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FEBRUARY 15, 1902

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

127

loss from these small heaps by leaching. It might be better not to put manure out in this way on a hillside, but even in such case the inevitable loss of organic matter and nitrogen from rotting in the barnyard would probably involve more loss of valuable constituents than could occur from leaching.

This question is one which should engage the attention of every thoughtful farmer, and I am pleased to have had the opportunity of giving these explanations. Full details covering the experimental and research work carried on at the Dominion Experimental Farms for the advancement of agriculture in Canada will be found in the reports and bulletins published, which can be had by any Canadian farmer as long as the edition lasts, by application to the undersigned.

WM. SAUNDERS, Director.
Experimental Farms, Ottawa.

Aid for Consumptives.

Dear Sir,—The Free Hospital for Consumptives, the only one of the kind in Canada, erected in Muskoka (not far from the Cottage Sanitarium), under the auspices of the National Sanitarium Association, is nearing completion, and we hope to have it ready for patients in a couple of months. Although the hospital is the gift of friends, the Sanitarium Association is carrying a large debt, and has therefore decided to appeal to the public to secure \$10,000 to equip and furnish.

If you kindly consent to receive and acknowledge subscriptions in your columns, I am sure a hearty response would follow. Several of the newspapers have kindly taken up the work in this way. Subscriptions will be gladly received from \$1 upwards; \$50 will furnish a cot.

It may be of interest for you to learn that over 500 patients have been treated in the Muskoka Cottage Sanitarium, and the majority of these have either been cured or so far helped as to be able to return to the activities of life. Patients have been received from every Province of the Dominion. The new Free Consumptive Hospital is located about a mile from the Sanitarium, and we will be able to accommodate in this hospital 100 poor patients. This will mean a very large outlay, not only for equipment, but for maintenance. Thanking you in anticipation, I am,

Yours faithfully,
Toronto, January 31st, 1902. W. J. GAGE.

Note.—The "Farmer's Advocate" will gladly acknowledge and forward any contributions through this office, or they may be sent direct to Sir Wm. R. Meredith, Chief Justice, 4 Lampport Ave., Toronto; W. J. Gage, Esq., 54 Front St. West, Toronto; or The National Trust Co., Limited, Treasurer, 22 King St. East.—Editor.

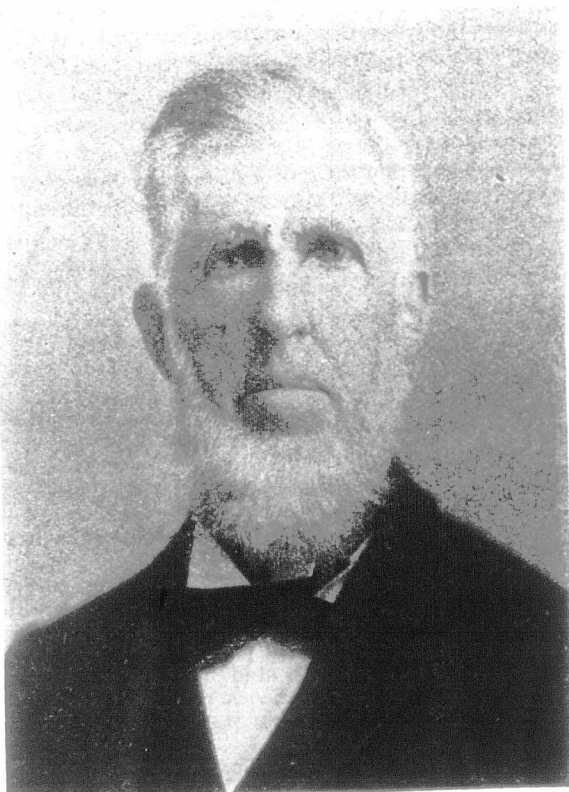
DAIRY.

Length of Lactation Among Dairy Cows.

Cows vary very considerably in the length of time which they continue in milk. Variation in this respect is characteristic not only of individual cows, but also of whole breeds, some strains being noted for having a much longer period of lactation than others. As a rule, the heavier the milker a cow is, the longer will she continue in milk. There are, of course, exceptions to this rule as to all others, but, speaking generally, it will be found to apply to the majority of dairy herds. The encouragement and cultivation of length of lactation is a point which is deserving of careful attention among dairy farmers. It is only natural that the longer a cow can be kept in milk, the greater will be the profit derivable from her—provided, of course, she is yielding milk in such quantity as to more than compensate for the food which she is consuming. It is a mistake to allow cows to go dry from three to four months before calving, if by the exercise of ordinary care and the display of a little liberality in feeding the milk flow can be maintained for eight or ten weeks longer. There is a special objection to allowing cows to run dry in this way in the case of heifers on their first calves. It is well known that if heifers are allowed to run dry at an early date after producing their first calves there is a natural tendency on the part of the animals to go dry at the same time after producing their next and subsequent calves. This being so, it would naturally appear that after a few years cows in which the tendency to run dry is encouraged in this way would very soon deteriorate into a disappointing race of milkers. In this matter, as in many others bearing upon farm stock-breeding, much may be done by careful selection and by breeding from heifers descended from cows of a good milking strain and known to be themselves capable of creditable work at the pail—*Farmer's Gazette*.

Death of Mr. E. D. Tillson.

Readers of the "Farmer's Advocate" everywhere throughout Canada will learn with deep regret of the death, on January 31st, of Mr. E. D. Tillson, of Tilsonburg, Ont., head of one of the largest milling industries in the Province, and a farmer and dairyman of wide repute and marked success. Descriptions of his model farm and dairy buildings have been given in these columns, together with frequent letters from his pen on practical subjects, especially on his favorite theme—the breeding, feeding and general management of dairy cows. By their large productivity, his herd of pure-bred and grade Holsteins had become one of the most famous in Canada. He encouraged many to read the "Farmer's Advocate," and, though an extremely busy man, seemed always glad of the opportunity to give of his experience for the benefit of others. He exerted a very great influence in the direction of improved methods of agriculture. He had been mayor of the town, and postmaster for many years, and was an active member of the Methodist Church. His father, George Tillson, was founder of the town, settling there in 1825. Deceased was born on March 28th, 1825, and married Mary Ann VanNorman on July 4th, 1850. Mr. and Mrs. Tillson celebrated their golden wedding on July 4th, 1900. Upon his death, flags were flying at half-mast, and a general feeling of sorrow pervaded the whole town. The name of Tillson is known from one end of Canada to the other, and no name stands higher in the estimation of the public for honesty and integrity. He leaves a family: George W. (overseer of the mills), Edwin V. (manager of the business), Mrs. (Dr.) L. C. Sinclair and Mrs. H. A. Harrison.



THE LATE MR. E. D. TILLSON.

Preventing Milk Fever.

A correspondent of the Farmer and Stock-breeder, of London, England, throws out an idea on this subject that may be worth considering and acting upon, for when we come to think of it, can we recall a case of milk fever where the calf was allowed to remain with its dam and draw milk at its pleasure and hers. The writer referred to says:

"Re milk fever, I cannot propose a cure, but my own experience is that it is possible to prevent it. Some three years ago I stated that I had followed a course for seven years without a single case in about 100 cows a year, and now I can say I have not had a case since—not even a shaky one, and I keep big, good cows and heavy milkers, and in high condition.

"My rule is that every cow (and make no exceptions) shall have 1 pint of raw linseed oil a few days before calving, and 1 pint without fail twelve hours after calving, with bran mash and light feeding for a few days, but the secret is in abstaining from milking for at least forty-eight hours; only allow her calf to be loose and take what it likes. If a dead calf, then take a very little milk from each teat for the same time twice a day.

"I will not attempt to argue the scientific side of the matter, and content myself that this is good enough for me, for 'the proof of the pudding is in the eating.' If any reader who has had losses concludes to try this plan, please do not half do it! Follow it up, and see that the plan is followed out in every case alike, old or young, fat or lean."

Western Dairy School.

The first of a series of monthly conventions for this winter of farmers and dairymen of the Strathroy district was held in the lecture room of the Western Dairy School, in that town, on January 29th. The spacious room was crowded with an appreciative audience of farmers and their wives and daughters, together with many of the people of the town. The speakers were Mr. G. C. Creelman, Supt. of Ontario Farmers' Institutes, who spoke on "The Needs of the Dairy Industry"; Mr. D. Drummond, Myrtle, on "Cultivation of the Soil," and "Feeding and Breeding Dairy Cattle"; Mr. C. R. Cottrel, Milton, on "Feeding and Breeding of Poultry and Preparing for Market"; and Miss Bella Miller, Instructor in Home Dairying at the School, on "Dairying on the Farm."

Mr. Drummond, who has had long and successful experience in breeding and caring for a dairy herd and is qualified to speak with authority on the subject, dealt in a very instructive way upon the approved conformation and qualities of the ideal dairy cow, how to breed, raise and feed her for profit, emphasizing the importance of a good constitution, which implies ample chest room for the full and free action of the heart and lungs for the production and distribution of blood, which plays a prominent part in milk secretion; a capacious stomach for working up food to advantage in milk production, which implies deep and well-sprung ribs. Other desirable features are the clean-cut head, and bright clear eye (denoting nervous force), smooth shoulders and narrow withers, strong, wide loin, long level quarters, a mellow-handling hide, and fine, clean flat bone, together with a large and well-balanced udder and well-placed teats of good size. He advocated liberal feeding at all times with balanced rations, and especially in the case of cows while in milk, and deplored the folly of allowing cows to shrink in their milk in times of drought, as it is impossible in that season to bring the cows again up to their best work. For this contingency he advised the soiling system, or the sowing of mixed grains, the crop to be cut when in the milk stage and fed to the cows in the stable by day during the hot period in summer. The provision of corn ensilage sufficient to carry a part over for summer feeding was also approved.

Mr. Cottrel urged the necessity of co-operation of farmers in the production of a uniformly high class of poultry, so that a profitable export market may be established for our poultry, as has been for our cheese, butter and bacon. He recommended the Plymouth Rocks and Wyandottes especially as utility birds, being fair layers and first-class fleshing fowl, and advised improving the fowls we have by the continued use of pure-bred males of the same breed. For winter egg-production, warm and well-ventilated quarters are essential, together with exercise and a supply of green food, meat, ground bone and grit, mica crystals being preferred to gravel as grit. Fowls should not be filled with a heavy feed in the morning, but kept scratching for grain in straw or chaff to induce exercise, to promote circulation of blood and the formation of muscle and prevent their becoming too fat.

Miss Miller spoke interestingly on the importance of cleanliness in the handling and care of milk in order to secure the best flavor and keeping quality in butter, and deprecated the idea that slipshod methods were good enough for those who made butter only for their own family, as though they were not as good and should not have as good butter as any others. She called attention to the fact that a meal faultless in every other particular and ever so tastefully arranged may be spoiled by a plate of ill-flavored butter. An expensive equipment is not necessary to good buttermaking, and one may have all the latest approved appliances and yet have a poor product. Miss Miller's talk was illustrated by the presentation of samples of milk and butter in various stages of preparation, contrasting good samples with inferior from the stores, and showing the most approved manner of putting up butter in prints, etc., to make the most attractive appearance while standing the severest test for quality. The audience would gladly have listened for an hour to Miss Miller, whose talk was of an intensely interesting character.

Mr. Creelman, who is making a great success of the Farmers' Institute system by the selection of capable and practical men and women as speakers on the various lines in which they have had successful experience, spoke fluently and forcefully of the importance of the educational element in this connection and of the need of vigilance in the production of the best quality of goods in all lines of dairy and meat products in order to capture and keep the best markets.

The Western Dairy School, under the capable, efficient and up-to-date superintendence of Mr. Arch. Smith, is doing excellent work, the attendance of students being larger than in former years, between 50 and 60 being in attendance in January, with additional applications from others who will commence a short course in February. Substantial improvements in the arrangement of the rooms in the school building