

discussion on anthrax and foot and mouth disease, urging the importance of disinfecting all ships and wagons that have carried foreign skins before using them to carry feedstuffs, and also on the desirability of preventing the carrying of skins and feeding stuffs in the same ship.

F. DEWHIRST.

F. B. Carvel, M. P., is introducing a bill to amend the Inspection and Sale Act, making it compulsory where potatoes are sold by the barrel, the barrel shall contain one hundred and sixty pounds.

Dairy

Drying Off Cows

With some cows it is quite difficult to get them dry; yet it is quite necessary to do this, not only for the sake of the cow during the next lactation period, but also for the welfare of the future calf. Put the cow in a stall and feed her only hay for a time, until she is dry. Look after her udder during the time of drying off, and milk enough of the milk to keep the udder from becoming inflamed. Cows freshening in September and October should be dried off in July and August, when flies are bad, and at a time when the heaviest part of the farm work is to be done. As soon as the cow is entirely dry she may be fed a light grain ration, to get her in good condition, though not fat, for freshening.

It is poor economy to keep dry cows on a starvation ration, as they will not be in condition to do a good year's work when freshening. A cow of the dairy type will draw upon her body-fat for a time, to produce dairy products; but, as self-preservation is one of nature's first laws, she cannot be expected to continue to draw on her own supply unless she has a little extra laid up.

When Should You Milk?

Much has been said on the differences in milk tests and the causes of variation in the percentage of butterfat in milk from the same cow. The following article appeared in a recent issue of American Agriculturist:

Some farmers claim that the fat content of milk can be increased through methods of feeding, while others claim that it cannot. This is an old question, which has been much discussed. Whether we can increase the fat content by feeding or not, there are other causes of variations which are sometimes overlooked. Thus, changes in quality are often attributed to feeding when they are due to something else. The nervous system of a cow has much to do with the secretion of milk, both as regards quality and quantity.

The time between milking also affects the test. Milk a cow late in the evening and the udder will be unusually full and hard. Many of the glands will not be in a free and normal condition. The milk will be rather blue and low in fat content. During the night, however, the fat secreting cells have more freedom and the morning's milk will be richer. It is not uncommon for the difference to be as great as 2 per cent., and sometimes it is over 3 per cent. Upon the average farm, where the cows are now milked at 7 p. m. and 5 a. m., the morning's milk will be much richer.

In one case a farmer decided to test his cows. His good wife washed a few bottles for him. He numbered them and then, just as they began to milk, stripped a little into the bottles at the very start. In the morning, however, the milk was strangely blue. It tested 2 per cent. Why was it? Why will the fore milk sometimes test about 5 per cent., while the last strippings will sometimes test about 12 per cent.? In the first place in the udder there is a sort of milk reservoir. Frequently this is of such a size as to allow the cream to rise. Then, again, many of the fat globules are as large as the small milk ducts. They pass through these ducts with difficulty, and they never come out first. Thus, the fore

milk will naturally test higher than the strippings, and the very process of milking is a factor which controls the test. Allow a careless man to milk the old cow a week, and then watch for a change in the test. A change in test might be due to the hired man or the children who do the milking instead of the supposed pasture grass.

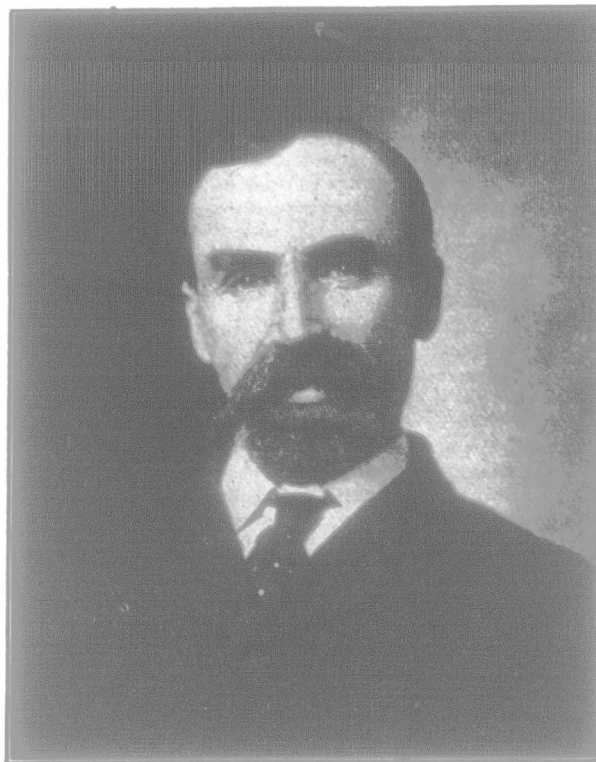
Again, the fair-haired and blue-eyed milk-maids of Denmark are teaching us that by manipulating the udder we can make the milk richer. Their system of manipulation is called the Hegelund method. The university of Wisconsin has found that by such a system the quantity of fat from a herd of cows was increased 9.2 per cent., while the quantity of milk was increased only 4.5 per cent.

Everyone admits that the test varies with the age of the cow, with the individual, with the breed and with the time since the cow freshened. The fact that a cow's milk is usually richer in the fall and winter than during the spring and summer has led many people to believe that the test can be regulated largely through the feed. Possibly it can. It depends for one thing upon the previous condition of the cow. It is entirely possible and probable, however, that many changes in the test have been due to the time and manner of milking rather than to the supposed effects of the feed.

Field Notes

Farmer Delegation at Ottawa

When the delegation of farmers representing the organized grain growers of the Canadian West stopped off at Winnipeg on their way to Ottawa, few doubted that some strong memorials would be presented in the parliament buildings before the members of the Dominion House. No one could listen to the



D. W. McCUAIG

President of the Canadian National Council of Agriculture, who presided over the farmer delegation in the presentation of memorials before the Dominion House

speeches at the banquet in Manitoba Hall without feeling that this body of men formed a force that would move even the slowest of parliamentarians to action. When it is considered, also, that these 500 westerners were strengthened by hundreds from Ontario and other provinces of the East, it can easily be concluded that the big deputation was capable of leaving an impression not soon to be forgotten.

After a day's close and careful consideration of questions on the part of this army of farmers, several memorials dealing with matters that the main body of agriculturists in all parts of the Dominion deem should be considered and amended were placed before the government on Friday. The strongest men representing the interests of farmers in each of the provinces were chosen to present the memorials and call attention with due force to the chief reasons for presenting the same. Their parts were well done.

This is the first really big undertaking of the Canadian National Council of Agriculture, organized about a year ago with D. W. McCuaig, of Portage la Prairie, as president, and E. C. Drury, of Crown

Hill, Ont., as secretary. It was to be expected that their campaign, so well planned and so ably executed, would bear fruit that would please the men they represent.

Sir Wilfrid Laurier, Mr. R. L. Borden and their followers listened carefully to the arguments of the deputation. Every one expected something definite on at least a few of the suggestions offered. The Premier, while on his trip through the West last summer, was in position to know the feeling of the great prairie country. He was therefore in possession of sufficient facts to enable him to answer the delegation in words that would satisfy them. It can safely be said, however, that few found a grain of satisfaction. The farmers of Canada knew as little after the reply of the Premier had been concluded as they did months ago about what action would be taken in regard to the Hudson Bay Railway, the terminal elevators, or the tariff.

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY DELEGATES

When the farmer delegates from the various parts of the Dominion met on Thursday, the following resolutions were adopted after thorough discussion:

TARIFF PROPOSALS

1. Reciprocal free trade between the United States and Canada in all horticultural, agricultural and animal products, spraying materials, fertilizers, fuel, illuminating and lubricating oils, cement, fish and lumber.
2. Reciprocal free trade between the two countries in all agricultural implements, machinery, vehicles and parts thereof.
3. An immediate lowering of the duties on all British imports to one-half the rates charged under the general tariff, whatever these may be; that any trade advantage given to the United States in reciprocal trade relations extend to Great Britain.
4. Such further reductions of the remaining preferential tariff as will ensure the establishment of complete free trade between the Dominion and the Mother Country within ten years.
5. That the farmers of this country are willing to face direct taxation in such form as may be advisable to make up the revenue lost by the new tariff relations.

HUDSON'S BAY RAILWAY

Whereas the necessity of the Hudson's Bay Railway as the natural and most economic outlet for placing the products of the Western prairies on the European market has been emphasized by the Western people for the past generation and whereas the Dominion government has recognized the need and importance of the Hudson's Bay Railway and has pledged itself to its immediate construction and has provided the necessary funds entirely from the sale of Western lands;

And, whereas, the chief benefit to be derived from the Hudson Bay Railway will be a reduction in the freight rates in Eastern Canada, due to actual competition, which could be secured only through government ownership and the operation of the Hudson Bay Railway;

And, whereas, anything short of absolute public ownership and operation of the Hudson Bay Railway will defeat the purpose for which the road was advocated, and without which it would be in the interests of Western Canada that the building of the road should be deferred;

Therefore, be it resolved, that it is the opinion of this convention that the Hudson Bay Railway and all the terminal facilities connected therewith should be constructed, owned and operated by the Dominion government under an independent commission.

TERMINAL ELEVATORS

Whereas we are convinced that the terminal elevators, as now operated, are detrimental to the interests of both producer and consumer, as proved by the recent investigation and the testimony of the important interested bodies, we, therefore, request that the Dominion government acquire and operate, as a public utility, under an independent commission, the terminal elevators of Port William and Port Arthur, and immediately establish similar terminal facilities and conditions at the Pacific coast and provide the same at the Hudson Bay when necessary.

Also, such transfer and other elevators necessary to safeguard the quality of the export grain.

CHILLED MEAT AND EXPORT BUSINESS

Whereas, it is of very great importance to the whole of Canada that prompt government action be taken toward establishing a complete chilled meat system on a sound and permanent basis, with the interests of the producer adequately protected, and,

Whereas, the live-stock industry of Canada has been neglected, and if the neglect is continued it will soon result in impoverished farms, and the live-stock industry of the country will make no headway until it is made worth the farmers' while to produce and furnish more and better stock, and,

Whereas, the farmers are on account of an unsatisfactory market going out of the meat producing business and will not again take it up until the market is placed upon a stable basis, and further that under the present system of exporting, there is always a danger of the markets of the world being closed to us, which would result in ruin to many; and,

Whereas, on account of the danger of encouraging monopolies, farmers cannot be satisfied with anything short of a meat curing and chilling process, inaugurated by the Dominion government and oper-