

and sentiment in Canada are as strong as law against the production of any inferior goods. In many ways public opinion counts for as much as law in the suppression of any evil, and it would be a sorry day for Canadian dairy products if public sentiment should wane in regard to keeping them up to the highest possible state of perfection. Legislation on the subject is a necessity, but if it is not backed up by a strong public sentiment it will not be very effective in preventing the making of spurious dairy products. We are pleased to note, however, that there is not the slightest indication of a waning of public sentiment in Canada against the making of "filled" cheese or "bogus" butter. In fact, there are signs that public sentiment is growing stronger on this point, and that Canadian dairymen everywhere are more determined than ever to maintain the high reputation of Canadian dairy products, and not to allow it to be sullied in the least jot whatever by the making of "bogus" dairy goods.

The American dairymen have a big task before them in educating public opinion on their side of the line up to the same high plane which now prevails in Canada. But that is the line along which their main efforts should be directed, if they wish to be ultimately successful in suppressing the manufacture and sale of "bogus" dairy products within their borders. There may be State laws and National laws galore, but if they are not backed up by a strong public opinion they will not be effective in obtaining the object for which they were enacted.

Great Britain's Cattle Importations.

In a recent issue of *The Farmer and Stock-breeder*, of London, England, a very interesting table is given showing the number and value of the imports of cattle from the United States, Argentina, and Canada for the first six months of 1896-'97-'98. The following summary of this table will be of value as showing the average prices obtained for cattle from these countries:

IMPORTS FROM THE UNITED STATES.

First 6 months of	Number imported	Gross value.	Average value per head.
1896.	215,575	£3,666,991	£17 0s. 2d.
1897.	217,791	£3,778,944	£17 7s. 0d.
1898.	209,785	£3,556,737	£16 19s. 6d.

IMPORTS FROM ARGENTINA.

1896.	44,491	£598,569	£13 9s. 0d.
1897.	43,090	£687,558	£15 19s. 1d.
1898.	54,538	£519,812	£15 0s. 7d.

IMPORTS FROM CANADA.

1896.	26,007	£426,790	£16 8s. 2d.
1897.	34,824	£570,373	£16 7s. 6d.
1898.	30,048	£492,827	£16 8s. 0d.

The valuable part of this table for the Canadian farmer and cattle breeder is the greater value of United States cattle as compared with those from Canada. Why this should be so it is hard to say. We have just as good conditions here for producing beef cattle as the cattle raiser of the United States has, and, if our feeders have the right kind of cattle to begin with, there appears to be no adequate reason why as good beef cannot be produced in Canada as in the United States. There is one gratifying fact, however, and that is, that, while the average value of the United States cattle for the first six months of 1898 decreased 7s. 6d. as compared with the same period of 1897, the average value of Canadian cattle has increased somewhat. But there is still an increase of 11s. 6d. in the value of the United States cattle per head for the first six months of 1898 over that for Canadian cattle for the same period.

Another important point to notice in this table is the increase in the value of the cattle imported from Argentina since 1896, showing a gain averaging £2 per head in two years. There is also a large increase in the gross value of the cattle imported from that country during the past two years. While the Canadian imports show a large increase for 1897 as compared with 1896, there is a decrease for the six months of 1898 as compared with the six months of 1897. Argentina shows a

gradual increase since 1896, being £221,243, or over \$1,000,000. This is something for our cattle feeders and breeders to think about. Our export cattle trade is too important to let slip out of our hands. But Argentina seems to be making such rapid strides of late years that we will have to look to our laurels or our export trade in beef cattle will become a very secondary affair.

Co-operative Pork Packing.

Another co-operative pork packing concern was organized at Palmerston, Ont., a few weeks ago. Mr. Joseph Stratford, General Manager of the Farmers' Binder Twine Co., of Brantford, conducted the opening ceremonies. This is the third co-operative pork-packing factory to be established in Ontario. Early in the spring factories were started at Stouffville and Bowmanville in Eastern Ontario. These we presume have been in operation during the summer. By the time the season is over the farmers patronizing them will have gained sufficient experience to be able to judge whether the scheme is to bring the splendid results its promoters claimed for it.

The movement has spread outside of Ontario into the other provinces. There are one or two co-operative pork-packing factories in Prince Edward Island, and if we mistake not one in Nova Scotia. An effort was recently made to establish one at St. John, N.B., though the promoters were not all farmers. This one has fallen through for the present for the simple reason that it is thought by the promoters that the farmers of N.B. would not be able to supply enough hogs to keep the establishment running. This might be the case for a time, but we are convinced that if the factory were once established it would not be long till an ample supply of hogs could be procured.

The movement, then, for co-operative pork-packing establishments is becoming very wide spread indeed. Without any desire whatever to throw cold water on the movement, or in any way to disparage those contemplating engaging in the business, we would like to point out that farmers should not be too hasty in establishing concerns of this kind. If a sufficient amount of ready capital can be secured and every facility provided for in the way of curing the meat in the proper way and in selling it to the best advantage, all well and good. But, if the business cannot be put on a proper basis on the start, it will only prove a failure in the long run. We have heard the question reasoned out in this way: The co-operative cheese factory and creamery have proven a complete success, and why should not the co-operative pork packing establishment? We do not think the two admit of comparison very well. While very little risk is involved, and comparatively little capital is required, to operate a co-operative cheese factory or creamery, a very large capital is required to start a co-operative pork-packing establishment on a proper basis, and a very great risk is run in the right kind of hogs are not secured, and if the quality of the bacon manufactured does not suit the export trade. Besides, the co-operative pork packing establishment cannot dispose of its product as easily as can the cheese factory or creamery. While the latter have a market at their very door, the former will have to arrange for the disposal of its products in Great Britain and elsewhere, and it may be difficult to find a ready market when wanted.

We merely draw attention to these points in order that farmers may know somewhat of the risks incurred in the establishment of these co-operative pork-packing concerns. As we have previously stated we have no desire whatever to put a damper on the scheme, as we believe that where such an establishment can be successfully operated the farmers in the locality will be benefited.

Growing Demand for Young Lambs.

Lambs for mutton seem to be growing in favor in the great markets of the world. There seems to be a demand for all kinds of lambs. Some

markets prefer very young lambs, others the light lambs, and still others like the very heavy lambs. In catering for this trade the producers should endeavor to supply the trade with the kind of lambs the market demands. In the United States some buyers will not take heavy lambs for the reason that when dressed they have too much the appearance of old sheep. Young lambs and light lambs are always in demand, and there seems to be a good opportunity to develop a market of this kind. There is good money in raising lambs for the Easter or early market. This can be done without any great difficulty if preparations are made for it.

To produce early lambs early-maturing breeds of sheep should be kept, such as the Dorsets, Suffolks, or Hampshires. The lambs from these should not be kept till they are eight or ten months old if a heavy lamb is not required. The great advantage of early-maturing lambs is that they can be sold for the early market, or can be kept later and sold as heavy lambs. The consensus of opinion among many American breeders is that it pays better to sell lambs young than to raise them and sell them as fat sheep.

The Stockbreeding Outlook in Great Britain.

The Mark Lane Express, in discussing this subject in a recent issue, points out that, owing to excessive importations of meat, graziers can no longer buy store stock at rates low enough to pay for fattening them. This is a rather serious state of affairs, so far as the British stockfeeder is concerned. If present conditions do not change very soon he will have to turn his energies in some other direction. The same journal goes on to say that though there is likely to be an abundant crop of hay, roots, etc., yet the markets will not warrant the buying of stockers and feeding them by the British farmers. This has been the situation in regard to the feeding of cattle for several years past, and now there is an indication that sheep-feeding is going to be crowded out in the same way.

The same journal goes on to suggest remedies for this state of affairs, and points out that the graziers might remedy their position by supplying the butchers and consumers with carcasses which will cut into small joints with a considerable proportion of lean meat. These sell well, and will command two cents per lb. more than the larger joints. The way to do this is to adopt the early maturity system, or to produce what in this country is known as "baby" beef. This requires good stock to begin with. It is also recommended that graziers should buy in lamb ewes in the fall, and feed them well till lambing, when both ewes and lambs should be fed highly, so that the latter would put on flesh rapidly, and be ready for market when nine and ten months old.

Shire-horse breeding is also recommended as a substitute for grazing cattle and sheep, as this is likely to pay better than the latter. But the line of policy advised as being more likely to give the best results is for the British farmer to go in for pedigree herds and flocks, so as to have a revenue in bulls and rams instead of fattened heaves and wethers. It is pointed out that the only bright spot in the darkened horizon is the foreign demand for British pedigree stock, the outcome of skilfully bred herds and flocks. There does not seem to be any likelihood of this enterprise being overdone, so long as the ranch men and farmers of Argentina and other new countries require to improve their flocks and herds by importing better blood. Besides, Canadian and American breeders will need to import more or less of new blood in order to maintain the standard of their herds. There, therefore, seems to be a brighter outlook for the British stock breeder along this line than along any other, and if the report of the sale of Lincoln sheep published in last week's issue be taken as a criterion, high prices are likely to continue for pure bred stock for some time to come.