

DISCUSSION OF PROF. RUTHERFORD'S ADDRESS.

Dr. C. E. Flatt, Tantallon, said he considered himself fortunate to be present at the first dairy convention in Saskatchewan. He wished to say to Mr. Metherwell, to his able deputy and to Mr. Wilson, that their position was an enviable one. Perhaps, after a few years of successful operation they would realise just what it did mean to be at the head of this movement. No doubt their difficulties would be many, but he believed that one by one they would be overcome. When they considered all the difficulties that had been in their way they must all feel pleased that they had been able to accomplish so much in so short a time. The time was not far distant when the dairying industry in the province would be second only to that of grain growing. There was one great difficulty in their way today which had not been touched upon, and that was the labour problem. To him the disagreeable part of dairying was that he had to do the milking himself. It was almost impossible to secure a good man who would look after the cows as well or get as good results from them as the owner himself. In regard to improving the herds, he agreed that to put a dairy sire in with a good grade of dairy cows would improve the breed, but, in his opinion, it would be indiscreet to let a dairy sire in with a great many of the herds in the country. They should avoid the mixing of breeds, or they would end up with a lot of mongrel cattle scattered all over the province. If they had Shorthorn grade cows the only proper bull to use would be a Shorthorn. They had really no dairy Shorthorns in this country. The type they had was more or less the beef type of Shorthorn. Most of them had different breeds and grades, and a bull that would suit the herd of one dairyman would not suit the herd of another. This was the difficulty they were up against.

CARE OF MILK AND CREAM.

Mr. Waddell, Moosomin, spoke with particular reference to the quality of the creamery butter. Every care, he said, should be taken to have the cream delivered in good condition, as on this depended the quality of the butter manufactured. He approved of the grading of the butter if it were done in a proper manner. It would, however, require, he said, to be better than the grading done in connection with their wheat. On the question of the rearing of calves it was his opinion that the best cows were developed not from sucking calves but from the calves fed by hand. He believed the best method of feeding was whole milk three times a day for about three weeks, weaning gradually by mixing skim milk with whole. After cutting off the whole milk feed the calf should be given a little meal of some sort in the milk. If they raised the heifer calves, which required special care, properly they could make good milch cows of them even if the breed was not good. As to breeding young heifers, it had been said they should come in the first time when they were two years or at most two and a half years old. From his experience they would get better milch cows if they did not come in the first time till they were at least three years old.

Mr. Rutherford remarked it would be better if the heifer were well grown and fully developed to have her come in the first time when