

found a thorough inspection of the milk supplied to cheese factories and creameries becomes a necessity. Unless this is done regularly the dishonest individual is pretty sure to add water to or take the cream off the milk he supplies, thus cheating his neighbor, who supplies good milk, and often injuring the quality of the product made therefrom.

One may well ask if there is any remedy for this kind of thing? Will it be necessary for our dairy associations and those interested in maintaining a high standard in the quality of our dairy products to continue this inspection and prosecution business *ad infinitum* in order to obtain an honest delivery of milk at the factories? In other words, has the work of education along dairy lines during the past fifteen or twenty years been non-effective in inducing methods of honesty and fair dealing between patrons? As compared with the early days of cheesemaking in this country, it is, perhaps, true that tampering with milk supplied to our factories is not so largely practised to-day. But the present season's experience would lead one to conclude that wherever the dishonest patron is to be found all kinds of legislation or prosecution fail to prevent him from adding a little water to the milk, or removing cream from the portion which he supplies to the factory, if a favorable opportunity presents itself. So long as the dishonest individual is associated with co-operative dairying in this country, just so long will it be necessary to have some means of finding out who the delinquent patrons are, and meeting out adequate punishment for the offense committed.

But will it pay our dairy associations to employ inspectors to do work of this nature? Should not the whole time and energies of the instructors and inspectors be devoted to giving assistance to the maker in improving the quality of the output? Quality unquestionably should be the first object of dairy association work in this province. Whether the two (inspection and instruction) can be satisfactorily combined it is for those directing this work to say. The experience of the past would go to show that they believe it can, as up to the present time the instructors employed by both associations have undertaken both lines of work. But notwithstanding this fact, it is a question whether it would not be better to separate the two, and have the instructors employed devote their whole time to improving the quality of the product. Where an instructor has to devote the early morning to inspecting milk, and a large share of the day to looking up the delinquent patrons, it is not possible for him to give very much assistance to the maker.

There are two ways that seem to present themselves of overcoming this difficulty. One is to let the factories do their own inspection and prosecution. Every up-to-date cheese factory is or should be equipped with a Babcock milk tester and other instruments for testing milk, and it should not be difficult to make a thorough test of each patron's milk regularly, and to follow up the delinquent by prosecution on the part of the directors. If this were not satisfactory, let a dozen or so factories combine and engage some competent individual who might be called in if necessary to inspect the milk. The other remedy is for the factories to pay for milk according to its quality. This plan was advocated several years ago as an effective remedy for all tampering with milk, and was adopted by many factories. But for some reason or other, best known to the dairymen themselves, it was discarded after two or three years' experience, and with a few exceptions all our factories have reverted back to the old plan of "pooling" the milk. The principle of paying for milk for cheese-making according to its quality is, however, the correct one, and if carried on in the proper way affords a just and fair means of apportioning dividends to patrons. Later on, we may have something to say as to the causes which have induced factories to discontinue paying for milk according to its quality. In the meantime, we would be glad to hear from dairymen as to the best methods of coping with the question of tampering with milk supplied to our cheese factories.

Progressive Agriculture

The term "Progressive agriculture" is used to designate that branch of the "Macdonald Manual Training Fund" the object of which is to "draw out" the rising generation of farmers in a way that will induce them to acquire a liking for the study of nature and nature's methods, and a knowledge of the extent to which nature's methods can be controlled and made to assist in living a happier and more useful life.

Successful farming has grown to mean more than the mere cultivation of land. Agriculture may be said to include not only the cultivation of the land but the culture of the people who live on the land. The outcome of true culture is the exercise of intelligent purpose in the activities of life, and that in his occupation stamps the good farmer as a man of real culture.

In a new country like Canada, where the struggle for existence is not necessarily a keen one, few have an inclination to become familiar with the plant life as seen in the field. The boy who is entering the profession of agriculture because of his love for the farm, should early be brought to realize that he is choosing one of the most difficult but none the less interesting of all pursuits. The rapidly changing conditions necessitate accurate foresight and careful thinking and planning. The farmer is wise who adjusts himself quickly to present conditions so unlike those of his father. The conditions under which the farmers of to-day are operating are vastly different from those of twenty years ago. As the fertility of the virgin soil decreases, competition in agricultural products increases, and the need of a general knowledge of the underlying principles of scientific agriculture becomes more and more apparent.

If, by applying a few well-established scientific principles to the methods of growing farm crops, an increase of ten per cent. in yield can be obtained, then if from the old method expenses could be met the increased productiveness due to better cultivation, seed selection, or other improved methods, will give a profit.

It is the desire of Prof. Robertson and Sir William C. Macdonald, who are unsparingly using their energy and money for the purpose of giving young Canadians an opportunity to receive a training that will better fit them for their life's work, to help the young boys and girls who live on farms to obtain a better understanding of their surroundings in a way that will assist them to take a deeper interest in the activities of farm life.

With a thorough understanding of the difficulties that must be overcome in order to bring to a successful issue such movements as would prove to be educational to the young mind and beneficial to the farmer from a practical standpoint, plans were arranged for awarding cash prizes to boys and girls who live on farms according to results to be obtained from operating a seed grain plot.

Many farmers and farmers' sons are fond of experimenting. This is the best, but a very expensive, way of obtaining knowledge. Heretofore as each standard variety of grain "runs out"—when the once very popular variety of oats has deteriorated in productiveness until it ceases to be a profitable cropper—many new varieties are tested, entailing much expense, before a new and more productive variety, that proves to be well adapted to soil and climate, is selected and used as a general cropper.

Now to a limited extent this system is commendable and is almost necessary, risky and expensive though it may be. Space will not admit of a discussion of the advantages, or perhaps it would be better to say the disadvantages of changing seed which has been grown under one set of conditions in soil and climate to another and different environment. However, the average grower of grain seems to forget that to bring any variety of grain up to its maximum of productiveness, special attention must be given to forcing the crop so that the plants will reach the best possible development; and then selecting the best heads from the