

# FARMING

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## Our Great Dominion

The Dominion of Canada reached her thirty-second birthday last week, and has entered upon another year, we hope, of prosperity and development. As far as the age of nations goes, Canada has hardly reached her teens, but as regards her resources and development, her position among the nations of the earth, her statesmen and men of affairs, and the culture, intelligence, and morals of her people, she compares favorably with any of the great nations of the earth whose beginning may date back hundreds of years. The longer we live in Canada the more convinced are we that there is no better country on earth in which to live, and we have reason to believe that this sentiment is growing stronger in the minds of our people, young and old.

While there is much to be thankful for, and much for which every true Canadian may have a just feeling of pride in the achievements of the Dominion during the short period of its existence, yet they are as nothing compared with what the future will bring forth. The period of hopes and fears and doubts as to what the future will be has passed, and the existence of a great nation on the northern half of this continent is no longer an experiment, but a stern fact. We have entered upon a new era of progress and development, and the possibilities of the next thirty-two years are simply immense. Whether all these possibilities will be fully realized depends upon ourselves and what use we make of the splendid heritage that has come down to us. A solemn obligation rests upon every young Canadian in making this country what it ought to be and what there is every prospect of it becoming, one of the most resourceful and important confederations of modern times. To accomplish this, loyalty to Canada and Canadian institutions is an essential quality.

## Dairy Notes for July

July and August are the most difficult months of the season for cheese and butter-making, more especially for the former. There are several reasons for this. During this period we have our very hottest days and nights, and in many sections during the dry period that usually results at this season of the year there is a scarcity of good drinking water for the cows. Then when haying and harvest begin many patrons are apt to not give the milk as much care as they should. All these drawbacks make this part of the year a trying one for the maker, who is a skilled workman indeed if he can overcome them all and turn out a fine quality of cheese or butter.

Very often at this season of the year the patron, or the man who supplies the milk, is inclined to give the dairy business a holiday, and send it to some "watering place" out of his way. When dealing with such large things as tons of hay and acres of wheat and ripening grain, a few pails of milk or the milking of a few cows sometimes becomes a very insignificant part of the farm work. So much so is this the case, even in many of the older dairy sections, that the cows receive scant care, the milking is done in a careless and uncleanly manner, and the milk is dumped hurriedly into the can, there to take care of itself in the best way it can so long as it will pass muster at the factory. In this way the maker gets in his vats of a hot morning all kinds of milk, having a conglomeration of flavors, mostly bad, that would defy the Angel Gabriel himself to drive

off and leave a product fit for making the finest quality of cheese from.

We know that harvesting is a busy season, for we have been there ourselves. We also know that there is a temptation at this busy season to neglect the cows, to milk them at irregular hours and in irregular ways, and to let the milk shift for itself and go without proper aeration or stirring, all because one feels that the work of saving the hay and harvesting the crop is of vastly more importance than a few gallons of milk. But is this the right view to take? We say, decidedly not. True, at the harvesting period the crops, etc., assume added importance, and appear to be the all-important thing. But, even so, their increased importance does not lessen one iota the importance of the dairy or the proper care of the milk. And it is this fact that we would like to impress upon every person who is supplying milk to a butter or cheese factory.

But there is a more practical side still to this whole question, which, if every patron understood, he would in no way neglect his cows or the milk. During the hot, dry season conditions are more favorable for the growth of the germs or the minute forms of life that produce bad flavors in milk. For this reason the milk needs more care and attention than at any other time of the year. Very often when pastures become dry and good water scarce cows will eat any foul weed they come across or drink stagnant and impure water, which will cause bad flavors in the milk. By a thorough process of aeration and stirring immediately after milking the serious effects of the bad flavors caused by the cows eating stinking weeds or impure water can be about all eliminated. Also, the aeration and stirring helps to put the milk in a condition to withstand the growth of the bacteria which cause bad flavors in milk, and at the same time assist very much in promoting the growth of the desirable forms of bacteria.

Then above all others there is the question of profit. It makes no difference at what season of the year cheese or butter is made, the quality must be fine in order to get the highest market price. Then again, the dairyman's profit is not determined by what he makes out of the business during the couple of months at the beginning or close of the season, but by what he makes during the whole season through. If he neglects the milk during the harvesting season, and an inferior quality of cheese or butter results, which sells at an inferior price, the profit on the work of these two months is lessened by that much. And no dairyman can afford to be in the business and allow these two months to result in a loss that will eat up the profits of the balance of the season.

The care and attention which a dairyman will give his cows or the milk at this season of the year will depend very much upon how he looks at the business. If keeping cows is only a side issue with him the business will receive scant care and attention especially during the busy season. On the other hand, if the dairyman is in the business for keeps and for the profit there is in it, he will look after his cows and their milk as they should be looked after, as it will not pay him to do otherwise. But no person can afford to keep cows as a side issue. If he does the venture is sure to result in loss and failure. And so we say, in season and out of season, do not neglect the cows or the milk. And above everything else see that the milk is taken every care of during the hot season, when so much depends upon its being done in order to insure the quality of the finished product. In hot weather a good way to keep milk over night, as we pointed out in our "Dairy Notes for