

a sufficient bonus to induce fruit growers and others interested to build and equip adequate cold storage warehouses where needed. With these and more co-operation in picking and packing the market end of fruit culture would be in much better shape than it is to-day.

The Farm Separator and Export Butter

The following item from the Trade Bulletin, the recognized mouthpiece of the export provision trade of this country, gives the farm separator a place in our butter industry that many of our exporters who have condemned it will be loath to accord to it:

"A considerable portion of the butter used for local requirements this season is said to be dairy, made by farmers with their baby separators, sales of which have been made on this market at 23c to 23½c for best qualities and reported to be equal to creamery, some of which has been exported to England as creamery, in both tubs and boxes, and has given every satisfaction."

While the exporting of dairy butter as creamery is not to be condoned under any circumstances, yet it is gratifying to know that butter made on the farm with the hand separator has passed muster at Montreal and has been sold in Great Britain, where it "has given every satisfaction." It shows that the advent of the farm separator has not been the bane of the butter industry that some would have us believe. It has supplied the farmer with an effective means of separating all the cream from the milk, and at the same time its advent on the farm has induced the farmer to procure other up-to-date appliances necessary to good butter making, and, more than all this, it has induced him to give more attention to the making of the butter itself. Whether it is the most economical way or not, the conditions on the farm are such that if properly handled as good butter should be made in the private dairy as in any creamery.

But this extract supplies another thought worth considering. If the farmer, by the use of the hand separator, can make butter good enough to be sent to England and sold there as choice creamery, why can he not do part of the work just as successfully and send the cream to the cream-gathering creamery on the co-operative plan and have it made into creamery butter? It seems to us that if he can do the one sufficiently well to merit the commendation of our leading trade journal, surely he can do the other. If he is not doing it sufficiently well in connection with the cream-gathering creamery of to-day, it is not the system itself that is at fault, but the way it is operated. It would be much better to have the cream from the farm separator made into butter at a creamery than to deceive the consumer abroad by selling him dairy butter as creamery.

Advance in Farm Values

According to information just published by the Department of Agriculture at Washington, there has been an advance of 33.5 per cent. in the value of farm lands in the United States during the past five years. In addition to this the Department points out that the conditions affecting land values are such as to indicate a further improvement in prices in the future.

Lack of available public lands, the abundance of which held the price of older agricultural lands down so long, is one of the chief reasons given for this advance. The Government report just referred to announces that the national land in the United States, that can be utilized agriculturally, is now reduced to 300,000,000 acres, and that all of this is suitable only for grazing, since it cannot be used in dry farming or under irrigation. More plentiful money and lower interest rates have also helped to bring about this advance. Farmers have been more prosperous and have been increasing their holdings, while many city people are buying farm lands for country homes, where they may spend a portion of the year. These and other agencies have contributed to this marked improvement of the farmer's position to the south of the line.

This enhancement in the values of the farms of the United States cannot but have its effect upon farm conditions in Canada. Already the west is reaping the benefit in the thousands of farmers from the western States, who are "trekking" to the prairie lands of the Dominion in search of cheaper farms. The effect upon land values in Eastern Canada may not be so noticeable at first, but it is bound to be felt sooner or later. Higher priced lands in the Eastern States should mean higher priced lands in Eastern Canada.

EDITORIAL NOTES

The wealthy natives of the Argentine love the horse race, and will pay big money for a "winner." Recently \$30,000 (\$50,000) was paid for an imported race horse from England. The tracks there are of sand, and the horses are ridden on the curb only, the boys adopting very much of the Yankee style.

The Polled breeds of cattle seem to have gone clean out of fashion in the Argentine. The talk now is of Shorthorns and Herefords, and all other breeds are in the shade. The Rural Society in drawing up the prize list for the Pomeria show has eliminated the classes for polled animals, so that it is hardly likely that many breeders will go in for them. Dehorning is now very little practiced.

They grow big potatoes in the Yukon. At Sunnydale a farmer grows potatoes for the Dawson market,

some of them running as much as a pound and three-quarters each, and all averaging a good size. The crop is expected to average ten tons on two acres. There is already talk, when the local market is supplied, of utilizing the surplus for making denatured alcohol for fuel purposes.

The corn crop of the United States for 1906 is estimated at 2,730,000,000. This crop, if divided among all the people of the globe would give about two bushels to each person. Illinois and Iowa are the largest corn growing States, producing 305,000,000 and 382,700,000 bushels respectively in 1905.

The indictments against the Chicago packers are to be dropped by the Washington authorities, owing to a decision of one judge granting immunity to the defendants as individuals. Under these circumstances, even if a favorable verdict against the packers were secured, a fine could be the only punishment inflicted.

What with election scandals, questionable land deals and speculation with bank funds, the name of Canada has come into disrepute of late. Canadians should do a lot of house-cleaning, and that very quickly and thoroughly.

When will the speculation craze end? Since last issue one of Canada's most successful banking institutions has been wrecked by the speculations of its general manager. Bank funds to the tune of a million and a half of dollars have been squandered. Someone should suffer for this gross breach of trust.

Again the agitation is on for the formation of local or county dairy associations. Looked at from nearly every standpoint, we cannot see any real need for more organization of this kind. The farmers' institute system covers the field sufficiently, in our estimation, and any educational work necessary can be carried on through it without going to the expense of separate associations.

Of the 222,325 telephones in use in the State of Iowa, 104,324, or well on to one-half are in use on the farms of that State. No invention of modern times is more beneficial to the farmer than the telephone. In every farming district there should be a local phone company.

The Scottish Farmer, dealing with agricultural experiments, suggests that when these are given to the public the professor or teacher expounding them should aim to give summaries, taking in all the essential facts. The public will read these when they would pass over the great mass of detail given by many lecturers. This is very good advice. The plainer and more concise form the teachings of experiments are given to the people, the more good they will do.