

THE MILK QUESTION*

For some little time past, Torontonians have heard a great deal in reference to a pure milk supply. The agitation that has taken place is most timely, as there is no doubt that the quality of milk that has for many years been supplied to Toronto's population is not what it should be. As medical journalists, we must congratulate those who have been instigators of this agitation, as it is bound to have good results. There is no doubt that good must follow in the wake of an investigation of this kind, and all physicians will feel an interest in the outcome. It is to be earnestly hoped that we will have soon placed upon our statute book in this Province a law giving every municipality the right to control its milk supply. We heartily approve of every medical health officer having the right to send his inspectors to the farms that supply milk to the cities, in order to see that the byres are kept in a cleanly and sanitary condition, the cows free from tuberculosis, and proper cleanliness used in the way in which the milk is transported between farm and city dairy. Just as soon as such a statute is put upon our books the milk supply of every city is bound to improve.

Erindale Farm Dairy has for years tried to use every possible care in the supply of their product, in order that they might be able to give the public the benefit of a pure article. They welcomed the investigation as held recently by the Academy of Medicine, Toronto, being the first firm to receive the seal of that institution. The Erindale Farm is a beautiful place, situated but a few miles from Toronto. The stables are splendidly lighted and ventilated, particular attention having also been paid to the drainage. The cows are examined by a skilled veterinarian once a month, and the moment that any animal is suspected of disease it is at once destroyed. The water supply for the cattle is paid particular attention to, and is quite free from all danger of pollution. Those who undertake to do the milking are insisted upon as being personally clean. The cows' udders are thoroughly scrubbed before milking, and the milk enters the cans through a very fine sieve. Messrs. Price & Sons, proprietors of Erindale Farm, receive regularly from the Milk Commission of the Academy of Medicine a certificate, and just the other day we had the pleasure of seeing their March certificate, in which it was stated that their milk contained but 500 bacteria to the C.C., a result that is exceedingly satisfactory.

* Publisher's Department.