

De Laval Expansion.

The De Laval Dairy Supply company has recently moved into new and larger quarters in San Francisco, now occupying six large floors at 9-11 Drunem street.

A representative of The Ranch recently called on this firm while in San Francisco and was guided over the premises by Major N. E. Baker, who is so well known among dairymen on this coast.

No better evidence of the remarkable development of the dairy industry on the Pacific slope is needed than shown by the great growth of business of the De Laval Dairy Supply company.

It was only a few years ago when Mr. Baker made his first visit to the coast, placing local agencies, visiting creamerymen and dairymen attending farmers' meetings, etc. As a result of his recommendations a branch of the De Laval company was established at San Francisco and a repair department put in to attend to separator repairs, in charge of a man imported from the company's head factory in Sweden.

The company found it necessary for the accommodation of the trade to carry a general line of creamery and dairy goods.

About a year ago a new incorporation was formed, The De Laval Dairy Supply company, having in view, as its name implies, the object of dealing in all lines of creamery and dairy supplies, with F. J. Arend president, N. E. Baker vice-president, H. W. Van Houten secretary and C. E. Hill treasurer and general manager. Mr. Hill has given the situation on the coast most careful study, and under his management the business of the firm has increased very greatly.

A branch house of the dairy supply company was recently established at Portland, Oregon.

The Merz Dairy Supply company are their agents on Puget Sound.

When we remember how such a comparatively short time ago the dairymen of the coast were dubbing along as best they could, getting their supplies from eastern houses at long range, we realize how great a change has been wrought by this enterprising firm, with its splendidly equipped San Francisco establishment and well-managed branches at other principal coast points.

Anything in the line of new machinery can be supplied on instant notice. Repairs of all kinds are quickly made in separators and machinery.

Will the Hand Separator System Prevail in The Dairy Industry.

Time, or some person endowed with supernatural power of predicting future events, only can tell whether the hand separator system is eventually to become the chief system in the manufacture of butter, but nevertheless, as this system apparently is on an increase, a thought of this kind often creeps into the man who is interested in that work. With the capitalists, separator manufacturers and separator agents on the one side, active for the growth and support of this system, and as a rule with the farmers, butter makers and a few dairy enthusiasts on the other, perhaps putting forth only inactive restraint, one is tempted to draw the conclusion in favor of the former class in regard to the prevalency of this system.

The separator agents are perhaps doing more towards magnifying the advantages and making the disadvantages of the hand separator system among the farmers appear as insignificant as possible, than any other

class of men. If they can persuade them to believe that one hundred dollars is a small insignificant sum in comparison to what may be earned from that investment above the earnings of the system, which they are already pursuing, they care little about the ultimate results of the plan, when put into execution. The agents are not to be censured on this account, but those who have a more direct interest in the ultimate product, viz., butter ought to raise objections, if a one-sided view of this question is permitted. If the conclusions as to the advisability of this system are to be drawn from the advantages considered numerically, in contrast with the "hauling milk system," then the hand separator system will certainly come out ahead. The chief advantages of the hand separator system are as follows:

1. Better skimmed milk for feed.
2. The milk can be skimmed and fed at regular hours.
3. Not so much to haul to the creamery, hence less time and less cost.
4. The capacity of a plant can be increased.

The chief disadvantages are:

1. A poorer quality of butter.
2. The application of hand power in the separation of milk.

If the hand separator system is the coming one, and no effective and systematic restraint can be wisely administered, then it is time for the friends of good butter to come out and give a helping hand toward improving the quality of cream, so that a quality of butter, suitable to the taste of consumers and commanding the highest market price can continue to be manufactured.

The fourth biennial report of the state dairy and food commissioner just issued is a valuable publication, containing carefully compiled information regarding the various branches of the dairy industry. It can be obtained free of charge, by addressing E. A. McDonald, Dairy Commissioner, Downs Bldg., Seattle.

A movement is on foot to combine the woolen mills of the Pacific Coast in a corporation with a capital stock of \$3,500,000. Oregon has nine mills, valued at \$1,000,000; California, seven; Washington, one, and Montana, one. The California mills are back of the project. The Portland, Salem and Eugene mills will not go into the merger.

Fruit Inspector Brown at Seattle, last week held up a car of peaches from California, affected with the peach worm. They were the worst lot, according to the inspector, that ever came to the market. He allowed the fruit to go through to Alaska—as it was the first offense, but gave warning that the next time it would go to the dump.

The Frye-Bruhn Co. is establishing a big stock ranch on Kadiak Island, Alaska. The company contemplates sending North some 25,000 head of sheep and several hundred cattle. Of these 300 head of yearling heifers and 8,200 head of sheep have gone North on the Melville Dollar. The steamer will make two more trips after this one. This is by far the largest single shipment ever sent to Alaska and it is even a question whether so many sheep were ever before sent North in a single season. With the stock the company is dispatching men to care for it, material for houses, pens and sheds and household effects, and machinery for curing and caring for hay on a large scale.

On The Price of Beef.

At the East Tennessee Farmers' Institute, held at Knoxville last week, J. Ewing Hite of Gallatin, a student at the Tennessee Experiment Station, was one of the speakers and discussed "Will Agriculture Pay?" Discussing the outlook for the cattleman, Mr. Hite, among other things, said:

"Looking at conditions, the high price of beef is laid at the doors of the so-called beef trust, but the fact is there are only 16,000,000 beeves in the United States to feed 80,000,000 people. It requires in the present time study to raise beef to the highest point of profit."

Some months ago the press of the nation and innumerable politicians grew furious because of a "beef trust," but the farmers who keep in touch with the world and conditions knew the principal cause of the high price of beef.

A Nebraskan farmer has invented a new machine called a compound-catastrophe-avertter. The machine is both compound and complex. It is meant for a dwelling-house. It has three foundations, each one of which may be made the undermost at the inmate's will. One foundation is a boat bottom. If the farmer wakes up in the night and feels his house being borne away down a tributary to the Missouri river, he merely presses a button on a variegated switch board which is attached to his night-shirt, and the boat bottom becomes undermost. The farmer then settles back to his slumber, while his house floats serenely toward the Gulf. Another arrangement provides for cyclones. This consists of a pair of immense wing-sails backed by a rudder made of rooster feathers, a non-conductor. When the tornado comes a farmer has but to press another button and his house instantly becomes a flying machine. He then settles back to rest, and is soothed into a sweet sleep by the gentle rocking of his domicile as it soars through the etherial heights. The third attachment is a compound averter of all the chronic catastrophes of his country such as prairie fires, thunder bolts, lightning, sand storms, etc. These latter are somewhat too complex to describe, but it will suffice to say that with these various attachments, the farmer need rarely be disturbed from his night's rest more than once during each night unless the flood, cyclone, thunderbolt and all should come at one time, and statistics show that this happens but six times a year in any one section of Nebraska.

Relieved.

She glided into the office and quietly approached the editor's desk. "I have written a poem," she began.

"Well!" exclaimed the editor with a look and tone intended to annihilate.

But she calmly resumed: "I have written a poem on 'My Father's Barn,' and—" "Oh!" interrupted the editor with extraordinary suavity, "you don't know how greatly I am relieved. A poem written on your father's barn, eh? I was afraid it was written on paper, and that you wanted me to publish it. If I should ever happen to drive past your father's barn I'll stop and read the poem."

Fruitgrowers of Kendrick, Ida., have recently formed a cooperative association with capital stock at \$1500. An assessment can be levied if necessary. It is proposed by the organization to have its own warehouse and cold storage plant.