

## THE DAIRY.

### Creamery Experiments.

The Dominion Dairy Commissioner, J. A. Ruddick, has completed arrangements for carrying on an extensive series of experiments during the present season, having for its object the improvement of the creamery industry in Canada. The work will be in charge of Geo. H. Barr, Chief of the Dairy Division, who will be assisted by J. G. Bouchard, creamery expert, and other members of the Dairy Staff. There could be no better assurance that the work will be carried out carefully and intelligently.

Speaking of the proposed experiments, Mr. Ruddick intimated that they would be conducted at a creamery, and at the farms of some of its patrons, somewhat on the lines of the experiments in the cooling and treatment of milk which were conducted by Mr. Barr during the past two seasons, the results of which have already effected so marked a change and improvement in the methods of handling milk for this purpose.

Mr. Ruddick is a strong believer in the value of practical demonstration or illustration in matters of this kind, and he points to the success which has followed the Department's demonstrations in the cool-curing of cheese, and to the work already referred to in connection with the handling of milk.

The creamery industry, in many parts of Canada, is now conducted on what is known as "The Cream-gathering System." It is recognized that the methods at present followed in operating creameries on this system are defective at certain points, and these defects make it difficult to secure the highest results in quality. Many leading dairymen have opposed the adoption of this system on these grounds, but as farmers are determined to stick to it, and it is their right to do so, if it suits them best, it seems desirable that every effort should be made to put the system on the best possible working basis.

"We do not propose," said the Commissioner, "to encourage the substitution of the cream-gathering system for the whole-milk system, but we shall endeavor to improve existing conditions."

The exports of butter have fallen off during recent years, but there is no decrease in the quantity manufactured, and it is just as important as it ever was that the quality should be of the highest class, and that the creameries should be conducted on economical lines, not only in regard to cost of operation, but so as to insure the highest possible return from the raw material supplied.

### Dairy-herd Competition Continued

The Dairy Herd Competition will be continued by the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association. The rules of competition will be the same as last year, but a change in the way of awarding the prizes has been adopted. Printed copies of the dairy-herd prize list and entry forms for distribution among patrons will be sent out later.

There will be two classes, and two sections in each class. The first class is for patrons of cheese factories who furnish the first, second, third and fourth largest amounts of milk per cow, to any cheese factory in Western Ontario, from May 1st to October 31st, 1910. The first section is for herds of 8 to 14 cows, inclusive. Section 2 is for herds of 15 cows or over. The prizes will be: First, \$10; second, \$7; third, \$5; fourth, \$3; prizes the same in each section. Corresponding prizes will be offered in both sections of Class II., for patrons of creameries who furnish the first, second, third and fourth largest amounts of butter-fat per cow to a creamery in Western Ontario during the same time. Then, besides the regular prizes, two sweepstakes medals, a silver one in Class I., and a bronze medal in Class II., will be offered for the best showing in either section of each class. As last year, the average per cow will be calculated upon a basis of the total number of cows from which milk is supplied by each patron during the season. Enter the contest, and help the competition along. It is a good thing, and worth encouraging.

### Montreal Milk Supply.

The production of milk for the Montreal market is increasing. From time to time, new shippers are starting in, more especially from the Eastern Townships; therefore, the supply has kept pace with the demand; in fact, exceeded it at times. Prices of milk and cream have been arranged on the same basis as last season, viz., 15 cents per gallon for milk, and 3 cents per cent. of butter-fat for cream—that is, cream testing 25 per cent., 75 cents per gallon—all delivered in the city, for five months, commencing May 1st. The condensary here is preparing for a large make this season, and will pay \$1.00 per cwt. for milk for the same length of season. A number of creameries and cheeseeries have opened, and are receiving a good supply of milk. Prices of dairy products rule high, so that the season opens favorably for the dairymen. W. F. S.

Huntingdon, Co., Que.

### A Productive Dairy Herd.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

"Breed, feed, and weed," is the advice usually given to dairymen who wish to improve the milking qualities of their herds. And the advice is good. Breeding up to a more productive type of dairy animal, feeding judiciously and liberally, and weeding out those that fail to reach the standard set, has wrought wonders in increasing the average yield per cow in many herds. For the average man, it is the wisest course to take. But there are some people who have skill in judging dairy cows by their appearance, who do not rear their own cows. To keep up their herds, they purchase as required. As an example of successful work in this line, Donald Bain, of Oxford Co., Ont., makes a fine showing. He has been a cattle-buyer from his youth, and, of course, has much better opportunities than the average farmer, both to see and judge stock. For the year ending December 31st, 1909, his herd of nineteen picked-up cows, mostly Shorthorn and Holstein grades, produced 152,296 pounds of milk. The figures are copied from the annual report of the Farmers' Union Cheese and Butter Factory, Oxford Co., which makes cheese in summer and butter in winter, and show an average yield of over 8,015 pounds of milk per cow. These cows were fed moderately (not heavily) in winter, and while on pasture received no supplemental feed whatever. The large milk return was due, not to heavy feeding, but to the superior dairy quality of the cows. It shows that there are good cows in the country, and shows, also, what may be done by selection alone, in securing a fine herd.



Annie Laurie 2nd —15588—

Ayrshire cow, born November, 1901. Official record, 15,134.4 lbs. milk, 598.5 lbs. butter-fat in 365 consecutive days. Owner, Emerson Cohoon, Harrietsville, Ont.

### Western Ontario Dairy Instruction Staff.

The 1910 staff of dairy instructors and sanitary inspectors in Western Ontario is as follows, two new men having been taken on in place of Mr. McKay and Mr. Hart:

Cheese-factory Instructors.—Jas. R. Burgess, Listowel—Listowel Group; A. E. Gracey, Woodstock—Ingersoll and Woodstock Group; George Travis, Tillsonburg—Simcoe Group; R. H. Green, Cayuga—Brantford Group; Geo. M. McKenzie, Ingersoll—Stratford Group; T. F. Boyes, Lambeth—London Group.

Creamery Instructors.—Fred Dean, Guelph—Eastern and Southern group of creameries; M. Robertson, St. Mary's—Northern and Western group of creameries. Chief Instructor—Frank Hens, London, Ont.

Because you have built a silo, do not give up growing roots. The acreage may be reduced, but grow some. A peck of roots a day to a cattle-beast has an effect in promoting thrift out of all proportion to the cost of production, or the proportion of nutrients contained, being appetizing, tonic and laxative. A peck a day is proportionately more profitable than a bushel. As with skim milk, the amount seems less important than the fact that one is feeding some. Turnips for beef cattle and sheep; sugar beets for swine; mangels or sugar beets for dairy cows, and a few carrots for the horses, will prove a very profitable crop.

## GARDEN & ORCHARD.

### Express-rates Argument.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In regard to my evidence before the Railway Commission, on the subject of express rates, it was given offhand, and, in brief, as follows:

Speaking on behalf of the fruit-growers of Ontario, we ask for lower rates of express, and suggest a scale based on mileage, taking as our base a rate of 40 cents per 100 pounds for a distance of 50 miles or under, adding 5 cents per 100 pounds for each additional 50 miles, pointing out that, at present, the rates are uneven to competitive points; they are much lower than to non-competitive points. We urge that this is wrong in principle; that the effect of charging high rates to exclusive points is to encourage the construction of competitive lines of road which frequently are absolutely unnecessary; that, as a result of this, we have in Ontario, in many places, two lines of railroad where one would answer all purposes, and we believe that it would be more in the interests of the people to have lower rates and fewer roads paralleling each other. Of course, this applies to freights, as well as express rates.

We point out that the traffic in fruit has grown to tremendous proportions, compared to what it was when the rates were set. We believe that the express companies are making excessive profits. We do not ask that the company shall carry our goods at a loss, or at anything less than a fair profit, but in the interest of the producer, as well as the consumer, we do not want to pay more than that which affords the express companies a fair margin of profit.

Referring more particularly to the Northwest traffic, I pointed out that our strongest competitor in that market is the California producer, who can lay down his product, even peaches and plums, in perfect condition by freight; whereas we must, for these perishable kinds of fruit, use express. There is a vast market in the Northwest for these fruits, which we grow in profusion in Ontario. We think things should be regulated so that Ontario can supply this demand, instead of California. At present, the carload rate for distribution—that is, a carload from one man, distributed from Winnipeg or other points to various towns in Manitoba—is \$2.25 per 100 pounds on the main line, and \$2.40 per 100 pounds on the side lines in Manitoba, whereas, ten years ago, the rate was \$2.15 to all of these points. The

traffic was much smaller, and the goods were carried 400 miles further.

The C. P. R. at that time carried all their stuff around by Carleton Junction. I contended strongly that now, having the short line from Toronto, and with the increased traffic we have, and the greatly-increased traffic that we might expect, we should have a rate of \$1.65, which is exactly what the Dominion Express Co. got out of it for several years when the goods went by Toronto and North Bay, as the Dominion Express Co. had to pay the Grand Trunk 50 cents per 100 pounds out of their \$2.15 for hauling the car from Toronto to North Bay. I pointed out that if they could do this and make a profit on \$1.65 under those conditions, they can still make a profit on \$1.65 rate, with the increased traffic, even though they do have to haul the car themselves from Toronto to Sudbury. That is the only service they would perform greater than they would perform when the goods were going over the Grand Trunk to North Bay; and that service is, I contend, offset, or would be offset, by the increased traffic which the lower rate would secure.

The freight rate from California to Winnipeg is \$1.35, and that is the rate we have to meet; then, we have a further obstacle, and that is the prejudice of the dealers in Manitoba in favor of California fruit, because the California fruit, although acknowledged to be inferior to ours in quality, is very much superior in its keeping qualities. Grown, as it is, in a rainless climate, it is dry, and will stand up for weeks after it is gathered without rotting, whilst our fruit is juicy and luscious in