

# DAIRY NOTES

## Private Customers for Farm Butter.

In building up a private trade for farm butter, it is necessary to have enough cows so that the butter supply can be kept up summer and winter. The farmer that has only a few cows and produces a large quantity of milk in the summer, and almost none in the winter, cannot expect to build up a profitable trade. He will be able to produce butter only when it is cheapest and when there is a large amount of very cheap butter on the market. There will be then little inducement for customers to seek his butter. He will also be producing butter at a time of the year when all conditions are against its keeping qualities, on account of the temperature being so high that all germs multiply with great rapidity. The farmer that wishes to build up such a trade must provide for as large a quantity of milk in the winter as in the summer. He can then hold his customers the year round. He can also make better prices with them than he otherwise would; for he can fix a uniform price for summer and winter. This, however, can be done only when the buyer and seller are willing to act fairly. The producer must not try to sell his butter elsewhere in the winter, because he can get a little more for it; nor must the buyer try to buy elsewhere in the summer, because he can get his butter at a lower price. Some farmers that have built up this kind of a trade, instead of making a uniform price that will hold throughout the year, base their price on the Elgin market report. There are many farmers in Illinois, Wisconsin and the neighboring states that have a private arrangement to supply their customers with butter at several cents above the Elgin quotation. One Wisconsin man gets at least five cents above the Elgin price and his customers are always glad to receive his butter. That is because he has studied butter making for several years and always produces a fine quality. His butter is never "off" flavor. His customers are willing to pay him more than the market price for the satisfaction they experience in always having a high quality of butter. It is at this point that profit comes in having private customers for farm butter. There is no disadvantage in a farmer securing private customers, if he produces butter of such quality that it will bring only the current price. In that case, it would be better for him to turn it over to the corner grocer.

## Coal Tar Butter Color.

It is an encouraging fact that the Department of Agriculture has detected the fraud of coloring butter with coal-tar dye at or in the vicinity of Philadelphia. For myself, I do not believe in coloring butter with any artificial matter, not even that extracted from vegetables. It is not just right, fellow farmers. We have made a brave fight against the manufacture and sale of artificial butter; now let's not be a party to fraud ourselves by adding any foreign matter to the product of our dairies. Let them stand or fall for just what they are. We can get cows that will make butter that is as yellow as gold. We can give our cows feed that will bring the color up where it should be to please the most exacting fancy. That is the way to do it. The idea of having butter highly colored is only a fashion at best. The coloring matter adds nothing whatever to the flavor of the article. Pure butter, just as it is given to us by nature is by far the best.—E. C. Vincent.

North of Illinois it says to cover the strawberry vines in the fall, but this covering should not be done till the ground is frozen.

# AGRICULTURE



## A Little Farm Well Tilled.

It is stated that since 1900 the population of Iowa has decreased two per cent and that the reason is consolidation of farms to appease the greed for more land, which has grown upon many farmers whose crops have been abundant during the past few years. We have previously alluded to this subject, but did not imagine that it was so serious as this. It means, perhaps, that great farms are forming and that small farms are being absorbed and their owners driven to take up new land in the Northwest or elsewhere or to rent land in their home state from the very men who are making landlords of themselves. This is a sorry state of affairs, compared with the old regime when each farmer owned his "eighty" or "quarter section" and was content therewith and gave it such good attention within his means and facilities that it brought forth abundantly and fully supplied the needs of himself and family.

To be sure the disposition of the family was and is a difficult problem. The small farm cannot well be cut up into little holdings sufficient in size to maintain the children, as each in turn leaves the paternal roof and goes to housekeeping. The greed for more land is making prices too high. Not too high, perhaps, while banner crops and prices are the order of the day, but too high when comes the time that is certain to arrive when crops fall to a great or less degree for a season or two and at the same time foreign crops succeed as they have not done of recent years. These events would cause a drop in prices as well as a shortage in crops and land accordingly would suffer, although acres are always a fairly good investment unless bought during boom times at fictitious values.

While it is partially true that Iowa's loss of population has been due to consolidation of small farms into great holdings, we think that the opening up of new wheat lands in the Northwest has been a considerable factor in inducing owners of small farms to "let go" to the successful neighbor who has had better success or fallen heir to capital enabling him to extend his ownership of land. Every locality has its unsuccessful farmers; men who are unfortunate, lazy, ignorant, vicious in habit, or thriftless in character. These people are ready to sell out at any time, and such perhaps have drifted out of Iowa to the new land, where they fancy fortunes are to be made by merely tiddling the soil surface. Such will not be any great loss to a district. Let us therefore hope that the diminution of Iowa's sturdy population will not lead to any extended depopulation of the rural districts, but to an improvement of methods and management to the profit and satisfaction of every small land owner who appreciates bounties and neighborhood associations.

## Send for Orders Early.

People that are thinking about buying eggs for hatching in the latter part of winter should get their orders in as soon as possible in the fall. Orders that are sent into the poultry men late in the winter are frequently too late to be attended to. The earlier the orders are given the surer are they to be filled. It also enables the poultry raisers to figure on how many eggs they will have to provide to meet the demands made upon them. Most poultrymen like to know in advance how many eggs they will be able to sell in the winter and spring. If they have a large number of orders they can buy a few good breeders if necessary or can at least notify the would-be buyers that they cannot supply the eggs wanted.

# HORTICULTURE



## Timber on the Forest Reserves.

Information comes from Washington that the mature timber on the National forest reserves is to be offered for sale. This announcement is in line with the declared purpose of the Department of Agriculture to develop the National forest reserves by use. The restriction formerly laid upon the export of timber from the states in which the forest reserves were located has been removed, and the law now places no limitation on the shipment of timber grown on any forest reserve except those in the state of Idaho and the Black Hills Reserve in South Dakota. The effect of this change in the law, and the declared policy of the Department of Agriculture, is that the timber on the reserves may now be cut and disposed of to the highest bidder. On many of the reserves there are great quantities of mature timber, and on some of them the facilities for getting it out at a reasonable cost are excellent. The Forest Service, which has charge of the administration of the reserves, is anxious to begin the cutting of this mature timber as soon as possible, and it is prepared to consider offers from lumbermen who wish to undertake such operations.

It is perhaps well to call attention to the fact that this announcement does not mean that the forest reserves are going to be devastated under authority of the government. On the contrary, the distinct and definite purpose of the Forest Service is to improve the reserves by utilizing the material that is now fit for lumber. In doing so, it will also provide for the reproduction of the forest and the restocking of those areas upon which forest conditions are defective.

## Opening Up Apple Trees.

Mr. S. G. Soverhill, a well known fruit grower of Illinois, has an orchard that will pay any man to visit. Any one looking over that orchard will be struck by the great thriftiness of the trees and the bright color seen on the bark of young trees. Mr. Soverhill says that this is due to the fact that he has "opened up," as he calls it, the trees. That is, he has cut out the inside top branches and left, as it were, a narrow bowl in the top from the trunk upwards. In ordinary trees the central stem is allowed to grow straight up with a multitude of small branches growing from it. These always interfere with the gathering of the fruit, and the fruit borne on these inside branches is generally of poor color and relatively small, as the more fruit a tree bears the smaller will the fruit be. Mr. Soverhill has cut out these branches and has let the sun in to color his fruit. As he has reduced the bearing wood of the tree, the fruit that is left grows to a larger size than it would. This open place on the inside of the tree he finds very useful at picking time. A man can get into this place, hang his basket or picking bag on one of the limbs, and do his picking very rapidly. Also, when spraying time comes the man who holds the nozzle that throws the spray can get up into this place and thus thoroughly spray every portion of the tree. This makes perfect work possible. We believe this process of opening apple trees can be followed to good advantage.—Farmers' Review.

## Age of Grape Vines.

We asked Mr. Soverhill how long a grape vine would grow and bear fruit. He said: "I do not know, but when I was 21 years old my brother bought the Robinson Farm, and I took up a grape vine there and re-planted it. It has been growing now, so far as I know, for 49 years. During all this time it has been bearing fruit."

C. F. Daly, passenger traffic manager of the New York Central lines west of Buffalo, and Warren Lynch, general passenger agent of the Big Four, were called to New York recently for conference with President Newman. A plan is said to be on foot to transfer Mr. Daly to New York as passenger traffic manager of the New York Central, to give Mr. Lynch the Chicago post, to retire George Daniels, general passenger agent of the New York Central, and to make H. J. Rhein, now general passenger agent of the Lake Erie and Western, general passenger agent of the Big Four. Mr. Daniels has confirmed the report as to his retirement. He will be made general advertising manager of the system.

Stern realities of life confront the man at the tail end of the procession.

## Cable Tolls to Japan.

It costs \$1.76 a word to send a message to Japan; and, with war raging in the far East, the cable tolls for war news are something tremendous. But as the people will have the war news in connection with their morning dish of Pillsbury's Vitos, the cables are kept busy day and night.

Fortunately the child doesn't realize that he is the father to the man.

You never hear any one complain about "Defiance Starch." There is none to equal it in quality and quantity, 16 ounces, 10 cents. Try it now and save your money.

Blessed is the peacemaker to the under dog in the scrap.

Mrs. Winslow's Sooting Syrup. For children teething, softens the gum, reduces inflammation, allays pain, cures wind colic. 25c a bottle.

The fellow who waits for something to turn up has his eyes fixed on his toes.

## To Prevent Chapped Hands.

Many women who do their own work are much annoyed in winter with chapped hands. This may be avoided by using Ivory Soap for dish washing and toilet purposes. Dry the hands thoroughly each time after they have been in water, and rub with a little lard or some good lotion.

ELEANOR R. PARKER.

It is easy work to convince a woman if you try not to.

# TEA

It is a most mild delight; but it is a delight—good tea, fine tea.

It would be strange if the company a man keeps didn't know him.

Piso's Cure is the best medicine we ever used for all affections of the throat and lungs.—Wm. O. ENDSLEY, Vanburen, Ind., Feb. 10, 1900.

Many a man's winning ways are due to the way he deals the cards.

FITS permanently cured. No fits or nervousness after first day's use of Dr. Kline's Great Nerve Restorer. Send for FREE \$2.00 trial bottle and treatise. DR. R. H. KLINE, Ltd., 601 Arch Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Cowardice is a nightmare that troubles some men when they are awake.

## Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it

Hear the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher* In Use For Over 30 Years. The Kind You Have Always Bought.

It takes a big man to eat crow gracefully.

# TEA

Our tea is sound; our advice is sound. Our advice is as sound as our tea.

Your grocer returns your money if you don't like Schilling's Tea.

Imagination doth make cowards of us all.

## More Flexible and Lasting.

won't shake out or blow out; by using Defiance Starch you obtain better results than possible with any other brand and one-third more for same money.