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Two bulletins, prepared by H. H. Dean, B. S. A., professor of dairy husbandry in Ontario Agricultural College, have lately been published by the Ontario Department of Agriculture. They are No. 75 and No. 76 in the series of bulletins issued by that Department, and are bound in one pamphlet of fourteen pages. The first is on "Butter-making on the Farm in Summer," the second on "Butter-Fat in Milk and Cream." Storekeepers who are obliged to handle a considerable part of the butter made in their neighborhood might perhaps make this pamphlet the means of reforming one butter maker among their customers, if they would simply recommend that it be read. It is a very concise exposition of the methods followed at the Experimental Farm in Guelph and of the tests that are made to ascertain the butter-productiveness of milk. The milk of some cows is low in butter-fat, while that of others is rich. Hence the returns from equal quantities of feed consumed by two given cows may vary materially, and the one that gives the more milk may yield the less butter. This lesson in economy may be

of service to the farmer, and the lesson in dairy practice will be of service to both him and the store-keeper. The country trader who has to take butter for his goods can afford to do a little missionary work to raise the standard of rural butter-making, as it is only by raising the standard that he can make the one-price plan render satisfactory results to himself. In bespeaking a careful reading of these bulletins he is saying a good word for the makers and two for himself. A note dropped to the Department of Agriculture of Ontario, Toronto, will secure the free delivery of the bulletins to anybody who sends it.

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The ice men have now their turn, and if the weather backs them up for a few weeks with a steady temperature like that of last Saturday and Sunday, they will be much beholden to it. They had a winter hard enough to produce reasonably cheap stock, the cold having been sufficiently intense near home for the solidifying of a good 14 inches on all pure water within easy reach. The winter before, the icemen had to go into more hyperborean regions for stock, and hence had the expense of transportation over considerable distances to add to cost. The other extreme of temperature befriended them, however, in its due season, and the summer made up in the demand what the winter had lacked in the supply, so that the year 1891 was a fairly satisfactory one to the ice-dealers. Grocers, butchers and other vendors of perishable lines that can be preserved by cold storage are likely to be good customers this year, and consumers of course have equal motives for buying ice. The grocer cannot afford to do without it. It costs too much to make the attempt. Of course it is material that the ice should be from unpolluted water. Boards of health should urge upon local municipal bodies to adopt and enforce the rule that every stock

of ice should bear a satisfactory certificate of the purity of its source and composition.

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The general practice of business men warrants the inference that they regard competition as a greater hindrance to success in trade than small capital is. A may open a store in a place where there is no competition in his line, and with the drawback of small capital and without any circumstances specially favorable to collection will by care multiply his means and probably become a rich man. Let B start in another place where there is five times as much buying done as there is in A's district, and let B have capital ample to prevent any embarrassment on that score, but let him also have to compete with four other traders, and he will probably have difficulty in holding on to the capital he starts with. The volume of his sales may be greater than the volume of A's, but the volume of his profits will not be. It may happen that B has a capital which will enable him to do, not merely his due one-fifth of the business done in his line in his town, but also to extend out and do another fifth, or twice as much as A does. Even in that case it is unlikely his profit-returns will be equal to those realized by A, and A may be paying interest on credit accounts or on borrowed capital, owing to the slenderness of his means. We might even make A carry a little more weight in the longer time he has to give his customers and the greater proportion of loss through bad debts, and yet A might come out ahead, so great is his advantage in immunity from competition. In fact the more B prevails over his competitors, unless he prevails to the extent of extinguishing them, the less is likely to be his margin of profit. Business men to-day are proceeding upon the assumption that liberal capital is worth less than limited competition, and are rapidly getting rid of the capital as if it