

large and profitable export trade may be developed. The British markets import twice as many dollars worth of butter as of cheese annually. The factory system has given us reputation and place for our cheese; it can do likewise for the butter for export. The transportation facilities make it possible to ship butter during the winter without deterioration of quality. Ontario is less than 1 cent per pound distant from the best markets of Britain. When \$1,000,000 worth of wheat is shipped from the country, \$240,000 worth of the substances of fertility have been removed; when an equal value of fine butter is exported, the soil of the country is impoverished to only the extent of \$850. The oil-test-churn is a useful apparatus for the equitable distribution among the patrons who furnish cream of the proceeds of butter sales. The samples of cream should be allowed to soar thoroughly before they are tested by churning. To a member who complained that if everybody went into winter dairying the price would come down and the profits disappear, Prof. Robertson quoted, "Strive ye to enter into the strait gate, for strait is the gate and narrow is the way and few there be that find it."

The citizens of Seaforth were most cordial in their hospitality to the members in attendance. J. W. R.

Despatch in Buttermaking.

Both milk and cream are so easily tainted by all kinds of odors and smells, that may exist in an impure atmosphere, that it is a very important matter to hurry forward the whole process of buttermaking, as rapidly as consistent with good management. As J. I. Carter aptly expresses it in *Hoard's Dairyman*, "waste no time from the milk pail to the butter plate, if you wish to make good butter." This is advice of the right kind, and it must be followed, to get the best results in quality, and the greatest returns in quantity. Combine despatch and cleanliness, in all its forms, and thus doubly guard the milk and butter against any outside influences that may mar the product. Leaving the milk for any length of time exposed to an atmosphere that is laden with any variety of smell, is sure to give it an abnormal flavor, and this will be reproduced to some extent in the butter. In the hurry of other work, or perhaps through sheer carelessness, the milk is very often put outside and allowed to stand a half hour or so before being set away. This not only exposes it to different odors in the atmosphere, but allowing it to stand lessens the chances of thorough separation, as demonstrated by Prof. Henry, who found the loss from delaying the setting from 20 to 30 minutes, to be from 4 to 5%. Such a loss is considerable, and the prevention of it is surely worthy of the thought and care of every buttermaker. In the matter of churning, speed has a fixed limit. If the butter is brought too quickly, it is sure to be of inferior texture, being greasy in its nature, and no amount of skilful after management, will restore to it that peculiar grain, which is ever the striking feature of a butter of good quality. From twenty to thirty minutes to bring the butter in, is a good speed, when the cream is in proper condition as to ripeness and temperature.

The Dairy Test at London.

AYRSHIRES VS. JERSEYS.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL:

DEAR SIR,—Most of your readers, I think, will be surprised at the report of Professor Robertson, who conducted the dairy test at London, especially at the great disparity he makes out between the two breeds, placing the Jerseys on this occasion so

far ahead of their opponents, when the Ayrshires on so many former trials of this nature, have been declared the victors. The one great object that interests the public at these trial tests, is, I presume, to ascertain, if possible, which breed of cattle furnishes the material for the best general purpose dairy cow. The pedigree of such an animal is of minor consideration, and it will be my object in this letter to show that had the test at the late Provincial exhibition been conducted on correct and approved principles, and according to the rules and regulations that governed such tests at former exhibitions, when such gentlemen as Professor Brown, Mr. Cheshman, and others, were the judges; rules, in fact, that take precedence in Great Britain as well as with our neighbors across the line, the Jerseys would have fallen in the rear, and the Ayrshires would have been proclaimed the winners. Professor Robertson does not say in his report how he estimates the percentage of profits in favor of the Jerseys. Evidently, *quantity* was not taken into consideration, only the *quality* of the milk produced. I protest against this manner of judging as incorrect and absurd, and I think the public in general will view it in this light also. Ought not milk to be estimated at a given value per quart as well as butter at so much per lb? Will a small quantity of Jersey milk produce as much cheese as double the quantity of Ayrshire milk? We will not dispute the point that the Jerseys give the richest milk of, perhaps, any other breed, but at the same time we know that the great majority of them produce only a very small quantity, and the problem that wants solving is, which is the most useful and profitable animal, the one best adapted to fill the requirements of the general public—this little fancy butter cow, or the larger general purpose animal, giving a fair quantity of butter, and furnishing at the same time much more milk for family use and the general requirements of the farm? We submit, therefore, that in a test of this nature, both *quantity* and *quality* ought to be taken into consideration, and a certain number of points be allowed for each.

The *Ohio Farmer* furnishes the rules and regulations which take precedence in the United States and were adhered to at their late State Fair, where different breeds of cattle competed against each other. Here it is—"One point shall be allowed for every pound of milk, twenty points for every pound of butter, four points for every pound of solids, other than butter, counting twenty days after the date of the last calving of each cow, one point shall be allowed for every additional ten days thereafter up to the time of the test." Here I remark, on behalf of the Ayrshires, that one of them had been in milk for over twelve months, and another eleven months, and that two of them were only three years old, and a certain number of points ought to have been allowed on that account, as they could not be considered to be at their best, while their opponents were over five years old, fully developed, and comparatively speaking, recently calved and in full flow of milk. These facts should be all considered, but, even then, with all this in their favor, had they been judged by the standard above quoted, and Professor Robertson's own report taken as to the amount of product yielded by each three cows, in the aggregate they would have stood thus:

The Ayrshires gave:	The Jerseys gave:
245 lbs. milk at one point per lb..... 245 00	175.75 lbs. at 1 point per lb..... 175 75
8.44 lbs. butter fat @ 20 points per lb..... 168 80	14.12 lbs. butter fat @ 20 points per lb..... 282 40
26.09 lbs. solids @ 4 points per lb..... 104 36	27.27 lbs. solids @ 4 points per lb..... 108 88
639 days calved, one point for 10 days..... 63 90	136 days calved, one point for 10 days..... 136 00
582 06	580 63

Here we find a balance in favor of the Ayrshires, instead of a large one against them, and had their milk been converted into cheese, which all must acknowledge to be the great dairy export of Canada, and which manifestly attracts the attention of the great majority of those engaged in this industry throughout the Dominion, the balance in favor of the Ayrshires would be very much larger. Allowing 10 lbs. of milk to every lb. of cheese and allowing 3 points for every pound of cheese as Mr. Cheshman did at Toronto in 1885, we have:

Ayrshires.	Jerseys.
245 lbs. of milk giving in points..... 73 50	175.75 lbs. milk giving in points..... 52 72
639 days since calving 63 90	136 days since calving 136 00
137 40	66 32

There is a small account of some twenty-eight cents placed against the Ayrshires for the amount of food consumed while the test was in progress. This, however, may be easily accounted for from the fact that the Jerseys, though highly fed before, were stinted in their food when it was going on. This was well known and freely spoken of at the time, and it was suggested to

me to do the same, but I declined to practice such tactics, preferring a fair and honest test, both for my own information and satisfaction, as well as for that of the public. We considered it best to feed our animals while on trial, just the same as they had been before. Had we withheld the feed as proposed, the debtor account might have been on the other side, for anyone, I think, who has kept both Ayrshires and Jerseys as I have, will be fully convinced that the Jerseys will take the largest amount of food of the two. I therefore, contend, that had those two lots of cows been judged according to their merits and by these acknowledged correct rules, the prize, as on most other occasions, would have been won by the Ayrshires.

The letter of your correspondent R. A. G., on the late Provincial Dairy Test, in your December issue, is well to the point, and treats this question in a clear and common-sense manner. I hope all your readers who are the least interested in this question, will read and ponder it well, and I feel certain they will easily decide which cow is best for *all practical purposes*, and as such would "prefer to take home with them."

Similar prizes to that contested for this year, may be offered again next, but unless the standard for judging is changed, and *quantity* as well as *quality* is considered, I venture to predict there will be very few entries, in fact, *none except Jerseys*, for the rules at London were most decidedly one-sided and unjust towards any other breed.

Yours etc.,
Sydenham Farm, Oshawa, Ont. THOMAS GUY.

American Show-Yard Dairy Tests.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL:

Those who have been watching the public tests of dairy cattle on the "other side," must know that the "battle of the breeds" has been waged in every dairy State of the Union. Many thousands of dollars have been offered at the various State fairs, until it may be said that the American stock papers have been kept busy giving the results, and the outcome is that in summing up, at least nine-tenths of all the prizes offered either for milk or butter have been won by the Holstein-Friesians. We would think that if anything could decide which breed deserves the supremacy these tests should do it. But do they stifle all cavilling? not much, there will still be plenty of "ifs" floating around.

R. A. G.

Poultry.

Equalizing the Prices Paid for Eggs.

It has been the complaint in all the past, that there is no encouragement to grow large eggs for sale, since small ones sell for the same price, and in this complaint there is a large measure of truth. The simple remedy has been proposed of selling them by weight, but simple as is the remedy, the difficulty of persuading men to adopt it is very great. While awaiting legislation on this matter, which is we believe, sure for us sometime, another plan may be adopted. If the farmer would but sort their eggs, they would be able to make the grocer or consumer vary the price paid for them, and the grocer in turn, could compel the customer to do the same. This is the plan adopted in Britain, and on the continent of Europe, and in several countries. The injustice of getting only so much for the eggs of the large *Brahma* as for those of the *Game* is very apparent, and yet it is an every day occurrence in Canada. It would require but a little persistence on the part of the seller to introduce this custom, the justice of which is so apparent that it could not be objected to on any reasonable grounds.

FOR THE CANADIAN LIVE STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.
Raising Chickens.

NOTES FOR FARMER AND FANCIER.

By W. B. COCKBURN, Greenhouse Farm, Aberfoyle, Ont.

If poultry cares become drudgery, better give them up at once, for as it becomes distasteful, just so soon you will begin to neglect them, and your fowls suffer