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An Opinion on Profit

J. Eldridge, Bruce Co., Ont.

The controversy raised by Mr. Macdonald's article on dairying for profit makes me wish to make a few comments on some of the other letters. As a preliminary, the intelligent busi-less cost of producing milk must be considered, and this means that no credit can be given for the by-product (manure) which maintains the land value or the fertility.

Then again, the foods produced on farms have an intrinsic value to the consumers regardless of whether they live in the country or the city; shipping milk to the city doesn't increase its value as a food. Agricultural chemists have placed a value on foods for human use as follows: Buttermilk and skim milk are worth 2½ cts. a and skim milk are worth 2½ cts. a quart; whole milk, 3½ per cent. fat, is worth four cts. a quart; cheese, between 12 and 13 cts. a pound; and butter, about 21 cts. a pound. The proper value of these foods to the consumer as given above must be considered and when milk retails at eight and but cts. a quart it is high. eight and lo cts. a quart, it is high time to devise a system that will distribute to the consumers skim milk and whole malk at a reasonable cost.
Two and a half cents a quart cannot be realized from skim milk by feeding it to farm animals.

CALCULATE IN A BUSINESS WAY

The chief object of farming is to provide food for the human race at, would say, a business or financial profit in all lines of farming. Consumers in every case should pay their sumers in every case should pay titled share of the actual cost of production and maintaining fertility instead of producers, when trying to show a profit, saddling upon themselves the fallacy of balancing labor against a huge pile of delectable material known barnyard manure.

As it takes about 11 pounds of milk to produce one pound of cheese, there are poor prospects of getting two cts. a pound or five cts, a quart for milk for cheesemaking.

In regard to scores of dairy farmers in Ontario who bought farms and paid in Ontario who bought farms and paid for them, the question is, what price did they give for them? As an il-lustration: Two years ago Mr. Henry tie-dinung of Memilla, Ont., tried for over a year without success to sell a 290 acre farm for \$12,000 that cost \$22,000. Opportunities like this give men a good chance to pay for

THE LABOR INCOME

Farmers are inclined to work harder for themselves than they would for an employer, and some men have the strength and ability, working 365 days in a year to credit themselves with a wage of \$1,000. A man's physical ondition should be considered; as a labor newspaper states, the members of labor unions do not believe in working so hard in the summer time that they would need to go to the hospital in the winter to recuperate. I have the pictures of many successful farmers, and they are mostly thin, toil-worn looking men, which does not nock very well for the business. Conditions, however, are changing.

A study of the intrinsic value of staple foods produced on farms show that we farmers are producing (as a politician once said) the potentialities of wealth beyond the dreams of avar-ice. To reveal all these possibilities as they should be to politicians and as they should be to politicians and the general public would require a salaried agricultural manager picked from an agricultural college who would be capable of dispelling the would be capable of dispersing the wilderness of doubt that exists, and place all lines of farming in a position to pay dividends equal to any other going concern.



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