

women can be engaged in. We all have a part to perform in this work. The question is, "Will each one do his share?"

Of the two mistakes made in feeding, under-feeding is the most common.

FARM AND DAIRY

Dairy Conditions in B.C.

T. A. F. Wiancko, Provincial Dairy Instructor.

DURING a large part of the year 1916, the climatic conditions of British Columbia were unfavorable. The severe winter of 1916, fol-

lowed by a late, backward spring and the consequent shortage of dairy feeds were responsible for the cows coming out in rather poor condition. The usual heavy flow of milk during April and May was largely reduced owing to lack of early spring pasture. Wet weather during the haying season is

most of the dairying sections resulted in much damage to the hay crop and this is being severely felt during the present feeding season. The increase largely offset by these conditions and therefore the total dairy production does not show the increase that might have been expected under more favorable climatic conditions.

Prices for dairy products were never higher, and even with higher prices for feeds and a general scarcity of labor, the returns to the milk and cream producers were for the most part quite satisfactory. Given a normal season as to weather and crops for the current year, a substantial increase in total dairy production should be noted.

New Creameries.

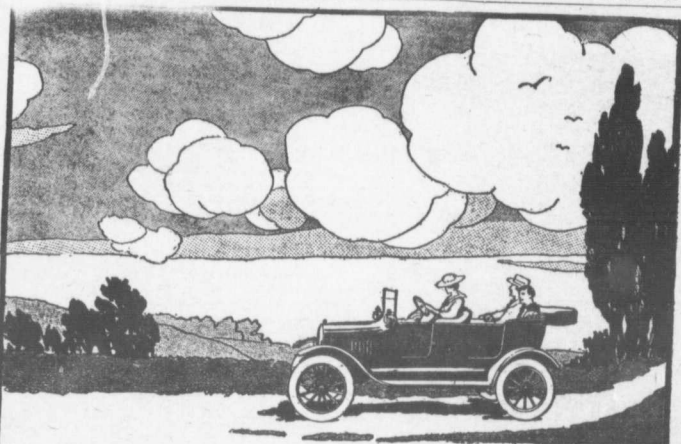
During the year new creameries were established at Cranbrook, Revelstoke and Hefley Creek. Those at Armstrong and Abbotsford were reopened. The increased demand for condensed and evaporated milk, owing to the war, was followed by the re-opening of the condenser at Ladner and a large quantity of milk that otherwise would have found a market in Vancouver was evaporated for export trade. The condensers in the Chilliwack and Comox districts also show a very satisfactory increase in annual output of evaporated milk.

Our creamerymen are becoming alive to the fact that a system of cream grading, with payments for raw material according to quality, is the shortest cut toward a permanent improvement in the quality of B. C. butter. Already a number of creameries have begun systematic grading and we hope soon to be in a position to report many others falling into line.

Cow Testing Progressing.

Cow testing associations have received considerable attention and with very gratifying results. Four associations in the coast dairy sections are in a very flourishing condition. At the present time some 2,000 cows are under test. We follow the Danish system; the test supervisor visits the farm of each member once per month. He stays at the farm over night, weighs, samples and tests the milk from each individual cow in the herd and leaves a record with the farmer. This record includes not only the approximate milk and butter fat yield, but also the cost of the food consumed by each cow, the cost of producing 100 lbs. of milk, of 1 lb. of butter fat and the returns on one dollar expended in feed. No system keeping herd records is so complete and satisfactory as that in which food costs are considered, and for this reason the results obtained in B.C. are particularly valuable. Remarkable improvement has been noted in the sections where cow testing is being carried on, and this is not noticeable amongst the members alone, as many others are profiting by the experience and example of the testing association members. Among the improvements directly due to the work of these associations may be noted briefly the following:

1. The study of the individual cow in each herd, and feeding her according to her milk production.
2. The provision of more and better dairy feeds, with particular attention to succulence and palatability. The number of silos for both winter and summer feeding is increasing at a very satisfactory rate.
3. The selection and rearing of better calves. Marked improvement in this regard is noted after the first couple of years of systematic testing.
4. Early stabling in the fall, better housing and attention to cleanliness, ventilation and comfort.



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