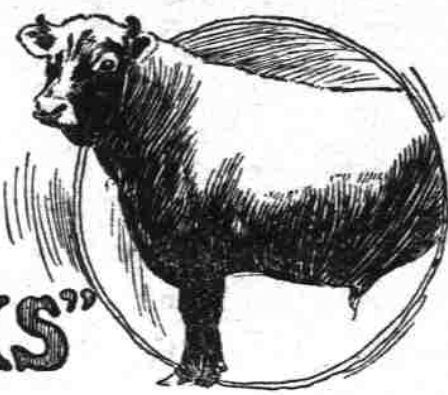




**"SUNNY HOME STOCK TALKS"**



**XL.—NOW IS THE TIME TO DIP CATTLE AND SHEEP.**

Messrs. Editors: Jack Frost has already laid his hand upon some of the Northern sections of our country, and it behooves us to make ready on the Southern stock farm for his coming. There are so many things to demand our attention at this time of year that we are liable to neglect matters that that must be attended on time or our stock will suffer.

**Dip the Cattle and Sheep.**

One of the things that we make it a point to attend to, whatever else remains undone, is the dipping (during October) of all our cattle and sheep. And we make a thorough job of it, doing the work twice, at intervals of ten days. Of all the things that are sent to worry the very life out of the patient cow and sheep, the miserable blood-sucking louse is the worst. And we have declared war on the whole fraternity. There is nothing that will so vex the soul of a stockman as to have a large herd of cows become infested in the middle of a cold winter with a million of these little fellows. The dry cows that are quite fat will not be injured so greatly as will the ones that are nursing calves.

**How the Dipping Plant is Made.**

We tried a number of years to clear the herd in the fall by washing thoroughly with one of the stock dips, but a few lice would escape in spite of the best work we could do by this method, so for the past three years we have been dipping the animals all over under in the preparation and it does the work.

The dipping plant is simply a cistern 8 feet deep, 3 feet 6 inches wide by 7 1/2 feet long. Embedded in the concrete at each corner is a post 6 by 8 feet and extending above the top of the cistern about eleven feet. Inside of these four posts is built a cage large enough to hold a grown animal. This cage works up and down on the posts after the manner of an elevator.

**Handling the Animals.**

An animal is led or driven into the cage from one end, the doors closed, and he goes down until the dip in the cistern covers him all over; then he is elevated to the level again, the front door of the cage opened, and he walks—or generally jumps—out and gets away from that crowd as fast as possible. We can handle about fifteen grown animals per hour. After the cattle have been dipped we next take the sheep. In about ten days the nits on the cattle will hatch and then is the time to dip again. We generally heat the dip to about 100 degrees by steam from an engine, as we think it rather more effective when quite warm. When we have finished dipping the second time we use the dip that remains in the cistern to spray the stables thoroughly, adding to the dip enough lime to make a white-wash about the consistency of cream. We do this work with the common bucket spray pump, forcing the wash into every crack and crevice in the stable.

**Winter Spraying as a Substitute.**

If a dipping plant is not available, cattle can be kept in a fairly good condition by spraying thoroughly during any warm spells in the winter. To do this work the dip should be

made strong, at least one of dip to fifty of water, and one to forty is better. We use about one to sixty when dipping.

If any of the nursing cows are thin now, a light feed of new corn daily will be a splendid thing for them. They will come through the winter in enough better shape to pay well for the corn and the trouble of feeding. The "eye of the master" is a very essential thing on the stock farm when the fall days are come.

A. L. FRENCH.

R. F. D. 2, Byrdville, Va.

**SUGGESTIONS TO DAIRYMEN.**

**It is Total Yield of Milk and Butter Fat and Not Richness in a Small Quantity, That is Wanted.**

Messrs. Editors: I was much interested in the article from Brunswick County in the last issue of The Progressive Farmer in regard to the good record made by a dairy herd. I wish we might have more of such reports and discussions.

This report brings out a point which I notice as being characteristic of the milk in North Carolina, and that is its high fat content. I doubt if there are many sections of the country that can make a better showing in this respect.

But your correspondent went a little too far, perhaps, in drawing his conclusion from the data at hand.

When selecting a herd of cows that would produce the most butter from the smallest quantity of milk, different animals should be chosen than would be selected to compete in a herd test as was the case at Chicago, where the total product was what they were after and not the highest fat yield per hundred pounds of milk. The cows that were selected to compete in this test were naturally in full flow of milk as their records show, consequently their milk would be of the poorest quality given during the lactation period. When a cow is giving the largest yield of milk it is of the poorest quality. As the milking period advances the per cent of fat in the milk increases. There is often a per cent difference between the fat in the milk of the first part of the lactation period and the last. With this understanding it would hardly be just to compare the fat content of the milk from a herd under such conditions, with the milk from a herd under average conditions.

We have no information at hand bearing on the subject, but I presume this Brunswick County herd is going about the same as the average herds of the State, giving about a gallon and a half of milk and making about an average of three-fourths of a pound of butter per cow, while the animals in the test referred to were giving between three and four gallons and making about an average of one and three-fourths pounds of butter a day.

In regard to the feed, I doubt if any section of the country can boast of better or a greater variety of feeding material than we can feed our cows. We do not always have it to feed, to be sure, but we can have it if we will. We are satisfied to let other dairymen keep the timothy hay if they will give us corn, cowpeas, clover, alfalfa, and cottonseed meal.

**Cream Separator HONESTY**

Each and every manufacturer of a cream separator claims his machine to be "the best". This is good business, but it is hardly giving the buyer a square deal. There can be only one "best" machine, which really means that the others are trying to secure buyers under false pretenses. Fancy catalogues, big "claims", flashy "challenges" and liberal "free trial" offers are good advertising, but may all go hand-in-hand with the poorest and trashiest machine on the market. You may have thought of this without knowing just what to do about it. But if you are about to buy a machine why not look up the real facts—the proven facts about separators? Consult the experienced creamery and dairy operators, the agricultural experiment station records, the government records, the results of all important butter scoring contests, and records of tests and awards made at all important expositions and agricultural shows. You will then know the truth about cream separators and can tell the manufacturer who has misrepresented matters to you to seek business elsewhere. If you have investigated well and carefully you will find that there is but one separator which will do all that is claimed for it and can HONESTLY be called "the best." That machine is the DE LAVAL. Wherever tests have been made of different separators the DE LAVAL has always averaged best. Wherever records have been kept of the work of different separators the DE LAVAL has always been first. Once again we say, look up the proven facts concerning separators and learn the truth for yourself. Will the other manufacturers give you the same advice? We think not. There is a very good reason why they will not do so. It would mean business suicide for them. A DE LAVAL catalogue may be had for the asking. Write for it today.

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Cows need no better feed than pastures supplemented with a little cottonseed meal.

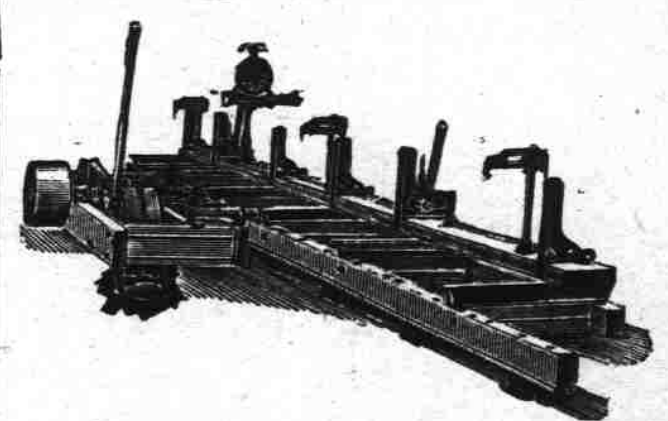
While the yield of butter reported is a very good showing, it is not at all unusual in this State. Milk testing 5 per cent fat will yield a pound of butter for two gallons of milk. Our herd of some sixty animals averaged over 5 per cent for over a year and a half.

This report is what we want. We all like to know what our neighbors are doing. Only let us carry it a little further, as many of our best dairymen are doing, and weigh and test our milk so that we may know the whole story and just where the dairy business and we stand.

The keeping of records of our dairy operations consumes but very little time and it is time well spent. Dairy business requires close attention as there are so many ways that our profits may leak out; and not the least of these sources of loss are those "year-round boarders": the unprofitable cows in our herd. If we have records to refer to, such cows cannot escape their just dues—the slaughterhouse.

J. C. KENDALL, Secretary State Dairymen's Association, West Raleigh, N. C.

Only 15 cents till January 1st. Tell that neighbor.



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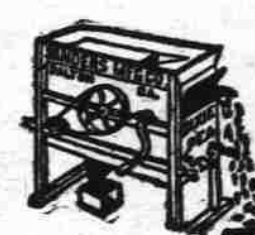
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