

Instruction in Testing to be Given

Geo. A. Putnam, Director of Dairying.

THE Dairy Standards Act, passed at the 1915 session of the Ontario Legislature, which comes into force March 31, 1917, provides that:

"All milk and cream received at a factory shall be paid for—

(a) on the basis of its fat content as determined by the Babcock test; or (b) on the basis of its fat content as determined by the Babcock test, plus the factor 2."

A conference was recently held in the office of the Minister of Agriculture for the purpose of discussing the best way of meeting the situation which will arise when this Act comes into force. Mr. Frank Herne, London, and Mr. G. C. Publow, Kingston, Chief Dairy Inspectors for Eastern and Western Ontario as well as other officials of the Department, were in attendance. It was the general opinion that the testing of the milk would be the greatest problem.

At the present time about one-seventh of the factories in Western Ontario and one-twelfth of those in Eastern Ontario are paying for milk upon quality basis, as determined by the Babcock test. In Western Ontario the maker is, in nearly all instances, held directly responsible for the testing of the milk, and in most cases, receives additional pay for this test. In Eastern Ontario a number of the makers are doing the testing, while in some districts a special man is employed for the work at so much per pint, the amount paid depending upon the number of patrons in the factory.

No doubt a number of makers are not at present qualified to do the testing, while others who are qualified would prefer not to accept the responsibility. An independent person will, no doubt, have to be employed to do the testing in a number of factories, and the Department will be prepared to assume the responsibility of seeing that such persons are qualified for the work in hand. The factories concerned will, of course, pay for the services of this man on the basis of actual cost, as is done at the present time where payment is being made on the butter-fat basis. Experience has shown that from \$1 to \$1.35 per patron for the season will cover the outlay.

Information will be collected throughout the summer as to the number of makers who will be qualified and willing to undertake the work of testing next year, and as to the various other phases of the work, so that final conclusions based on reasonably complete information may be reached in the fall.

As One Maker Sees It

EDITOR Farm and Dairy: I have seen most of my patrons, and they are not in favor of milk testing. I have made cheese for 25 years, and it is hard work for me to get enough money out of the cheese to pay one man. Supplies are very high, and so are wages. Patrons don't want to pay any more to the cheese-maker than they did a few years ago. That is the way I look at it.—Maker.

Dairy Legislation in Quebec

THERE is nothing on the statute books of Quebec about milk being paid for on a quality basis; J. D. Leclair, Inspector of Creameries, the grading of the cream with a separate churning and sale of butter is the object of our dairy legislation. This is not of such a nature as to create a revolution, nor is it a matter of serious discussion amongst the producers of milk. Though limited in its object it has not been received with great kindness but the objections, all

based upon abuses introduced with the home-made cream system, are very easily overcome when the farmers look at it with coolness from the point of view of their interest.

Our principle has been, and is still, to have the law enforced without having any recourse to the law. It is really surprising how much improvement is being accomplished by a continuous moral pressure. The storm is now abating, and there will be clear sunshine in our sky before long.

Wayside Cleanings

By W. G. Orvis, Field Representative, Farm and Dairy.

The Dairy Act

An Eastern cheese-maker expressed his views regarding the new dairy act when interviewed by a staff representative as follows: "We do not want to pay by test. For several years we have discussed the matter at our annual meeting and the patrons are not in favor of payment by test. As to the makers, we have more work now than we can properly do. Besides, a number of factories have not the necessary equipment for making accurate tests. If the government intends to enforce this act, it will be necessary for them to appoint competent men to do the work."

Need of Education

A man high up in the Canadian dairy world stated that he thought the government should carry out some plan of general education before putting the act in force. He further stated that the dairy demonstration car had done much good, and might be used in the present case to advantage. Demonstrations held at the factories by competent men would be another means of education. The appointing of specially qualified men to visit the patrons of cheese factories in their homes and discuss with them the matter of testing, explaining the process and the advantages of it, should be valuable. His reasons for making this statement were that few farmers understood the exact nature or value of the test and consequently are averse to it. If the good likely to come from it in the way of doing justice to each herd were better understood, and people understood that it would result in the raising of higher producing animals, many of the objections would disappear.

MR. PROXY enjoys a warm drink; so does the calf. To make the food for the calf appetizing, and salt in generous quantity. We would not fancy our porridge without salt, nor our soup neither. And whatever mixture it may be for the calf, whether cream, equivalent, ground old cake, linseed meal or the same thing—ground flax, a generous helping of salt added is a relish. Is any special virtue in heating milk for the calf by means of red-hot iron? Is the scorched milk more wholesome? We tried it one winter, but could not say it was improvement on other methods.—A. A. F.

EXPERIENCE.

A NOTED agriculturist was travelling through one of the Southern States on a lecture tour. One evening, after delivering his lecture, he approached a grinning farmer with the intention of starting a conversation on the betterment of crop conditions.

"Good evening, Sir," said the agriculturist. The farmer regarded him doubtfully for a moment, and then he said: "You can't learn nothin'. I've done 'wore out' two farms already."



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