

that ordinarily used. It can be sold from one-third to one-half cheaper yard for yard than other twine. It is claimed that there are thousands of acres of land in Manitoba which produce grass suitable for this purpose.

A movement is on foot for the re-establishment of the School of Agriculture in connection with the Provincial Model Farm at Truro, Nova Scotia. The enlargement of the scope of the institution has found many advocates, but there are a few who seem to fear that any widening of the work will only result in failure. Those who have such fears must have very little faith in the future of agriculture in the Maritime Provinces. Agriculture has reached such a stage in this country, and the lower provinces are no exception to the rule, that unless the best and most up-to-date methods of farming are practised Canada will retrograde instead of going forward.

### The Outlook for Creamery Butter

A short review of the creamery butter situation may be quite opportune at this juncture, when so many of our cheese factories are changing from summer cheese-making to winter butter-making. The general outlook is a very hopeful one. Never before has Canadian creamery butter stood so high in the estimation of the British consumer as at the present time. This growing popularity means a gradually increasing demand as the years go by, and a larger market for our butter. True, there are times of depression such as the export butter market has experienced during the past week or two, but these come at certain seasons in every line of trade, and do not affect Canada any more than other butter-exporting countries.

Our chief competitors in supplying butter to the British market up to 1898 were Denmark and the United States, with Australia and New Zealand figuring largely in the trade at certain seasons of the year. If statistics of the present season's trade are any criterion it would seem that the United States is no longer a prominent factor in the export butter trade. Up to November 12th the shipments of butter from New York this season show the large decrease of 120,354 packages as compared with the same period of 1897, and the total shipments up to date amount to only about 50,000 packages. The reason for this shrinkage is either one of two things, the increased consumption of butter in the United States or a falling off in production. If it is the former, and there seems to be good reason for believing that it is, there is a likelihood of the same conditions prevailing another season. The price of butter in the United States has been good all through the summer season, and a week ago prices at New York were from three to four cents per pound higher than what exporters at Montreal could afford to pay for finest creamery butter for export, and, therefore, if there has been a falling off in the production of butter in the United States it has not been because of low prices. It is safe, then, to conclude that American creamery butter is not likely to be as important a factor in the British market as formerly, and that it may in the near future be entirely out of the race. This is the more remarkable when we consider the special efforts made about a year ago by the United States Secretary of Agriculture to develop the export butter trade of that country.

Leaving the United States out of the question let us look at the other countries referred to. It is safe to assume that Denmark is in the butter-exporting business for keeps, and whatever efforts we may put forth to develop our export butter trade we must count on keen Danish competition. As to Australia and New Zealand, their efforts in the past have been somewhat of a spasmodic nature. It seems to be their plan, and especially the former country, to gather together large quantities of butter and send it forward in shiploads at certain seasons. This tends to create a panicky feeling in the market, and gives operators a chance to "bear" the market and reduce prices. It is not likely, however, that this kind of trade will be carried on to as large an extent in the future. A Canadian dairy

expert has recently gone to New Zealand to take charge of the dairy work there, and we may look for more systematic competition from that quarter than formerly.

Canadians, however, should have no fear of competition from these countries. We are near the market and have facilities and conditions as favorable for making as good a quality of creamery butter as can be made anywhere. The competition of France, Sweden and Holland, though not usually considered so important as that of the other countries we have mentioned, should not be overlooked. These countries are near the market, and at present send considerably more butter to England than Canada does. Sweden is, perhaps, to be feared more than any of the others, as conditions there are such that the production of butter could be largely increased, and we understand the Swedes are making special efforts along this line.

Though we will have to depend upon Great Britain to take the bulk of the butter we export, there are other countries that might be induced to take large quantities of our butter if their market is well looked after. Prof. Robertson, in his evidence before the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Colonization last April, stated that shipments of butter sent by the Department to Japan and the British West Indies were well received, and netted from 22 to 24 cents per pound. These are satisfactory prices, and if a proper package can be secured at a reasonable price that will stand the heat of the ocean voyage to these countries a good export trade might be worked up. Then there is our own local market to be supplied. Every year the demand for fine creamery butter in our towns and cities increases. The general outlook then is a very hopeful one, and if our dairymen are vigilant in regard to the quality of the product, and if it is sent to the consumer regularly and in good condition, there is no reason why our export butter trade cannot be largely increased within the next few years.

### The Regulations Regarding Imported Stock Into the United States

When the new regulations, affecting the importation of pure bred live stock into the United States, were issued by the Treasury Department at Washington, on August 19th last, it was thought by some that they were more stringent and would militate more against the Canadian breeder than those put into force by the same department on Feb'y 1st, 1895. A comparison of the two, however, shows that there is very little, if any, change. Mr. Henry Wade, Registrar of live stock, Toronto, informs us that, practically speaking, there is no change in the new regulations as compared with the old ones. Mr. Robert Miller, Brougham, Ont., who has made some recent shipments of pure-bred cattle and sheep to the United States, writes us as follows: "I have been shipping sheep and cattle to the United States regularly and have not heard of any new requirements in the Customs department of the United States. The proper form of registration certificate, health certificates and consular invoice, also affidavit of shipper when he does not go with shipment, are required and have been for some time. Secretary of Agriculture Wilson has signified his intention of leaving arrangements as nearly as possible as they now are, believing that they are about right and that people are beginning to understand them." From this it will be seen that the new regulations of August last are merely a reiteration of those issued in 1895, and were probably published anew and scattered over the country as a pre-election dodge to influence votes among the American breeders.

However this may be, the regulations passed in 1895, and which have been confirmed in 1898, do appear unfair to the Canadian breeder and the injustice is in not recognizing any of the Canadian records. In the list of accepted records published by the U. S. Department of Agriculture over eighty are in the United States and as many more in other countries are recognized, while not a single association registry in Canada is included in the list. No reason