

## A Referendum on the Dairy Standards Act

Farm and Dairy to Take Vote of the Dairymen of Ontario—Why This Action has been Deemed Advisable—Prominent Dairy Authorities Want It—Ballot to be Placed on February 22nd.

### Get into Shape Now FOR THE DAIRY Season



The favorite everywhere it goes. Note its beauty and heavy compact construction, with low-down, handy supply can only 3/2 ft. from the floor.

equipment. Hundreds of dairymen are losing good money every day trying to get along without a separator, or working away with a poor one. When you buy a

### Simplex Cream Separator

you get a machine that has stood the test of time; that is noted for its labor saving devices; that skims to a nicety and saves its owner work, worry and money every day of the year. The SIMPLEX is beautiful in construction, with an extra heavy base and heavy rigid frame. The 11,000 size, when at speed and skimming milk takes no more power than the ordinary 5,000 lb. separator of other makes. You have here a direct saving of time, labor and money.

Of the many other interesting features of the SIMPLEX we will be glad to tell you if you write us. Drop us a line to-night, asking us for information on the SIMPLEX and on our B. L. K. MECHANICAL MILKER. You will get some interesting and useful information, and be under no obligation whatever.

### D. Derbyshire Co., Limited

Head Office and Works - BROCKVILLE, ONT.,

Branches: PETERBOROUGH, ONT., MONTREAL and QUEBEC, P.Q.  
WE WANT AGENTS IN A FEW UNREPRESENTED DISTRICTS.

There is no better time, than the present when work has "eased off" a little to get things prepared and be ready for the next season. It is the man who is prepared—and well prepared—who finds the machinery of his business a move smoothly and the dollars roll in. There never was a time in the history of the dairy industry when prices were so high or prospects so rosy as now; but the "plum" fall to the man with the best timing and good money.

### UNDISCOVERED ABILITY

Many a young farmer has discovered untamed or business ability within himself when securing new readers for farm papers. The writer of this advertisement had never sold a dollar's worth of anything in his life till one day he was literally forced to take subscriptions for a magazine. Since then he has had the opportunity of travelling as salesman in nearly all of Canada, and fully one-third of the United States.

Perhaps this is your opportunity. We need a special representative of Farm and Dairy in every dairy district in Canada. Write us and see if your district is open. We not only give our local agents exclusive territory, but supply them names of prospective subscribers and help them to get the business. We know how and will show you how. Write to-day.

FARM AND DAIRY AGENCY DEPARTMENT  
Peterboro

As announced in last week's issue, it has been decided to conduct through the pages of Farm and Dairy a referendum on the Dairy Standards Act. This decision has been reached because of the uncertainty regarding public opinion on this legislation. At the last session of the legislature, the Dairy Standards Act was passed. Its main provision is that after March 31st of this year the payment for milk at cheese factories shall be placed on a quality basis, the factories having the power to decide whether the straight fat or the fat plus two method shall be used as a basis for payment. Members of both sides of the House had a hand in framing the measure, and it was passed without opposition. There is no doubt but that the discussion on the question, which has lasted for over 20 years, influenced the legislature to take action. Although proposals to abandon the pooling system had frequently been advanced, no definite measures had been taken and the legislature, deeming the time for action had arrived, put the Dairy Standards Act on the statute books.

#### Conflicting Opinions.

In Eastern Ontario most of the cheese output of the province is manufactured. In order to prepare the farmers of this section of the province for the introduction of the act, Messrs. Pulong and Zuffel prepared a number of demonstration cheese, showing the influence of the fat content of milk on the quantity of cheese manufactured. District meetings were arranged at which these were displayed, and the advantages of the new legislation were advanced. The results of these meetings were varied. Although the majority seemed to be favorable to the legislation, some passed strong resolutions, calling on the Government to rescind the legislation or to postpone its enforcement. In Hastings county, the opposition was so strong that the cheese boards took the matter in hand and arranged the taking of a vote of the patrons of the factories of the county, the results of which will later be forwarded to the Government. Then the great dairy men's conventions were held. In Eastern Ontario a resolution calling for the postponement of the Act for one year was carried. At the Western Ontario convention, the legislation was confirmed and the Government asked to extend the quality basis of payment to all milk sold for whatever purpose. Later, a meeting of the Oxford County Milk Producers' Association, held in the same district as the W. O. D. A. convention, opposed the Act. Strong feelings on the question have arisen amongst the patrons of certain factories when called upon to decide which of the two systems of payment they would adopt. Individual opinion expressed on the platform, as well as through the press is as inconclusive as the results of meetings and furnish no clue as to where the majority of dairymen stand on the question.

#### Where Are We At?

And so the question arises, where are we "at" on the Dairy Standards Act? What do the dairymen of the province desire regarding it? How, out of this conflict of opinions, are we to decide what they want? Is there a means of arriving at what is the widely opinion of the dairymen of the province? The answer is that there is only one way to do this and that is to give them an opportunity to vote on it. But, as we have stated before, there is no referendum law in the province. Provincial machinery does not exist for the taking of a vote of those interested

in the question. This suggested that Farm and Dairy, as the recognized organ of the dairy industry, circulating widely amongst dairymen and dairy farmers, would be a proper medium through which to conduct such a referendum. Upon consulting prominent men interested in dairy matters it was found that they strongly supported the idea. Deputy Minister of Agriculture, W. Bert Roadhouse, writes Farm and Dairy—as follows: "I can assure you that the expression of opinion which you will secure will be watched with keen interest by the Department of Agriculture." President Stratton of the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association, also favors the idea, intimating that the results should indicate the views of the dairymen on the subject. Others interviewed are equally favorable. We are therefore encouraged in believing that the plebiscite that has been planned will do much to clear up public opinion on the Dairy Standards Act, and that it will furnish valuable material for discussing the enforcement of the act in hand upon which to base further action regarding the legislation.

#### How and When to Vote.

The ballot will be published in Farm and Dairy, issue of Feb. 22nd. Only one ballot will appear in each copy of the paper, so that the voting can only be done by bona fide readers of the paper and there will be no possibility of ballot stuffing or other improper procedure. Only votes received on the regular ballot paper from residents of Ontario will be recognized. The returns will be counted by a committee of two men, one of whom is opposed to the act and the other in favor of it. The names of the two men selected will appear in next week's issue. The questions asked will not be complex but will simply ask whether you are in favor of the act and if not what you propose should be done with it?

#### Prizes for Essays.

In order that everyone who wishes to vote may be enabled to do so advisedly, Farm and Dairy has offered substantial prizes for the articles for and against the legislation. The condition of this contest appears on the opposite page. The prize winning essays will be published in the same issue as the ballot and should set forth the strongest arguments for and against the act.

Dairymen! what is your opinion on the Dairy Standards Act? Should it come into force on the day appointed, or be postponed for year, or indefinitely? The decision on this question may mean many dollars to you before the end of next factory season. We believe in the wisdom of the act and will have much to do in guiding legislative action regarding the enforcement of the Act. Watch for the ballot in Farm and Dairy, Feb. 22nd. Vote on the questions therein asked and return the ballot to us. You will then have done your share in clearing up the uncertainty regarding the opinion of dairymen on this much discussed legislation.

#### He Was Not a Joshua.

Little sister and brother had quarrelled. After supper, says Harper's Magazine, mother tried to establish friendly relations again, and quoted to them the Bible injunction: "Let not the sun go down upon your wrath."

Turning to Edward, the older, she said, "Now, Edward, are you going to let the sun go down upon your wrath?" Edward squinted at little as he looked up into her pleading face. "Well, how can I stop it?" he asked.

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