

**DAIRY INDUSTRY IN DANGER*****Uncleanliness the cause—Better sanitary conditions necessary***

As the warm weather approaches the unsanitary conditions around cheese factories and creameries begin to show themselves. One of the persistent and most frequent sources of such conditions is the whey tank and its surroundings. If neglected and allowed to get out of gear and to become filthy through uncleanliness it becomes a breeding ground for all kinds of injurious germ life and a menace not only to the quality of the dairy products turned out, but also to the health of the people living in the locality. If the whey tank shows neglect and carelessness on the part of those responsible for its being kept in good shape, it is safe to conclude that the sanitary conditions of the factory itself are not of the very best. The whey tank then may be taken as a sort of barometer, which shows the extent to which cleanliness is observed by the maker in all his work.

That urgent and effective measures are needed along this line is only too true. Only the other day Mr. R. M. Ballantyne, Stratford, Ont., one of the largest cheese exporters in western Ontario, and who has recently returned from a visit to Great Britain, stated that there is a tremendous prejudice there against cheese from the district west of Toronto. On this matter he is credited in one of our local exchanges with the following statement :

“The chippy or dry cheese and onion flavored cheese have been so numerous that the name of the cheese coming from this district stinks in the nostrils. And the reason for this is, that the makers are not particular enough as to their surroundings. The ill flavored cheese comes from dirty factories and dirty farmers. You have been in the factories where the maker is wearing an unclean apron, the factory itself has a dirty appearance, and no heed is paid to cleanliness in taking in and preparing the milk. All this has had a bad effect on the cheese from this part of the province, and the factorymen can never hope to make cheese that will be satisfactory to the English dealer until they learn the lesson of cleanliness. Dirty surroundings are responsible for it all.”

The above is a pretty strong indictment and, coming as it does, from one whose interests are

identical with those of the dairy industry of the western part of this province, should serve to stir up makers and others to do better work. Conditions as to cleanliness and filthy surroundings can be brought under complete control if proper and persistent methods are adopted, and there is no excuse whatever for such a state of affairs as is reported to exist in the above quotation. If the floors, whey tank, drainage, etc., are out of repair and not in condition to be kept clean and sweet, the maker should insist upon them being put in good condition at once. If the factory and surroundings are in good shape, and filthy and dirty surroundings are due to the maker's neglect, then he should be made to remedy matters at once or to use an up-to-date phrase, “quit the job.” There is no room for half-way measures or for dilly-dallying with this matter. A virulent disease requires urgent and strong remedies. A dangerous disease seems to have found its way into the dairy industry of one-half of this province and strong and effective remedies are needed, and the sooner they are applied the better. It is hardly necessary for us to state what these remedies are. Every maker and every patron knows or should know what they are. They may be summed up in the one word—cleanliness; cleanliness applied by the patron in caring for the milk and cleanliness applied by the maker in keeping himself, his factory and its surroundings in the best possible sanitary condition. With this remedy properly applied there is good reason to believe that Western Ontario will soon acquire its former good name and reputation for fine-flavored cheese.

*Farming.*

**The Poultry-Yard.**

(CONDUCTED BY S. J. ANDRES).

**SMALL FLOCKS ARE BEST.**

The poultryman who keeps a small flock of poultry in a village yard is very apt to think that he could do better if he were on a farm, where he could have larger buildings and not be obliged to confine his fowls in yards.

We have tried both ways and we think now that if we had a large farm, every hen and chicken should be enclosed in a yard with a wire fence