

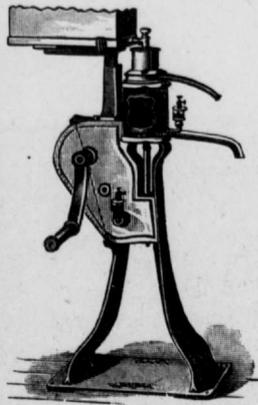
after milking, while it is warm and sweet, is better feed for calves than skim milk than is old and partially sour, even though it does contain one-quarter of the butter fat originally in it. This can be attested by hundreds who are using farm separators.

The cost of hand separators is from \$55 to \$125 each, according to size and capacity. They will skim from 160 to 400 pounds an hour. Larger sizes with greater capacity are used in large dairies and run with some kind of power. It would seem that no dairyman, who manufactures his own milk into butter, having ten cows or more, could afford to be without a separator. One, if properly cared for, will last for years if they are turned by hand. It is true that takes time, but not as much time as would be taken in setting and skimming the milk and warming it for calves. All except the smallest size hand separators are so constructed that they can be attached to a power. Some use a small gasoline engine, or some other kind. A light tread power can run by a large dog or some other animal of like size is very economical. A goat has been found to do remarkably well.

On the farm of the writer a separator has been run for the past five years, making an average of nearly 9,000 pounds of butter a year. The cost of repairs in that time has been \$3, and the separator, to all appearances, will last for several years to come. It has a capacity of 300 pounds of milk an hour. It is run by a two-horse tread power, which was purchased before the separator was, and which is used for cutting feed, filling silo, etc. The power is run by a Jersey bull and works very nicely. He needs the exercise; it keeps him docile and gentle, vigorous and healthy, and he seems to enjoy the walking and work. The separating is done while the milking is going on, and ten or fifteen minutes after the last cow is milked the calves and pigs have had the new, warm sweet skim milk. The saving by the use of the separator on this farm has been already a great many times more than the cost of the outfit.—Department Agricultural Bulletin No. 57.

TESTERS THAT DO NOT TEST.

A big cold storage company in Minneapolis has been bidding for the cream from the farmers in the surrounding territory. The hand testers were to be used to test the cream offered for sale by the company. The latter agreed to buy cream by the test, paying enough for it to make it more profitable to sell the cream to the storage company than to sell it to the local creamery. The creameries have become alarmed at the danger to themselves of having any considerable quantity of butter-fat thus diverted. Accordingly the hand testers were given a good deal of attention and some of them sent to the experiment station for testing. All tests showed the testers sent out by the storage company tested too low by from six to eight per cent. Thus the storage company could afford to pay six to eight per cent more for the cream than could the creameries, which would, of course, give them the bulk of the trade. The revelations will probably cause some change of tactics on the part of the great corporation, but will probably not put it out of the field of operations.



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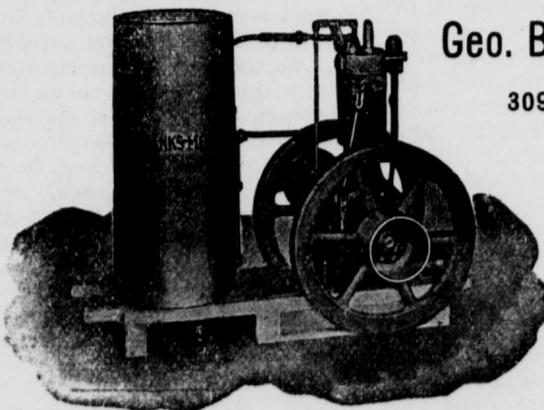
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