

THE WATERDOWN REVIEW

Issued Every Thursday morning from the office, Dundas Street, Waterdown

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Editor and Publisher
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DEAN'S DAIRY COLUMN

Three Big Questions Answered for Milk Dealers.

Shall I Sell Milk or Cream?—Should Cows Be Fed on Turnips?—How to Pack Butter for Keeping.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

Shall I sell milk or cream? This will be determined to a large extent by the character of the farming operations. If the need for direct, quick cash in largest amount is great, then selling milk will best "fill the bill." On the other hand, if the dairy farmer can afford to wait for the slower returns from cream and live stock, and particularly if he desires to improve or maintain soil fertility, then selling cream is to be recommended.

Nearness to market is another factor. Where the dairyman is near a small town and has the time to "peddle" milk, he can make more money out of his cows than by any other system. At ten to twelve cents a quart, a good cow will return from \$250 to \$300 per year for her milk. When this is compared with \$100 to \$150 per cow, where cream is sold, or milk sent to a cheese factory or condenser, we see what a decided money advantage there is in selling milk to customers direct.

But this plan robs the young things on the farm—often the farmer's own children—of needed milk supply, hence many farmers are content with less ready cash in order to have better and more live stock, and consequently richer soil, which, after all, is the basis of good farming.—H. H. D.

Should Cows Be Fed Turnips?

This is an old question about which considerable difference of opinion exists. If my reader is Scotch, he or she will likely answer the question by saying, "Yes," as Scotchmen, turnips, and good farming are three things usually found together on farms in Ontario.

There was a time when butter buyers were not so particular about the flavor of butter as they are at present. It is common to hear women purchasers on city markets, say to farm butter-makers, "Your butter is turnipy," which is sufficient to cause a loss of the sale. Creamerymen object very strongly to "turnipy cream." While it is doubtless true that some careful feeders are able to feed quite large quantities of turnips to cows giving milk, without causing any serious trouble, there is always danger, which can best be avoided by not feeding these to milking cows. If they are grown on the dairy farm they are best fed to dry cows, fattening cattle, young stock, pigs, etc. However, if they are fed in the stable where cows are milking, and more especially where the root house opens into the stable and where the turnips are pulped in the stable or in a feed-room adjoining, the odor of the turnips fills the air, which is carried into the milk pail at the time of milking, and thus the milk, cream, and butter become tainted from the stable air, even though the milk cows may not be fed any of the turnips.

The safest plan is not to grow turnips on a dairy farm. Grow mangels, or sugar beets, and corn for silage. These crops will give as good returns as turnips, are no more expensive to grow, and are much safer. "Safety First" is a good motto on a dairy farm.—H. H. D.

Playing Whist for Canada.

When Mr. Labouchere was an attache at Washington he went down with his chief to a small inn in Virginia to meet Mr. Marcy, the American Secretary of State, for the purpose of discussing a reciprocity treaty between the United States and Canada. Mr. Marcy, usually the most genial of men, was as cross as a bear and would agree to nothing. Mr. Labouchere thereupon asked that Minister's private secretary to tell him, in confidence, what was the matter. "He is not getting his rubber of whist," was the answer. After that the British representative proposed every night a rubber of whist, which he invariably lost. Mr. Marcy was immensely pleased at beating the Britisher at what he called "their own game," and his good humor immediately returned. "Every morning," said Mr. Labouchere, in relating the incident, "when the details of the treaty were being discussed we had our revenge and scored a few points for Canada."

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