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CIRCULATION DEPARTMENT

FARM AND DAIRY

Peterboro, Ont.

#### What Makes Milk Yellow?

HAT the rich yellow color de-manded by the public in dairy products is primarily due to the character of the cow's feed is demonstrated by recent experiments carried on by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in coeperation with the Mis-souri State Experiment Station. For some years dairy experts have been studying this question. Their conclusion is that, although to some extent a breed characteristic, the intensity this yellow color may, within certain limits, be increased or diminished at will by changing the animal's rations.

Chemical tests show that the yellow pigment in milk consists of several well-known pigments found in green plants. Of these the principal one is carotin, so called because it consti-tutes a large part of the coloring mattutes a large part of the coloring mat-ter of carrots. The other yellow pig-ments in the milk are known as xanthophylis. These are found in a number of plants, including grass, but are especially abundant in yellow autumn leaves.

These pigments pass directly from the feed into the milk. This explains the well-known fact that fresh green grass and carrots increase the yellow ness of milk, the only standard by which the average person judges its richness. On the other hand, a large proportion of these pigments is deited in the body fat and elsewhere the cow. When the ration is in the cow. changed to one containing fewer carotin and xanthophyll constituents, this hoarded store is gradually drawn upon and consequently the yellowness of the milk does not diminish so rapidly as it otherwise would. This yellowness in-creases, however, the instant the neces. sary plant pigments are restored to the

Green grass is probably richer in carotin than any other dairy feed. Cows fed on it will therefore produce the highest colored butter. corn, in which xanthophylls constitute the chief pigment, will also produce a highly colored product. On the other hand a ration of bleached clover hay and yellow corn is practically devoid of yellow pigments and the milk from cows fed upon it will gradually lose its color. It is, of course, indisput-ably true that the breed does influence the color of the milk, but vary the ration and there will be a correing variation in the color of the milk fat in each herd.-Dairy Record.

## City Men Who Want to be Farmers

HE U. S. Department of Agricutture at Washington receives many letters from city people who have read glowing accounts the wealth that may be made on the farm. A large percentage of these people have already bought farm land. Some of them appear to believe that the reason all the farmers are not rich is because of extravagance, wastefulness, ignorance, and a lack of business ability. To these letters the Department's specialists reply much as follows:

"As a matter of fact, farmers as class are intelligent, industrious and economical, and many of them are men of good business judgment. ther, those who have made a thorough study of the business side of farming know that it is not an easy matter ing anow that its flot areasy macro-to make money on the farm. Only the most practical and experienced farm-ers are making considerable profit out of their business. Much of the money that has been made on the farm in that has been made on the farm in recent years has been made, not by farming, but by the rise of price on farm lands. In the nature of things this rise can not continue indefinitely, and some one will own this land when the price becomes practically station-

ary or perhaps starts to decline.
"While it is true that occasionally

a city bred family makes good on the the rule. It is always a risk to invest in a business without first making a thorough study of that business. Many city people who have saved up a few hundred dollars and who have had it audared donars and who have had his the or no farm experience, but who are imbued with a rosy vision of the joys and profits in farming, buy poor land at high prices and thereby lose the savings they have been years in accumulating. One city family paid \$10,000 cash and assumed a \$12,000 mortgage on a farm worth only about \$11,000. Another paid \$2,000 cash and signed a mortgage for \$6,000 on farm that was later appraised at \$3,000. A city family that had saved \$2,000 used this money to make a first payment on cheap farm land, and when their eyes were opened they still owed considerably more years they have worked almost night and day to meet the interest, without and day to meet the interest, without being able to reduce the principal. These instances could be multiplied almost indefinitely.

# A Bad Purchase Means Failure.

"In purchasing a farm great care should be taken to get a good farm at a fair price. To pay or agree to pay more than the farm is worth is to invite fa'lure. From a business standpoint so farm that ones not pay interest on the total investment, preciation on equipment, and wages for all labor performed on that farm is successful.

"Even when great care is taken in making the investment only in exceptional cases should the city bred fam-ily attempt farming. Generally the best advice that can be given to the city bred man who desires to become farm he work as a farm hand for two or three years. This will give him an opportunity to learn at first hand an opportunity to learn a first and a many things about the business, as well as the practical side, of farming. In no other way, as a rule, can he get good farm training and experience at less trouble and expense or without danger from financial disas-

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