when put into the silo. This, however, was not the case, and with feeding same amount as I had been previously, I could detect no difference whatever. I, therefore, feel satisfied that winter silo filling is quite satisfactory, and is much more profitable, provided you have a sufficient amount of corn left over, than feeding it to the cattle in the stalks. In future, I will not hesitate to make sure of planting enough, and feel sure that anyone who tries this will be perfectly satisfied with the result.

York Co., Ont. ARCHIE MUIR.

A Milestone in Rural Financing.

Agriculturists, as a rule, have an inbred abhorrence of "being in debt" and it has been a general practice to curtail expenses, delay improvements and carry on all operations in a miserly way to escape the claws of the money lender and evade the relentless interest toll. Encumbrances levied through expenditures for luxuries and unnecessary acquisitions are unwise, but floating loans to carry on productive enterprises is an habitual and legitimate practice of trade. Commercial concerns borrow all the money their rating will allow and financiers will advance and if the farmers would look on this practice in its true and commercial light and run the farm as a business enterprise it would transform the farm into a modern factory. This unfavorable view of mortgaging land has grown out of a cruel system operated by money lenders but the time has come in Canada when rural credit may be obtained on a safe and satisfactory basis.

Recently the Peoples' Banks in the Province of Quebec were explained in these columns and an Act to incorporate the Saskatchewan Co-operative Farm Mortgage Association assented to in December, 1913 will furnish the farmers of that Province with a source of money that should assist them in the development of their lands and bring the interest toll to a legitimate basis.

This association is engineered by two executive heads. There is a body of commissioners, three in number, appointed by the Lieut.-Governor in Council and who ultimately will hold office for five years. It is their duty (a) To approve or reject applications for loans; (b) to issue certificates of membership; (c) to organize members in the local groups; (d) to issue bonds upon the security of first mortgages on farm lands; (e) to make provision for keeping an accurate account of all the business of the company; (f) to employ and fix the remuneration of such clerical help, inspectors and other officers or employees as may be required to do all things which the association in its corporate capacity may do when not forbidden by the by-laws.

One commissioner shall be designated Managing Commissioner and shall receive sufficient remuneration as may be determined by the Lieut.-Governor in Council. He is the only individual of the two executive bodies who is allowed a salary. The other members receive no salary for their services as such, but shall be entitled to a per diem allowance together with their actual cost of transportation to and from meetings of the commissioners or other business of the association.

The other executive body, called the Advisory Board, shall consist of fifteen members; five of whom shall be appointed by the Lieut.-Governor in Council, five by leading organizations of the Province and five shall be elected by ballot at the general meeting of the association. It will be their duty to inspect the accounts and business of the association, to direct the policy of the commissioners in conducting the affairs of the association and report all such conditions to the annual meeting.

Community organization is to be the corner stone of this structure and no member can endow himself with the advantages of the association through a loan unless he gather around him at least nine other members who will approve of his loan and organize themselves into a body subsidiary to the general association. They in turn elect their own chairman and secretary and are entitled to one vote at the annual meeting through one delegate by whom they may be represented. Under this organization the central body can not stand to lose for each loan bears the approval and indorsation of at least nine associates and in case of any defaultation the delinquent's obligations are levied upon the other members of the local society in proportion to the original face value of their loans.

No loan shall be made by the association to a member except upon the security of a first mortgage on farm land situated in the province and such loan shall be expended on permanent improvements to the property mortgaged as security or on productive purposes connected with the development of such property or on the payment of liability previously incurred for such purposes. No loan shall be made for an amount greater than 40 per centum of the commissioners' valuation of the property offered as security. Loans thus procured must extend over a period of fifteen years and not more than twenty-five years.

The rate of interest to be charged by the association on its loans shall be such as will be sufficient but no more than sufficient to pay the interest on and the cost of marketing its securities, the expense of conducting the business and the creation of a reserve fund; the association shall not seek to earn and shall not pay any profits.

Readers might be interested in the source of this money so loaned and how such a quantity of money might be procured as will answer the requirements of that system of credit. The mortgages thus placed in the hands of the association as security for the loans are pooled and given as security for the bonds which will be sold. In addition to this security the Government will guarantee all bonds and interest charges thereon. These bonds secured by farm land, the main source of wealth in the Province and furthermore guaranteed by the Government should have a ready sale on the bond markets of the world.

In addition to this the Government has provided for the payment of the managing commissioner's salary for a term of three years and pay to the commissioners any sum not exceeding the amount granted by the Legislature for that purpose which may be required to cover the expenses incurred in the organizations of the association and of the local groups.

There are two points in connection with this movement which are worthy of some consideration. In the first place no agriculturist can borrow money except on a first mortgage. Apparently the benefit of the association will not reach the man who is in most urgent need of money but will be placed at the disposal of him who already has his farm freed from encumbrances or has a small liability which may be transferred to the association provided it and the loan do not exceed 40 per cent. of the value of his property. In the second place government assistance is beneficial in many cases but this association lacks that spirit of self-dependence and self-help so pronounced in the organization of the Peoples' Banks of the Province of Quebec. The commissioners in this Association in whose hands rests the engineering of the scheme are appointed directly or indirectly by the Government and are not left to the selection of the members of the Association for whom and by whom the association is to be organized and whom it is to benefit. Notwithstanding these minor points which are a matter of individual opinion the movement is worthy and marks an epoch in the evolution of rural financing.

Sir Houwtje De Kol Butter Boy.

At the head of the Holstein herd of R. V. Demaray, Kerwood, Ont., to be dispersed at auction, May 22nd.

Barley Grows Well on Root Ground.

George R. A. Miller, an Ontario County, Ontario correspondent of "The Farmer's Advocate" reports good success with growing barley on root ground of the previous year. His method of cultivation is to go over the land once with the spring-tooth cultivator early in the spring, and allow it to remain in that condition until after the oats are sown, then this land is ploughed about four inches deep and harrowed, after which the seed is sown, which usually gives a good crop of straw and grain.

Kill The Weeds Wholesale.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Weeds may be most successfully fought by killing them on a large scale, and by means of large machinery. There is the matter of cleaning a field by hoe crop, for instance. Most farmers plowed their root land last fall. Already the weed seeds turned up then have germinated. These may be destroyed by the million by a thorough disking or similar method of cultivation. This will leave the land fine on the top, a mulch that when plowed down will be just the thing for conserving soil moisture, and for the spread of the root system of the growing plants. If manure is to be applied this is the time to apply it. It the meantime the seeds that the spring cultivation has stirred up will have germinated. The land should be carefully plowed again and a stroke of the harrow given. If practicable at all it will be a wise thing to allow the weed seeds a few days to germinate, and then the final cultivation and the planting may be proceeded with. The average farmer may sorely begrudge the apparent loss of time incurred in waiting a day or two at this season of the year, but he will find that it will pay him over and over again to kill his weeds before the planting is done. This method saves time when the rush of the haying and harvest is on. It allows the weed killing to be done by the two-horse method. It insures the thorough preparation of the seed bed. It allows all the land to be thoroughly exposed to the sun and air. It admits of cultivation without any considerable disturbance of the root system of the farmer's crop.

York Co., Ont. W. D.

THE DAIRY.

What of the Markets for Cheese and Butter?

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The opening season for creameries and cheseries is always an anxious time for owners, managers, salesmen, patrons and buyers. How is the market going to go? is a question many are asking themselves at the present time. My observatiogs lead me to conclude that in one respect, at least, we have the same condition each year. This condition is; that invariably the buyers talk low prices at the beginning of the season. In the language of the street, they "knock" the market in the spring, and "boost" it in the fall, after they have bought the season's goods. All this is quite natural, or at least it is human, taking men as you find them. Dairy produce buyers are no worse than others. A French cynic is reported to have said, "The more I see of humanity, the more respect I have for dogs."

On this question of "knocking" the dairy market, it might be worth repeating what a well-known trade journal said recently: "Everyone seems to be talking lower prices, as if there were no bottom to the market; but the question arises as to whether it is wise to hammer the market (for butter) down too low, lest factorymen should turn their attention to cheese." We spent a part of a day recently among buyers of dairy produce. As always, we were received courteously, because no class of men, so far as we have had experience, are more obliging and gentlemanly than the men who are purchasing dairy products. There was one chorus which all sang, "the market for butter and cheese is bound to go the lowest it has done in many years." These men talked twenty cents per pound for butter, and ten cents for cheese. On butter particularly, these men were emphatic—"it must get down to an export basis," they all, with one accord did quote. Well, suppose it does, is this likely to be a calamity? If the Danish, French, Irish and New Zealand farmers are content with export prices, why should not the Canadian farmer be, if he gets a square deal"? If we can turn out an article equal to the