of the Seed Commissioner's Branch at Ottawa have found it in the retail trade for sale by most of the seed vendors who handle grass and clover seeds in quantity. Formerly, the Canadian supply of alfalfa seed was imported from the Southwestern States, and much of it was of questionable quality, especially in the matter of germination. The consequent failure or partial failure of the alfalfa crops tended to discourage the use of this seed. During the past three years, the alfalfa seed available to Canadian farmers has been of the medium and superior grades. The cleanest seeds are those which have been imported, though it is believed that the local-grown seed, which usually contains some ragweed, would produce an equally good, if not more satisfactory crop. Alfalfa seed is now included with red clover, alsike and timothy seed, in the Seed Control Act, by amendments passed during the last session of Parliament.

THE DAIRY.

Prevention accomplishes most with flies. Clean barnyards—thoroughly clean—clean paddocks, the removal of all rubbish heaps from all corners of the farm, destroys the chief breeding places of this pest. Of course, it is difficult to make one's neighbor clean up, but the force of a good example is powerful, and has its reward in lessening the pest at home.

Two things are not desirable in driving cows to and from pasture. These are a dog and a pony. Long drives in, as far as possible, should be avoided, but in going any distance, long or short, the cows should never be hurried. A dog frightens the cows, usually makes them run, or at least hurries their walk. On a pony, either man or child usually goes faster than when walking, thus getting too fast for the best results at the milk pail. An absolutely well-trained dog may do no harm, but a good rule is to leave the dog behind and the pony in the stable when you go for the cows.

The heat of July and August is often oppressive if one is exposed to it, without protection, throughout the day. Whatever is disturbing or uncomfortable for the milk cow diminishes the flow of milk, and for this reason the cows should not be exposed to the sun all day. Shade should be provided in the form of trees or sheds conveniently near to the day pasture. It is a false hope to expect cows to continue their heavy milk flow in the hottest part of the summer, without convenient shady spots in which to rest. And water should be available at all times, at reasonable temperature, and fresh and clean. It is especially necessary in hot weather, when all stock drink most and oftenest.

Many families rely chiefly upon the dairy herd to pay the monthly bills, the taxes, the pastor, and the interest, besides reducing the principal. Consequently, the cows should receive much attention at this season of the year to avoid disappointments. There are several factors which are likely to affect the milk flow very soon now, and the effect is felt throughout the balance of the season. Flies are getting numerous, and becoming a great annoyance; they torment cows so, preventing their quiet and comfort, and disturbing them while feeding, that the herd shrinks much in the quantity of milk yielded during fly season. Various ointments and preparations have been fairly successfully used in keeping off the flies. Perhaps none has been more satisfactory than one composed of fish oil ½ gallon, coal oil ½ pint, crude carbolic acid 4 tablespoonfuls, mixed together, and applied to all parts of the cow except the udder once a week. It does not take long to apply, and though the odor may be offensive to delicate nostrils, that should not debar it from use. A good proprietary fly-repellant has been advertised in "The Farmer's Advocate" the past few years.

Oil Test Versus Babcock.

Some comparisons which prove the superiority of the Babcock test versus the oil test, as a basis of payment for cream at creameries, are given in a pamphlet issued by the Dairy Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. A number of these we quote:

The Babcock test is in part a chemical analysis of the cream; the oil test is only a mechanical test.

The Babcock test will test skim milk, buttermilk, whole milk or sweet cream; the oil test cannot test anything but cream, and does better work when the cream is sour. We do not want sour cream sent to our creameries. We need sweet cream, as it will bring the patrons more money.

When the oil test is used, the cream is measured; when the Babcock test is used, the cream is weighed. Did you ever think which is the more accurate? A bushel of oats is supposed to weigh thirty-four pounds. Would you care to sell oats by a bushel measurement? Do you not prefer to weigh them? A gallon of oats is worth about five cents; a gallon of cream is worth (depending, of course, on the test) anywhere from fifty to seventy-five cents. Cream, like oats, varies in weight and quality. You cannot be willing to sell cream by measurement when it is ten or fifteen times as valuable as oats.

Where the Babcock test is used, the patrons can weigh and test their own cream, and know what they are doing.

The oil test will read no closer than fives. That is, it gives tests of 90, 95, 100, 105, 110, etc. Do you suppose that your cream never tests 94, 99, 104, 109, etc.? It does, but you never get it. The Babcock test does much finer work. How would you like to sell your oats if they had to be weighed on a scale which weighed no closer than five pounds? Yet, that is the best the oil test will do with such a valuable product as cream.

We have about one hundred creameries in Ontario; all but five are now using the Babcock test. Is not that sufficient proof of its superiority?

Prof. Dean, of the Ontario Agricultural College, says: "The oil test may not be considered a very reliable test for cream, and the buttermaker has to do considerable guessing to make his oil tests and churn results agree. The Babcock test is a much more accurate test, and should be introduced into all creameries as rapidly as possible."

Not How Many, But How Good.

The Western Dairymen's Association has offered prizes for the last four years to promote a dairy-herd competition. For two years, John W. Cornish has won first prize in this contest. The first time he had eight cows, which, from May 1st to November 1st, gave 59,949 pounds of milk, yielding $67.58 per cow. Last year he had nine cows, which gave a total of 59,727 pounds of milk, bringing $61.22 per animal. This year he is again in the contest, with the same nine cows and fifty acres with which he turned the trick last year. The cows are high-grade Holsteins. He plans to have them freshen in April, as far as possible, though this year some freshened in March and some in May. Until they went to pasture they were fed silage, clover hay, and about three quarts mixed bran and shorts per day. On pasture they receive 2 quarts of bran per day (a quart each twice a day). But their pasturage contains the charm which causes good cows to give much good milk. It is full of white and alsike clover, almost knee-high, part of it new seeding, part older. The cows have all they can eat without much travelling. When the hot, dry time of August comes, a patch of succotash (peas, oats and barley) will be ready for use; after that, the millet, in which Mr. Cornish has much confidence; and after that the corn. Nothing has been done to combat the flies. Morning and night they are milked regularly at 5.45. Kindness has surely been always dealt to these cows, for one can approach any of them anywhere in the fields. Thus has the record been made.

Is it difficult? Is there a thing which every dairyman cannot arrange? To both questions, "No!" It is all simple and easy. Cull the herd, cast away the robbers, the loafers; keep none but good ones; have plenty of clover pastures for them; arrange green crops for the periods of drouth; be kind; be regular; not much else is required for summer dairying.

A co-operative creamery brings farmers the highest price for butter, removes from the burden of tired farm women the work of buttermaking, and gives to a community a higher commercial standing in the business world, is a statement made by Supt. McGuire of the Northwest Minnesota Experiment Station. This is demonstrated wherever farmers have in good faith co-operated to develop their own business.

Prospects for Co-operative Dairying in Nova Scotia.

The final success of the model creamery, established some years ago by the Federal Government at Scotsburn, Pictou Co., N. S., in a section where dairying was not in a very flourishing condition, but where the condition of the farms made it almost imperative that dairying must be resorted to, if only to build up run-out fields, is at last having its desired effect. For several years the factory was not very successful. Marked progress was made in 1909, as previously stated through "The Farmer's Advocate," the output being nearly doubled. The report for April, 1910, writes Prof. Cumming, of Truro, shows a make three and a half times larger than the corresponding month of 1909. Manager McKay hopes to manufacture during the season nearly three times as much butter as in 1909. While the cream-gathering system has enabled the creamery to serve a wider area, the marked increase comes largely from the area in which operations were previously carried on.

Nova Scotia has such a large consuming population in proportion to its producing population, that private dairying is naturally encouraged to a greater extent than in other parts of the Dominion. There are few farmers but are within fairly easy access of local consumers of butter. This condition of affairs has led to the development of dairying along home dairy, rather than factory dairy lines. It is significant, however, and right in line with what is being done at Scotsburn, that within the past few weeks one new factory has been established, and applications for the establishment of three more received. The prospects are good, and the room for development almost unlimited.

The buying of feed at present prices quickly reduces profits in dairying. Minnesota Experiment Stations have developed their dairy herds very largely on roots, clover hay and fodder corn.

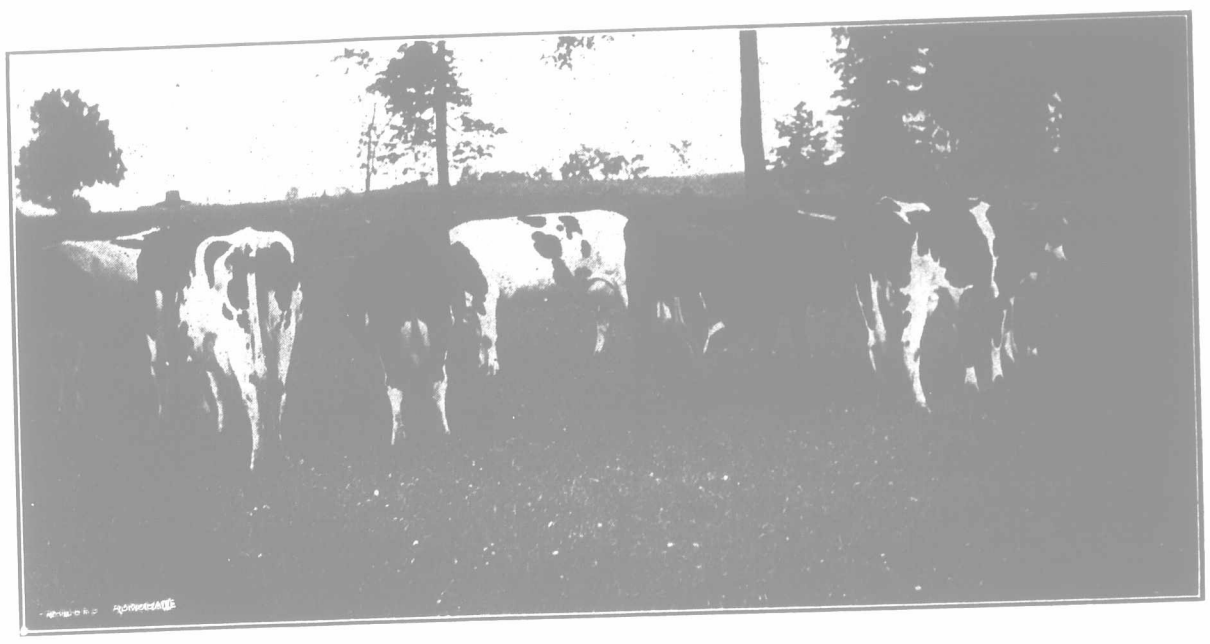
POULTRY.

More Egg Circles Being Organized

The co-operative-egg-circle movement seems to be progressing satisfactorily. Delivery has commenced from the five circles first organized in Peterborough County, and in a letter dated July 2nd we were informed that all the members were then well satisfied, while the buyers were pleased with the stuff, not one bad egg having been received up to that date. The plan of gathering is for an egg wagon to call at several central stations, eight to twelve farmers leaving their eggs at a central place. Thus the rig is not delayed unnecessarily.

Organization has since been started at Beaverton, in Ontario Co., Ont. Farmers here have already been banded into Granges, and, therefore, it is proposed to simplify things a little in organization work. At a meeting held there on Thursday evening, June 30th, those in attendance were most hopeful of results, and divided into two sections, each appointing a set of officers, and arranging for first deliveries on Wednesday and Thursday of last week. J. H. Hare, B. S. A., Departmental Representative in Ontario County, was voted to the chair. H. C. Duff, B. S. A., Representative in Peterborough County, was the first speaker, and dwelt upon the possibilities of the work, what had been done in Denmark, and a little of what was being done in Peterborough County, laying stress on the part the producers were playing in this important movement, viz., sticking right at it, and working together. He thought it the brightest thing they had ever been asked to try.

John I. Brown, representing the buyers, oc-



A Prizewinning Dairy Herd.