

Our Folks in British Columbia.

Our British Columbia Letter

From Farm and Dairy's Special B.C. Correspondent

The British Columbia plant of the McLaren's (The Cheese King) corporations, will be in operation in the course of a few days. It is advantageously located at Clayburn in the Fraser Valley, with transportation available over both the C. P. R. and the B. C. E. R. Homogenizing and pasteurizing machinery has already been installed. The company's product will be put up in both tins and bottles. With a ready market at hand, dairying around Clayburn is naturally expected to be stimulated.

With the B. C. Milk people starting a condensatory at Ladner this month, the trend of events in this province at present is decidedly toward milk for condensing or for sale whole. The number of creameries is small, and their output does not increase. Local cheese is almost unknown. The only local "factory" most of the writer's knowledge is located in Burnaby near Riverway East, the proprietor being Mr. A. Chisholm, who manufactures a variety of Italian cheese which sells readily at 28 cts. a pound, but his output is relatively insignificant.

MILK PRICES

At a conference between the Vancouver wholesalers and the Lower Mainland Milk Shippers, the price of milk for the six summer months, April to September inclusive, was fixed. For an amount up to 125 per cent. of the quantity shipped during the winter the dairymen will receive 55 cts. a butter fat pound. For all milk in excess of 125 per cent. the dairymen will receive 52 cts. a pound. Last year's prices were 52 cts. for April and May, and 55 cts. for the other four months. During the six winter months the price was 65 cts. Very well satisfied with this arrangement. They do not calculate on marketing the surplus at 40 cts., believing that a market will be found for it at the Ladner condensory or at the Laurentia plant at Clayburn.

COW TESTING ASSOCIATION

A cow testing route extending from Milner down the Fraser Valley has been formed, the tester and the outfit being supplied by the provincial department of agriculture. Mr. H. Rive, dairy instructor in the course of his spring itinerary before the farmers' institutes, advised the formation of such an association, and its success was assured when J. W. Berry, David Harris and Shannon Brothers, all well-known dairymen, signified their willingness to join. The regulations governing the organization of cow testing associations in this province stipulate that there shall be at least 25 members, representing a minimum of 400 cows on a single route. The official's salary is paid jointly by the dairymen and the Department of Agriculture, the former contributing a dollar per annum for each animal tested and the Government making up the balance. All cows will be tested once a month. An

accurate account will be kept of feed, so that unprofitable animals may be culled.

STOCKMEN ORGANIZE

Reference was made in these columns some time since to the agitation at Victoria by ex-Premier Semlin and other stock raisers against the imposing of a grazing fee of 25 cts. a head. In this they were successful, the Government officials agreeing to lay the matter over for another year. Mr. Semlin and his colleagues, however, did not mean to be caught napping; they have organized an association the express object of which is the protection of their industry. It is called the Stock Growers' Association of British Columbia. Mr. Semlin is president, The Dukes, and H. S. Chesley, of Courtes, vice-presidents; R. H. Homersham, secretary-treasurer; executive committee—A. H. Devick, A. Duck, M. L. McAbee, George Butler, and John Redman. The intention is to organize district associations affiliated with the principal organization.

IMPURE MILK

Charged with putting impure milk on sale for public use, the manager of the Arlington Land Co. a few days ago was brought into court and fined. "The action," stated the "Albion Advocate," "was based on a report of Medical Officer Dr. Harper, who secured some samples of the supply sold at the Arlington, and sent them to the Provincial Bacteriologist. The assay which resulted was calculated to turn the stomach of a cast iron man, according to the account of the same, and no more milk can be delivered of health is obtained. It is understood that this does not apply to the model farm, but to a supply that was obtained from other sources and sold by the manager to the Port customers."

Such instances as this are comparatively isolated. Complaints are made spasmodically, but the general status of the province's milk supply is very good. At Victoria, it is reported, Hindu dairymen are foisting their product on the consumers through the agencies of white allies.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Neil Lass, a registered Holstein, brought \$500 at Hemphill's Lulu Island Dispersion Sale.

The Salmon Arm Women's Institute will give prizes this year to the boys and girls raising the best vegetables. The age limit is 15 years. Entries will be exhibited at the annual fall fair.

The potato market slumped in March, and for a time Fraser Valley spuds were abegging. The embargo on California potatoes and a shortage in the prairie provinces saved the situation somewhat.

Frank McKenzie, M.P.P. for Delta, states that not for years have clearing operations been so extensive in his riding. Throughout British Columbia the Bay-to-the-Land movement is very pronounced at present.

Eggs are 25 cts. a dozen retail, the lowest for many months, at the New Westminster public market.

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