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Creamery Department

Butter makers are invited to send contributions to this department, to ask questions on matters relating to butter making and to suggest subjects for discussion. Address letters to Creamery Department.

The Price of Dairy Butter

M. J. Lewis, Victoria Co., Ont.

The high prices at present prevailing for dairy butter would not be so favorable to the home butter maker were it not for the creameries. Creameries have put up the price on butter. If all butter were made at home as it used to be, the price would fall rapidly to its old level. If farmers raised the more of their butter would bring all their cream to the creamery instead of making it up at home. The greatest difficulty which creameries have at the present time is to get a paying quality of cream without having to go too far for it. If all cream was sent to the creamery, we would be able to make our butter cheaper and give the patrons larger returns.

One difficulty that I have encountered is that many farmers expect to get as much for the butter fat in their cream when sent to the creamery as they would if they made it up at home, taking no account of the time and labor expended in making the butter and disposing of the product in home dairying. Were a reasonable value put on their time, they would soon find that the creamery is the most profitable method of disposing of the two. I have in mind an instance of a lady who used to send her cream to our creamery. She is now making the butter at home and is pleased with the results. Every Saturday this woman and her son come on to the market and spend a full half day there disposing of their butter. I do not suppose they get more than 50 or 60 cents per lb. for it than they would if the cream was sent to the creamery.

There is more sympathy and co-operation needed between the butter maker and his patrons. Patrons must realize that it costs money to make butter. For most of them, even at a creamery. Few of them appreciate how much this cost can be reduced if all of the cream in a section were sent to the creamery instead of making it a convenient method of disposing of milk when it is inconvenient to dispose of it any other way.

How to Produce Prize Cream

D. N. Leary, Victoria Co., Ont.

Too little care and little or no thought is taken by the average creamery patron of the cream he produces and sends to the creamery. The main point to observe, if one would make good cream, is in the separator. Set it to skim a very rich cream. We take a cream testing about 40 per cent. Some say that is much too rich, but we know it is if all creamery patrons would take cream of similar richness, it would be of great benefit to all and to the butter making industry. In a contest conducted by Mr. Lewis, of the Lindsay creamery, our cream took second prize. We were somewhat surprised at receiving a prize for we did not think we were taking any

special pains with our cream.

Considering that we took no special care of the cream, it is appearing that the main reason for us having this good cream and winning this prize must be that we skim a rich cream. We believe in keeping all the skim milk at home and when we take a rich cream, so as to do this, we find that we can get along without ice during the summer to cool the cream. The cream is much easier to keep when rich in butter fat and when it contains a minimum amount of milk.

Our separator is cleaned each and every time after being used for separating milk; then by taking a thick cream we have no trouble at all in having it pass inspection as the best. Some patrons wash their separators only once a day,—some not that often! Is it much wonder that their cream becomes sour and is objected to by the creamery men?

Some 800 Farmers at Ottawa

(Continued from Page 9.)

My colleagues do not share this view. I think that if we can improve our relations in the direction of having more markets for natural products and farm products, the country will be immensely benefited, but any change in our trade relations with regard to manufactured products is a more difficult matter. There are difficulties in this which no government can ignore; and we are not ignoring them. But, at all events, we see our goal, and in this our goal is very much in your own direction.

"But you go further and say that in this particular session we should commence to amend the tariff also. I suggest to you that, as practical legislators, it would be hardly advisable for the Parliament of Canada to undertake this session to revise the tariff while our negotiations are pending with our neighbors."

TERMINAL ELEVATORS

Sir Wilfrid promised that the government would not do anything to impair the British preference. He stated that he was in sympathy with the principle involved in the request that had been made in regard to the terminal elevators. He recognized that the farmers of the west have a grievance. He had arranged to have a conference with the officers of the Grain Growers' Association in regard to it with the object of preparing a bill to deal with it. The fact, however, that even if the government did take over the elevators at Port Arthur and Fort William the grain could still be tampered with in the way it was at Buffalo, Port Colborne and Montreal made the situation more difficult to deal with. "The problem, therefore," he said, "is to look after the character of the grain, only at Port Arthur and Fort William, down to the very point where the ship is loaded to clear for Liverpool."

In conclusion, Sir Wilfrid said: "As the hour is late, I hope you will excuse me if I do not deal with the other problems you have mentioned. Let me say one word only with regard to the Hudson Bay railway. We are prepared to go on with the Hudson Bay railway at this moment. We will give due consideration to your representations. Government ownership, as I said a moment ago, is not altogether in my line. But I think I can go that far. Government operation is a matter as to which we shall give all due weight to your representations."

Sir Wilfrid did not refer to the requests dealing with the chilled meat trade, amendments to the railway and bank acts or legislation which would facilitate the formation of co-operative organizations. In this re-

spect he disappointed many of those present. On the whole, he was sufficiently non-committal to make it impossible for the delegates to decide just how far the government is likely to comply with their requests. This, however, ended, for the time being, the first great national demonstration of farmers that has ever unfolded on the Dominion Government. That it will not be the last is confidently expected by practically all the delegates who were in attendance.—H. B. C.

The Tariff Changes Asked

(Continued from Page Two.)

The farm population of eastern Canada was decreasing, and even in the province of Manitoba the town population was increasing faster than the rural population, and the reason was that the farmer was taxed more than he could stand, while the farmer stood to lose nothing by free trade. He estimated that the present tariff cost every farmer in this country \$200 a year for which they got no returns, and Mr. McKenzie of Winnipeg made the calculation in 1905 that the tariff enabled the manufacturers to take out of the pockets of the consumers of Canada \$199,000,000 in that year.

MR. MCMILLAN'S CONVENTIONS
Mr. Thos. McMillan, of Huron county, Ont., said in part:

"The annual effect of the tariff of millions out of the pockets of the great body of the people, and place those millions into the hands of a few, but it also acts as a serious handicap upon the operations of the agriculturist."

"The farmer is willing to meet any legitimate competition in the labor markets of the country. He does not wish to underpay his workmen. His desire is, to remunerate them well. But when he is compelled to face a standard provision which takes from him a margin of millions, and those millions are employed in competing with him for his own farm labor, he cannot stand an unjust competition such as that. As the result of those conditions, farm labor has now become so scarce, that the labor of the farm general farmer of to-day sees nothing ahead but continuous toil. His family becomes dissatisfied. The constant tendency is to leave the old homestead, and as a final result, in some of the fairest portions of Ontario we find almost as much farm property for sale as at any previous period in our history."

The foregoing are only a few of the main arguments that were given in favor of a reduction of the tariff as it affects farmers. Most complete reports will be published later.—H. B. C.

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