

Classes for Cheese and Butter Cows.

A well-known breeder of Jersey cattle, in a communication to "The Farmer's Advocate," expresses, or, at all events, implies, dissatisfaction with the basis on which the milking competitions are conducted at the Winter Fairs at Guelph and Ottawa, arguing quite properly that cost of feed should be taken into consideration in determining the standing of the cows entered, and submitting a calculation, based on data, as to cost of feeding, cited from a report of the St. Louis Fair Board, of 1904, all of which represents the single Jersey entered at Guelph in December last as achieving 9 cents greater profit in butter-fat production than the champion Holstein cow of that exhibition. Without dwelling on the uncertainty of computing a cow's profit on the estimated cost of feeding an entirely different cow, it should, in justice, be pointed out that an item of 15 cents, or thereabouts, should have been allowed for the extra 70 pounds of skim milk and buttermilk obtainable from the yield of the champion Holstein over the Jersey in the test in question, thus transferring the balance to one of six or eight cents on the side of the other cow. This is said not in disparagement of the solitary Jersey entry, handicapped as she was by odds of numbers, nor of the breed she represents, but in simple regard for the facts of the contest, according to the official results. Were cheesemaking, and not buttermaking, the end in view, the Holstein would, of course, make a much better showing; but, even in buttermaking, skim milk has a value that should never be ignored. Twenty cents per cwt. is a low estimate to place on good sweet skim milk.

We thoroughly agree with our correspondent, however, that amount and cost of feed should be taken into consideration in the scale of points, and, though perhaps not practicable, it would be desirable to have an authenticated account of the feed consumed for, say, a week previous. It is a question, further, whether there should not be two competitions, one from a cheesemaking and one from a buttermaking standard. The present scale of points is a compromise which scarcely does justice to either, though nearer the buttermaking than the cheesemaking standard. It allows 25 points for each pound of butter-fat, and 3 points for each pound of solids not fat.

Looking at the matter, first, from a butter standpoint, valuing butter-fat at 25 cents a pound and skim milk and buttermilk at 20 cents per cwt., then, if 25 points is a fair credit per pound of fat, 24 would be about a corresponding credit for each pound of solids not fat. From a cheesemaker's point of view, if 25 points were a fair credit for each pound of fat, 6 points would be none too much to allow for each pound of solids not fat. This ratio is deduced from the "percent-of-fat-plus-two" method of calculating the value of milk for cheesemaking, making, in addition, a trifling (perhaps not a sufficient) allowance for whey solids.

Why not have two classes, one for cows to be judged as butter-producers, skim milk being considered at feed value, and one for cows to be compared as cheese-factory propositions? What do breeders think of the suggestion?

Scatter the Seed of Progress.

A great many subscribers this year are getting their subscriptions renewed for nothing but a little trouble, in many cases very little, by securing two new names at \$1.50 each, sending these, accompanied by \$3.00, and having their own date labels marked forward one year. Others send one new name, at \$1.50, being thereby credited with six months' advance on their renewals, sending 75 cents to pay the balance. Thus is the good seed scattered. Help to spread more of it in your neighborhood. Send two new names if possible, or one at least.

In reply to a question in Parliament, recently, it was stated that the estimated number of farmers in Canada in 1901 was 471,883, and in 1908, 575,000. It was also estimated that 3,349,516 persons were dependent upon farming operations for their support in 1901, and 3,782,000 in 1908. The total value of exports of farm products in 1901 was \$208,417,820, and in 1908, \$432,531,000.

Free Trade Not One-sided.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In your issue of January 11th there is a letter headed, "One-sided Free Trade," but, in fact, free trade is not one-sided, and I think that if Mr. Boyle would stand up straight against a true plumb, he would find out that it was himself that was one-sided.

Free trade is just in principle, and, for the most part, the nearer we get to it, the better for all. But absolute free trade in all things is not desirable. For instance, Great Britain has a free-trade policy, yet she has a tax on some of the luxuries, namely, wines, spirits, tobacco, and also a tax on the income of the rich. Mr. Boyle seems to be afraid of direct taxation. We have direct taxation in our township matters; why not have it in Dominion matters, as well? We would then know what we paid to keep up the Government, as it must be kept up by some method or another. Protection benefits the few at the expense of the many, and if protection is such a blessing to the United States, as Mr. Boyle states, why did both Mr. Taft and Mr. Bryan promise revision of the tariff during their campaign for the presidency, and why are Mr. Carnegie, Mr. Hill, Mr. Johnson and many others calling for lower tariffs? Nearly all the great manufacturers are calling for lower tariff or reciprocity with Canada, simply because they now see the fallacy of their policy, which was simply trying to make themselves rich by taxing themselves.

I would also like that Mr. Boyle would tell us how the farmers of Canada could be benefited by higher protection? JAMES S. MILLER.

Parry Sound, Ont.

The Stockmen's Paper.

"The Farmer's Advocate" is the Canadian stockmen's journal. In this field it has practically no opposition. Visit any live-stock exposition in the Dominion, or any concourse of stockmen, and the great majority of those in attendance will prove to be subscribers of "The Farmer's Advocate," many of them having been brought there by an advertisement in this paper. A vast amount of helpful experience and authoritative information on all phases of stock-breeding and stock-raising is published in our columns, while, for advertisements, reports of sales and exhibitions, and for general news and gossip of the trade, our columns are indispensable to any stockman who desires to keep up-to-date. Live-stock advertising is a strong feature.

In every city there is, as a rule, a certain paper which everybody patronizes as a want-ad. medium. "The Farmer's Advocate" fulfils a similar place among the Canadian stock-breeding fraternity. People who wish to buy look to our advertising columns. Those who want to sell, advertise with us as a matter of course, and, as any of them will tell you, get returns which throw all other mediums completely in the shade. Indeed, the great majority now use no other at all. Editorially and commercially, "The Farmer's Advocate" is a stockman's necessity.

Farmer's Interest in Home Manufactures.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In reading the letters, "Who is the Tyrant?" and "A Kick from the Cow," issue January 7th, one who is not politically biased may be led to think that issues are not fairly set forth. Mr. Beer plausibly states: "Perhaps I can give you a case, and I will endeavor to make it so plain that he who runs may read. In buying the Toronto machine at \$125, the \$25 duty goes into the pocket of the Toronto man, and he will have \$25 that he never earned. If the farmer buys the Chicago binder, the \$25 duty will go into the Dominion treasury, and will benefit all. The farmer, of course, will be out his \$25 in either case."

Statisticians inform us that one-half of the price an article sells for is paid out as wages. Then, there are raw materials, transportation of raw materials to manufacturing plant, cost of sale, etc. Quite a proportion of the \$125 is paid out to the laborer, skilled and unskilled, and it would be interesting to know exactly the amount which goes into the pocket of the manu-

facturer; how much he gets for interest on capital; how much for wear and tear, how much for depreciation in buildings; for protection, insurance for protection of men engaged in dangerous work; how much the manufacturer receives for direction of labor and worry of financing.

If the \$125 were paid to the Chicago man, all that money, except the \$25 duty, goes into the hands of citizens of the United States; to pay for all the items mentioned above. "He who runs" sometimes thinks that the \$125 may be better placed in the hands of Canadian citizens. The home market is of great value to the farmer. The \$125 gives employment to the creator of the home market. The men engaged in skilled labor are paid better than the ones employed at unskilled work, and can afford to pay a higher price for choice butter, eggs, meat, fruit, etc., and it is to this class of customer that the skilled farmer looks for a higher price for the products of his skill. The mechanic, the heads of educational, manufacturing and mercantile establishments, the doctor, the Cabinet Minister, the lawyer, and so on, are all highly-paid laborers.

If we allow a great proportion of our manufacturing to be done in foreign countries, a great proportion of our intelligent and ambitious young men will go to such foreign countries, where their abilities will meet with larger returns. We do not wish to be the "hewers of wood and drawers of water" merely.

Some of the talk about the "rich men being fed on pap," and of the "worm turning on the enemy," "the man who cannot live in a free-trade country is not worthy the name of a man," makes one feel like using a sporting phrase, "Play the Game."

Capital will not be invested in industries that will not yield a fair return. If other countries refuse to buy our finished products, which is what is proposed when a high tariff is adopted, shall we be satisfied to sell only those articles which require the least skill to produce, and which receive the poorest reward for production?

If other countries would adopt a free-trade policy, the arguments of free-traders would be more readily accepted. Great Britain has made rapid strides under a free-trade policy, but the United States and Germany have made greater comparative progress under a highly protective policy. It seems necessary to fight tariffs with the same weapons. Capital flows to where it receives protection. JOHN NEWTON.

Labelle Co., Que.

Active Meeting of Farmers' Club.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The annual meeting of the Brant Township Farmers' Club, held on January 12th, showed that, although it was asleep a few months during the busy summer, it is yet as live as ever, and perhaps a little more so. Judging from the enthusiasm displayed at this meeting, the future success of our meetings will be more pronounced than ever. It is becoming apparent that enterprising farmers are feeling the necessity of more co-operative work. The co-operative buying of seed is only one of the many advantages that will result from organization in a farming community. We, as farmers, have been partially asleep to our own interests, and are only beginning to get out of our stupor. We are beginning to see wherein we can improve ourselves, and it will be the purpose of our Club to help to bring about as many of these improvements as we can.

Since organization, on March 6th, 1908, six meetings were held, and many important matters discussed. The interest manifested by those present was always sufficient to keep the meetings from getting monotonous. The progressive farmer is always willing to learn, and takes an interest in similar meetings, because there is a circulation of ideas. He feels that activity is life, while inactivity is death.

Last spring our neighborhood bought its seed corn and clover seed on the co-operative plan, and the prospects are the same will be done this year.

Experiments in fertilizers were conducted by different members, some showing good results, others none at all, and stable manure will still be used as a fertilizer. Taking the year all through, and considering it being our first year, we had a very successful year, as a Club.

The old officers were re-elected. Mr. Player, of the Walkerton Creamery, addressed the meeting, with a view to starting a cow-testing association. He distributed a number of pamphlets—Bulletin No. 12, by J. A. Ruddick, of Ottawa, on testing associations—and explained the advantage of knowing just which cow paid for her feed, and which would have to be classed as free boarders. He mentioned a large farm in Quebec where he was at one time employed that took a daily test of every cow in the herd. There were always about 250 cows, and any cow producing less than 300 pounds of butter in a year was sold.

Two papers were given, one by A. E. Wahn, and another by W. Rowand. Mr. Wahn's subject was "Entertainment in the Home." He said that every home should have something in the line