Stonehouse found numerous opportunities to give good advice. In every case he emphasized the importance of having the separator thoroughly washed every time it is used and then rinsed in boiling water. He claimed that it is just as important that the separator shall be thoroughly washed after use as it is that the dishes we eat off shall be kept clean.

VARIATION IN TESTS

He explained that the great variation in the butter fat test is due to different causes. When a separator is not washed after it is used it becomes clogged and thus prevents the separator skimming clean and causes a heavy loss. When the screw of the separator is not properly adjusted, or it is out of repair, it causes a greater or less loss. In the fall, if the milk is allowed to cool before being separated, the butter fat test is affected. The rapidity with which the separator is worked, also affects the test materially.

Mr. Stonehouse explained that when the test goes down, it does not prove that the creamery manager is trying to cheat the patron. It is more likely to prove that there is something wrong on the farm. A description of the conditions found on the various farms is published on page 15 of the Household Department in this issue.

Care and Management of Sheep

R. H. Harding, Middlesex Co., Ont.

In writing this short article upon the care and management of sheep, I wish to direct one's thoughts more particularly to handling grade or common sheep, as it is among such there is the greatest need of improvement. There is very great need of increased interest being given to sheep. The greatest scavenger on the farm that are the most neglected of all our domestic animals, if we may judge of them as we see them along roadsides, covered with dust and where tapeworm and other parasites are most likely to be found.

Having secured a flock see that they are free from ticks and lice. To make sure it is best to dip the whole flock in some reliable dip. If the sheep are sheared early in April while it is yet quite cold, the ticks will leave the shorn sheep and get on to the lambs for shelter. If you dip the lambs about a week after shearing, you will destroy the ticks. If any of the flock are infested with small red lice, it is necessary to dip in a strong solution of dip, in order to destroy them. If any other trouble that you don't understand shows up on their skin, have the flock examined at once for scab. The knife should be used much more generally than it is both for docking and castrating. What looks more unsightly in the fall of the year than a long tailed lamb. Wether lambs will feed better than ram lambs and will sell much better. They also can be kept until late fall or winter, if desired, without occasioning any trouble, and they will often pay well for the extra feed.

SUMMER CARE OF SHEEP

The flock should be changed from one field to another every few weeks. They should not have access to old pastures at all, as it is there, as well as on the roadsides, that they get the tapeworm that destroys so many sheep and lambs. Rape is a very important summer and fall feed for sheep. Success can be attained, especially in a moist season like the present one, by sowing rape among the oats, six or eight weeks after they are sown. It should be harrowed in. Harrowing will do the oats good and by thus sowing the rape it will not grow large enough to interfere with the