

The most practicable standard for the estimation, of cleanliness in the handling and care of milk is its relative freedom from bacteria.

The Commission has fixed upon a maximum of 30,000 germs²) of all kinds per cubic centimeter of milk, which must not be exceeded to obtain the indorsement of the Commission. This standard must be obtained solely by measures directed towards scrupulous cleanliness, proper cooling and prompt delivery.

The milk certified by the Commission must contain not less than four per cent. of butter fat on the average, and have all other characteristics of pure wholesome milk.

Milk must not be sold as certified more than 24 hours after its arrival in New York City.

DEALERS.—In order that dealers who incur the expense and the precautions necessary to furnish a truly clean and wholesome milk may have some suitable means of bringing these facts before the public, the Commission offers them the right to use caps on their milk jars stamped with the words "Certified by the Milk Commission of the Medical Society of the County of New York." The dealers are given the right to use these certificates when their milk is obtained under the conditions required by the Commission and conform to its standards.

In accordance with a law passed at the last legislature, the word "certified" may be used on the cap only when accompanied by the name of the Society which certified it.

The tin sealed cap, authorised by the Commission, must be used on all the certified milk passing through the hands of dealers selling milk other than certified. These caps are sent by the makers only to the farm where the milk is bottled.

²This seems an unnecessarily low standard of purity. Some demand that it shall not contain more than 10,000 germs per C C at 12 hours; others again require that the milk shall not contain more than 5,000 germs at time of delivery to consumer. Even the last standard, to judge from results of examination of samples, could be met with ease here and leave a margin in favour of producers.