

Dairy Department of the American Fat Stock, Live Stock, and Dairy Show.

This department was of great interest to dairymen. It was on the whole in advance of our own shows. Some remarkably fine samples of butter was shown, and were artistically displayed. Prints from one ounce up to two and three pounds, and packages from two and three pounds up to sixty pounds. The large glass jars of granulated butter were especially interesting; the granules were about the size of well developed clover seeds, and perfectly round. This, however, only exemplifies the system of making granulated butter, as it was little, if any, better than that which was worked just enough to form it into prints. The most of the exhibits showed great care in making and handling, and were a credit to the makers. Especially noticeable was the entire absence of any overworking in any of the samples.

The cheese exhibit was good so far as appearance and feeling go, but as to flavor we are not in a position to speak. Several useful dairy appliances were shown. Boyd's padded cream vat, ranging in capacity from one gallon to two hundred gallons, attracted considerable attention. The object of this vat, as many of our readers are aware, is to keep all the cream sweet until enough accumulates for a churning. The "starter" is then added, and the whole of the cream ripened in a few hours. What the "starter" is composed of is supposed to be a secret, except to those purchasing the vats, but a basis of milk sharply acid, would not be wide of the mark. This method has proved successful in the hands of some dairymen. There was also a Cooey Creamer shown, but which is too well known to require description. A separator was on exhibition, claimed to be an improvement on the Laval, but as far as could be ascertained, the principle and action throughout was the same. The improvement being chiefly in the mechanism. A neat little press for one pound prints attracted much attention. As usual the butter color and rennet extract men had a large display, also the salt dealers.

BUTTERINE.

The most artistic display of the whole exhibition, was the butterine by Armour, while that of Swift was but little behind. A statue of Christopher Columbus, about five feet high, standing by the capstan of his ship, catching the first glimpse of America, was carved out of solid butterine. Also a dairymaid and churn of almost life size. This article is used in vast quantities in Chicago and other western cities, and it puzzles an expert to tell the difference between the best quality of butterine, and a fair quality of butter. The butterine has a slightly greasy taste that A 1 butter is free from, but it is free from the foul taste and odor of third rate butter. A beautiful cow was formed of "neutral lard," which is made by melting the best leaf lard, adding a little salt, which drives the fibre to the bottom, and pouring the best part through a sieve into cold water. Mr. Armour's representative informs us that all good lard should be treated with salt for best results, even for family use.

A cheese or butter maker learns his trade largely at expense of the consuming public and the good reputation of his craft.

A Vermont correspondent of the N. E. Farmer writes from St. Johnsbury that on account of abundant hay crops the last two years some agriculturists "have given up filling their silos."

The Farm.

Farming Affairs in Great Britain.

(From our English Agricultural Correspondent.)

London, Nov. 2, 1889.

AUTUMN WORK.

October proved one of the wettest months of the year, and the frequent rains greatly hindered farm work. Consequently we have entered into November with only about half the wheat crop sown and less than half the mangolds secured. Fortunately the weather has now turned fine, and if frost or snow does not come too soon, there may yet be time to make good arrears of work.

GRAIN EXPERIMENTS.

This year's results of the experiments in the manuring of grass land, carried by Mr. Martin John Sutton, at Dyson's Wood, near Reading, have, no doubt, reached Canada before this time, and a very full record of the best results are given in the Agricultural Gazette. But, having inspected these experiments very carefully every season since they were started in 1886, I may give my impressions as to the most successful manures. The manures were applied in alternate years, and in the year of application the heaviest crops of grass are usually forced by mixtures containing nitrate of soda or sulphate of ammonia; but through the forcing of a rank growth of the coarser grasses, the finer varieties and the clovers are smothered or starved out, and in the succeeding year, when no manure is applied, the yield is usually smaller than on plots never manured since the pasture was made. Therefore, although for temporary pasture, these nitrogenous manures may be profitably said to force great crops, if they are applied annually, they have a deteriorating effect upon the herbage, and therefore should not be applied to permanent pasture. What should be applied are dressings of phosphatic manure and potash. The most successful mixture on the whole at Dyson's Wood has been one of three cwt. superphosphate and two cwt. kainit, which comes out well this year as it has come out in past seasons. On one pasture, however, the most remunerative results have been obtained by the application of three cwt. per acre of dissolved bones. These two dressings may be confidently recommended for any grass land. I prefer the former, because the potash in the kainit stimulates the growth of clovers and the leguminous plants in the herbage, and although on some soils potash is less needed than it appears to be at Dyson's Wood, it always does good to plants of that species.

THE PROMINENT AGRICULTURAL TOPIC.

The agricultural topic attracting most attention here just now is slaughter for stamping out pleuro-pneumonia. The plan of leaving local authorities to carry out the slaughter order of the Privy Council, and to pay compensation out of local rates, has proved a complete failure and causes universal dissatisfaction. Unfortunately the dissatisfaction is turned against the slaughter system altogether, in some places, instead of only against its imperfect application. Some local authorities made the slaughter order and other regulations for getting rid of the disease as far as they dare, and thus prevent the attainment of the object in view. They want to spare expense to the ratepayers, and so they let disease spread, not only in their own district,

but in other districts where cattle are moved about the country. The best judges on this question have long pointed out that the only means of getting rid of the disease is by appointing a central authority to stamp it out, no matter at what cost, and paying compensation for slaughtered animals out of Imperial funds. This is the course which the Government will probably be induced to adopt next session; but in the meantime the advocates of inoculation are doing all they can to discredit slaughter, and to recommend their specific instead. Inoculation is regarded by most veterinary experts as a partial but uncertain preventive to pleuro-pneumonia. It has not been the means of ridding any country of the disease, while resolute slaughter has been certainly successful in Holland and nearly so in the United States. Even in France, where inoculation has found much favor, it was declared by the recent Veterinary Congress that slaughter was the "sovereign remedy," while inoculation, though a preventive, should be used only for animals which are not to be moved from their quarters except to the slaughter house. Thus, inoculation is obviously reported by some of the best authorities in France as a possible means of spreading the disease.

STERILIZED MILK.

On Wednesday last I inspected the results of Dahl's process of sterilizing milk in its natural liquid state without chemicals or admixture of any kind. The process consists solely in the destruction of the germs in milk which cause putrefaction, and in preserving it in hermetically sealed tins. The milk when taken from the cow is cooled down to the ordinary temperature and placed in the tins, which are soldered down at once. In this state it is exposed to a certain degree of heat (the exact degree being the secret of the patentee of the process) and then cooled again. After a time the heating and cooling processes are repeated, and the repetition takes place several times. The idea is that although existing organisms in milk may be killed at the first heating, there may be germs from them which are not destroyed, and the repeated heatings are to catch them all as they develop. I tried some milk which had been kept for three years, and found it quite sweet, though its flavor was that of boiled milk, as was the flavor of some butter made from its cream. A great deal of the cream in this old milk had formed into clots, and had to be worked through a strainer to incorporate it once more with the milk. Puddings and confections of various kinds made from the preserved milk appeared to be all that could be desired of their kinds. This sterilized milk will probably take the place of condensed milk to a great extent, because it is more like raw milk and has no sugar in it. The manufacture is in the hands of Dahl's Pure Milk Syndicate, of John street, Minories, London. Hitherto the milk has been prepared in Norway, but it is now to be manufactured in this country. It is sold at 6d. per quart in two-quart tins and at 7d. in single quarts, but will probably be cheaper if prepared on a larger scale.

B. D. Prout raises a question whether it is safe to feed cows, which give rich milk, rich food, except in small quantities. He is right, as it would tend to promote garget. Mr. Prout thinks a pint of linseed or cottonseed meal all a cow should have in a day, with one quart of corn meal and two or three quarts of bran. He can leave out the corn meal and give a quart of the linseed or cottonseed meal. His ration is a good one, but not so rich in manurial value as the other. He asks, will a dollar's worth of linseed or cottonseed meal fed to an animal make a dollar's worth of manure? No. The animal will take from it from ten to twenty per cent. of its value. The benefit to the animal may pay its cost. This would be high farming.