

climatic conditions were unfavorable for a bumper output. The situation appears worse for next season. With prospects of big prices we fancy farmers will demand big profits from a large make; and the maker, conscious of the increasing scarcity of men, must timely ask the question:—From where is my help to come?

(2.) Rennet.—Last season saw Rennet at \$7 per gallon—with a previous high price at \$3— and only a limited supply at that price. Today it is quoted at \$10. The maker finds in this alone a cause for consideration as the amount expended very greatly reduces his income from the business. Substitutes are being experimented with, but little authentic data is before the public as yet; and we cannot blame the 'old timer' for being a little candid about adopting the use of something about which he is uncertain as to its results upon the quantity or quality of cheese made. It is thought however, by those who are studying the question, that a satisfactory solution for the rennet hold-up will result in the use of a suitable substitute when all details regarding its actions are put in the hands of the maker.

(3.) Boxes.—This should not offer a serious trouble. Yet, last summer many of the factories of Western Ontario were forced to hold cheese, at a loss in price and in quality, during the extreme heat of July month. Boxes which ten years ago could be had for 9 to 12c cost the maker 25c. Here again substitutes for the regular wooden box are being tried, and will eventually supersede the dearer one: but the maker again, is suffering as a result of the sudden seemingly un-called-for situation which confronts him.

(4.) Competition from Creameries.—Numerous creameries are springing

up in small towns and with those of large cities are demanding a trade that is seriously interfering with the success of our cheese factories. Many farmers are so much convinced, whether justified or not, that they cannot afford to feed whey instead of skim milk that they are patronizing these creameries. The small factory cannot afford to halve its raw material, since there is a limit to the radius from which milk can profitably be drawn; and we find it weakening as its competitor advances along the road to prosperity. Again, the maker is the sufferer since small make spells small returns.

(5.) Another competitor.—It is an astounding fact, worthy of note by the maker and any one else connected with the output of cheese, that the future of cheese-making, in the model dairy county of Western Ontario, is being threatened by the inraids of a somewhat new branch of the Dairy industry in these parts. I refer to the production of Powdered Milk. Just a short time ago, one of the strongest and most noted co-operative companies in Oxford County was engulfed by the Canadian Products Company—a concern which now operates instead of various factories in that district, made famous years ago by its large output from business concerns owned and operated by the farmers themselves. In this case it was scarcely a matter of choice for the farmers. The Powder Company thrust itself upon the people to do one of two things—either buy the independence of the thrifty dairy farmers of that company or set up an opposition to them in a locality which could not support remuneratively both. Being conscious of the inducements offered through large cash payments payable to the farmers for his raw material, and seeing no chance to hold out against a concern so backed