

DAIRY

The Need for Cream Grading.

Inferior cream is daily received at the creameries in the summer time and even in the winter, and in some cases is so bad as to deserve the term frequently applied; viz.—rotten.

Competition for business amongst the creameries is so keen, especially the central ones, that rather than protest and reject the inferior distinctly bad article, and thus antagonize a patron and make a loud-mouthed enemy in the district, rotten cream is accepted, and according to the information received, goes down the sewer. City milkmen are pretty well looked after now-a-days, and attempts at adulteration are severely dealt with, yet at present, outsiders are allowed to ship in stuff which if hawked about by a city milkman would land him in the police court and put him out of the dairy or milk business for some time. It appears to us that the legislatures of the western provinces might do worse than pass some dairy and food laws and prohibit under penalty the sale or delivery of impure, unclean or insanitary milk or cream. Some people are instinctively clean in person, others are just the opposite, and in almost every case the filthy person physically is the same mentally, if he possesses any mentality worthy of mention. Much educational work done by many agricultural departments has been directed against filthy methods of producing human food; but the gospel of cleanliness needs a pretty lively revival if the essential cleanliness is to be had.

Creamery men are reluctant to grade (wherein they differ from the man in the grain trade) for fear of losing business. In this case they are entitled to the moral support of governments, which should enact laws to prevent the shipment of impure food materials, in themselves a menace to the public health. The state of Wisconsin has on its statutes laws which enact severe penalties, either fine or imprisonment.

Adulterated milk or cream, unclean or insanitary milk or cream are under the ban there; and the statute says:—

"The term adulterated milk shall mean:—Milk containing less than three per centum of milk fat, or milk containing less than eight and one half per centum of milk solids not fat, or milk drawn from cows within eight days before or four days after parturition, or milk from which any part of the cream has been removed, or milk which has been diluted with water or any other fluid, or milk to which has been added or into which has been introduced any coloring matter or chemical or preservative or deleterious or filthy substance or any foreign substance whatever, or milk drawn from cows kept in a filthy or unhealthy condition, or milk drawn from any sick or diseased cow or cow having ulcers or other running sores, or milk drawn from cows fed unwholesome food, or milk in any stage of putrefaction, or milk contaminated by being kept in stables containing cattle or other animals. The term adulterated cream shall mean cream containing less than eighteen per centum of milk fat, or cream taken from milk drawn from cows within eight days before or four days after parturition, or cream from milk to which has been added or introduced any coloring matter or chemical or preservative or deleterious or filthy substance of any foreign substance whatever, or cream from milk drawn from cows kept in a filthy or unhealthy condition, or cream from milk drawn from any sick or diseased cow or cow having ulcers or other running sores, or cream from milk drawn from cows fed unwholesome food, or cream contaminated by being kept in stables containing cattle or other animals, or cream to which has been added or into which has been introduced any coloring matter or chemical or preservative or deleterious or filthy substance or any foreign substance whatever, or cream in any stage of putrefaction.

Milk drawn from cows within eight days before or four days after parturition, or milk to which has been added or into which has been introduced any coloring matter or chemical or preservative or deleterious or filthy substance, or milk drawn from cows kept in a filthy or unclean condition, or milk drawn from any sick or diseased cow or cow having ulcers or other running sores, or milk drawn from cows fed unwholesome food, or milk contaminated by being kept in stables containing cattle or other

animals and cream from any such milk, or cream in any stage of putrefaction are hereby declared to be unclean and unsanitary milk or unclean and unsanitary cream, as the case may be."

With similar standards set up and enforced here it would not be long before marked improvement would be noticed in the raw material sent to the creameries. Education can do a great deal, up to a certain point and with the majority of people; beyond that and with the ignorant or careless, compulsion becomes necessary. With such a law and a uniform system of cream grading, and the abolition of discriminations by the transportation companies, the creamery industry would flourish.

Milk Supply of Cities.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

This is the age of imagination. The great benefits to the consumer to be derived from pasteurized or clarified milk, are imaginary. Milk in its normal condition contains all the elements of nutrition and the nearer to this condition it can be produced and delivered to the consumer, the better it will be for the consumer. It can be done. But just so long as professors of dairying recommend artificial methods in the handling of milk for city consumption, we shall see carelessness in the production of milk by the farmer, who will sell to the city milkman for him to doctor. There is no need to adopt any process which will change the consistency of the milk. Pasteurizing milk is not a safe method because it destroys the natural aperient elements of the milk, and puts a premium on filth and laziness in the production of milk. Milk should not be clarified, milk that is not fit for consumption before being clarified is not fit for consumption afterwards. It will also lose a considerable portion of its most valuable constituent, casein. I believe that one of the principle causes of the excessive infant mortality is parents not realizing the importance of feeding food at the normal temperature to children. The principle cause of so much poor milk being sold is that people will not pay the price for a first class article. My experience has been that ninety per cent. of the people will buy anything called "milk" if they can get it a little cheaper, and ten per cent. of the people will buy the best that money can purchase. If the people would insist upon being supplied with pure, wholesome milk, cream and butter, then they could get it. From a sanitary point of view after more than twenty years experience in Manitoba, my opinion is there is very little milk, cream or butter actually fit for consumption. A remedy could be applied. Our Governments should pass stringent laws and enforce them, demanding scrupulous cleanliness in everything pertaining to the production and supplying of milk, cream and butter to the general public. The price of these products might be high, but it would mean healthy people.

Brandon.

JOHN J. WHITE.

POULTRY

Alberta's Show.

Owing to the severity of the weather and the demoralized condition of traffic, the Alberta Poultry and Pet Stock Association has decided to change the date of their show from February 13, 14, and 15, as previously announced, to March 6, 7 and 8. The show will be held at Edmonton and will be contemporaneous with the Provincial Seed Fair. Mr. W. A. Fife is the secretary of the show, to whom all communications may be addressed.

Some Chicken Remedies.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

I see in your paper of Oct. 10 in Poultry column a letter from Mrs. A. I. B. re "Arian Tuberculosis." Her description of the disease answers exactly to what our fowls here in Natal suffer from, but we no longer fear the disease, as it can be prevented by giving the fowls Epsom salts in their drinking water; also in their food about once a month; but if the disease breaks out give it twice a week until the fowls stop dying. I have cured lots of sick fowls in the first stage by giving ten to fifteen drops of Mother Siegel's Syrup. I have cured some with cas-

para. Bitter aloes is also an excellent preventive. I always mix it with their food (crushed corn) and allow it to stand so as to thoroughly soak into the food; then let the fowls have as much as they can eat. Do that twice in one week as soon as the disease breaks out and you will find after the second dose they will stop dying. We use the aloes in the green state here, just crush the leaves and pour boiling water on and mix the corn with the aloes and let stand until cool. I have never used the manufactured aloes, but I think it would do just as well. For chicken-ox we find it takes a lot to beat Condy's Fluid. Do not feed fowls on whole mealies or Indian corn unless cooked. There is something about raw corn that always brings on fowl sickness. If allowed to have free access to the corn they get too fat and a large gall.

THOS. L. CLARENCE.

Natal, South Africa.

Horticulture and Forestry

Why Not Plant Trees?

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

One logical result of this winter's hard lesson of blizzard swept plain and frost-bitten homestead should be that the farmers will plant for themselves trees which will serve both as shelter-belts and plantations.

Earning lumber which cost \$30.00 per thousand and demolishing stray buildings should enforce upon a man that it would pay to grow his fuel, either in the shape of a windbreak around his buildings or on some low, sloughy portion of his farm.

There is also another demand which the prophetic settler will probably anticipate, and that is the one for fence posts. It will always be necessary for town and country people, except those in the neighborhood of timber reserves, to depend upon the coast timber for much of their building material, but a great deal of the smaller stuff which is required in large quantities, such as fence posts, would be rendered too expensive by the long haul. When the 170 million acres of habitable land fill up, and each 640 acres requires four or probably six miles of fence posts, those who have foreseen this demand and provided against it by planting a few acres of some post producing wood, such as elm or larch, will be amply rewarded. The posts must be had; no satisfactory substitute has been offered for wood, and if tribute must be paid to distant lumber companies and for long railway hauls, fence

In the West the C. P. R. are generally understood to be far from reckless in expenditure and always conservative in investment unless they have a sure thing, yet they, with an assurance of the future relation of supply and demand, are undertaking to plant trees for the production of ties and posts. What is a profitable investment for a railroad which must hire all labor should be profitable to a farmer who is more happily situated; especially so because he will also derive a benefit from the presence of the trees on his farm.

Mr. Norman M. Ross, Assistant Superintendent of Forestry, showed in a bulletin which he prepared on tree planting, and which has been published by the Forestry Branch, that even at the present prices of timber, it would pay to grow elm posts on such land as that at Brandon and Indian Head, and that a successful plantation could be produced with very little expense and trouble.

With the increased prices which must follow a dense population, a greater demand for and decreasing supply of wood, the returns from such a commercial plantation will be much greater.

Not the least benefit derived will be that the farmer may add to his independence by the ownership of a woodlot. Without one he must depend for fuel, which in winter is life, upon mine operators, railroads and favorable weather, which may fail at any time, as at the present, and result in a painful and expensive wood famine.

H. R. M.

The Housewife's Flower Garden Selections.

In earlier issues of the present year attention was drawn in these columns to the shelter belt and the trees to plant for that purpose. Mention was made also of the pleasure to be obtained from the ornamental shrubs, a list of which was