

seldom still, till the cow gives so little milk that the milking might be dispensed with altogether. During the heestings-period it must be considered not only wrong, but even dangerous often and hard to milk such cows which show any disposition for milk fever. According to examinations made by a famous Danish veterinary surgeon, this disease is caused by an increased activity in the udder, which must be considered still further increased by energetic milking. But for these two periods, when the cow is being dried and when she gives heestings (first milk), she can scarcely be milked too hard (that is too often and too energetically).

The milker must pay great attention to the cleanly condition of the udder and the teats. If he observes knots or tenderness in the udder, sores on the teats, the milk-canal stopped up, or the milk having an unnatural appearance, etc., he must at once tell the foreman. Diseases in udders and teats often being contagious, cows in that way infected must always be milked the last, and the milk from the affected part of the udder be put into a special vessel and destroyed, in order to hinder further spreading of the infection. The milk-canal in the teat is sometimes very tight (the cow being what is called hard-milked) or often shows an inclination to get stopped up. To use a straw, or such like, to widen and "cleanse" the canal is very bad policy, because in that way inflammation of the corresponding part of the udder might easily follow. A teat which has a stopped milk-canal must first carefully be worked or kneaded between the palms of the hands, and then carefully milked clean. A heifer is often sensitive for the milking manipulation, and this sensitiveness will sometimes last until she gets older; in this case the milker must be still more kind and careful at the milking; and means of restraint or force must be used only in case of great necessity.

Needless to mention, the greatest cleanliness must be observed at the milking. It would be desirable that every milker had at least two milking-gowns of washing

material, in order that he or she might, at least every Sunday morning, appear in a clean milking-dress. Since the milking ought to be performed with bare arms, the gowns ought to be made with short sleeves, and in a way that they might easily be slipped on over the usual clothes.

All milking-vessels must be kept scrupulously clean, and should be made of tinned iron plate, and must not be allowed to get rusty. Before each milking the hands should be well washed, and also during the work—between milking different cows—they should be dipped in clean water and wiped as often as needed. For the sake of cleanliness the milking must be performed with dry hands; to moisten the teats with milk as some milkers do is very dirty, and ought to be strongly condemned. It is the duty of a cowman to keep the animals well cleaned. If the udder be dirty it must be washed with tepid water and well wiped with a towel before the cow is milked. Milk is very apt to absorb gases, and it is of great importance that the atmosphere in the cow-house, especially during the milking time, should be kept as fresh and pure as possible. Feeding and, of course, cleaning out the shed must never take place during the milking. The milking vessels when the milk is strained ought not to be placed in the cow-house, but outside in the pure air. Light not only promotes the inclination for cleanliness and work, it also acts purifyingly on the air. A cow-house which has plenty of daylight and, during winter, is well lighted morning and evening by good lanterns gives the best guarantees for a good and cleanly milking.

### **CHEDDAR CHEESE.**

(Continued).

#### **Straining Milk.**

The milk when it is brought into the dairy is poured into a hoop temporarily fixed upon the sides of the tub and covered with a very fine muslin. This, whilst it ensures perfect straining from all large im-