

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., April 24, 1925.

Why Cream Tests Vary.

Ever since the farmers of Centre county began to devote attention to the production of milk and cream there has been more or less discussion of and misunderstanding as to why their checks for dairy products, delivered to the several creamery plants they supply, vary from time to time.

After the establishment of the Western Maryland plant in this place we came in contact intimately with its management and casually with many of its patrons. The former impressed us as having but one object in view; that was to secure a maximum supply of milk of the highest grade and to do this it bent every effort in advising its patrons as to the kind of dairy cattle to keep and the manner of handling the milk on the farm so that it would meet the tests when delivered and command the highest market price.

We recall the sincere efforts of Mr. Collins, the traveling manager of the company, to personally impress his patrons with the fact that milk had to stand up to certain State requirements else it could not be shipped to the most profitable markets. You will recall, that the Western Maryland was denied a New York city market because it could not make its patrons see that this condition had to be met.

On the other hand we heard numbers of patrons complain because their monthly checks varied. They couldn't understand why this should be and in consequence some of them were convinced that they were not being fairly treated, in other words that there was and is chicanery at the receiving stations. A number of producers jumped about from one market to another and the unrest and understanding still exists to a certain extent.

While we felt all the time that no intentional injustice was being done anyone at any of the several stations in the county, for we knew that no reputable business concern would resort to sharp practice, we could not convince those to whom we talked that all was right.

Now county farm agent Blaney comes out with an explanation that should set at rest a lot of the misgiving. He says:

The farmer who sells cream sometimes is surprised at the variation of the test reported by the creamery. In the early part of the summer the tests tend downward. The farmer should not assume that a variation in the tests means either carelessness or dishonesty on the part of the cream buyer.

First of all the richness of the cream varies with the richness of the milk. In early spring and summer there are more fresh cows which results in a lower testing milk, and as a result of this the cream goes down in proportion. A herd of cows may produce milk averaging 4 per cent in the fall and in the early spring and the summer the average will run as low as 3-6 per cent. This much difference in the richness of the milk will cause a variation of five to eight per cent in the cream test.

The next most important cause for variation is the speed of the separator. The faster the separator is run the larger the proportion of skim milk and the smaller the proportion of cream. Consequently the high speed yields a richer cream. If a machine that is supposed to be turned 60 revolutions a minute is reduced to 40 the cream will be considerably lower in test.

Another important cause of variation in cream tests and sometimes the most important, is the amount of water or skim milk in use in flushing out the bowl. The difference of a pint used will make a noticeable difference in the test of the cream. A difference in the temperature of the milk separated will also have some effect. Some separators are more sensitive to temperature than others. With some a difference of 20 degrees in the temperature of the milk when separated will make a difference of several per cent in the test without affecting the thoroughness of the separation to any marked extent. It should be understood that those variations occur not only as a result of more or less loss of fat in the skim-milk but as a result of a larger proportion being taken out in the form of cream.

Passengers by Weight.

More or less inequity has been sensed from the start in the practice of estimating passenger fares on railroads and other conveyances by person instead of avoirdupois. Fat people can ride for the same price charged lean people—a principle that would be obviously unjust in the freight end of the business. Air transportation for the first time challenges this non-sensical rule. The flying machine capacities and costs are calculated on a strict pound-and-ounce basis. Hence the announcement that the air people are working up a fare system by weights and measures to take the place of the old per-capita rule. It may not seem equitable that a fat man should have to pay more for transportation than a lean one, but that is because we have not been used to thinking of these matters in terms of equal and exact justice. If it costs more to eat a great deal than just a little, why shouldn't it cost more to carry a big man than a little woman, for example? If there is a good deal to a man, it takes just that much more power to transport him than if he amounted to little. At all events, the air transport is going to mollify the small folks who have smarted under the injustice of full-weight fares long enough.

The cross-word puzzle put the quietus on Mah Jong.

FOR AND ABOUT WOMEN.

DAILY THOUGHT.
Exhaustive observation is an element of every great achievement.—Spencer.

Pastidious housewives are more and more coming to realize the advantages of linoleum floors in the home. The smooth, unbroken surface of linoleum when properly installed offers no lodging places for dust. There are no unsightly cracks, as in floors of wood. The rules for caring for linoleum floors are few and simple. Plain and inlaid linoleum, after it has been installed, should be waxed carefully and thoroughly. Do this before the floor has been soiled, and use a good grade of floor wax, either liquid or paste. Do not smear this paste on too generously, but use a small quantity and rub it in well. This wax rubbed into the surface of the linoleum prevents effectually the penetration of dirt. Dust will not adhere readily to waxed linoleum, so that an occasional dusting with a dry mop is almost all the care that is required.

Of course, near doorways and other places where the traffic is heavy the wax is apt to wear away, but the re-waxing of these small areas is the work of only a few moments. Scrubbing is seldom necessary.

One of the easiest ways of applying the wax is to place a small quantity inside a piece of cheesecloth folded several times. By rubbing the cloth evenly over the floor the wax is distributed. Use care not to apply too much wax. An excessive amount is apt to collect dirt and may darken the linoleum slightly. It has a tendency also to make the floor slippery. After the wax has been applied it should be rubbed into the surface of the linoleum thoroughly with a weighted brush or with a heavy brick wrapped in a soft cloth. When it becomes necessary to wash the floor the wax removed should be immediately renewed.

Printed linoleum, as the name implies, has a pattern printed on the surface. This pattern must be protected where the traffic is heavy. Varnish is one of the best preventives obtainable. Use a high-grade varnish, even though it costs a few cents more. The varnish you select should not turn white when water is spilled on it. It should be elastic and quick-drying and as clear as possible. Some women have been able to keep the pattern of their printed linoleum like new by varnishing once every six or eight months. Before you varnish it, your linoleum must be perfectly clean and dry. The first coat should be applied evenly and allowed to dry at least fourteen hours. It is usually well to apply two coats when the linoleum is new and one coat whenever it is necessary.

In washing linoleum, whether printed, plain or inlaid, use a soap that dissolves the dirt rather than one that cuts it. In other words, use a mild soap with luke-warm, sudsy water. Do not flood the surface or allow water to stand around the edges and seams. It is best to wash and dry only about a square yard at a time. Rinse the linoleum with clean water and dry it carefully. But avoid harsh scrubbing powders, strong alkali soaps and abrasive compounds. Most of the reputable linoleum manufacturers have taken considerable pains in making the surface of linoleum smooth and beautiful. Try to keep your linoleum as pretty as the day you bought it. By following the directions above you can do it.

Household Linen for the Bride.—Supposing three beds are to be furnished, nine pairs of sheets and twelve pillow-slips will be sufficient. Three pairs of blankets are needed, and the best selection in these are of mixed cotton and wool.

About six white spreads should be provided. At least one dozen bed-room towels and half a dozen bath-room towels are required.

The bed-room towels are hem-stitched and should be about 21 by 40 inches in size.

The bath towels will measure 22 by 44.

Shams should match the bureau scarf.

The cream dice patterned cloths make an excellent selection for everyday tablecloths.

They are much to be preferred to the showy imitation damask, which show up badly after one washing.

Two yards will make a tablecloth and four are enough to start with.

One dozen napkins in 22-inch size must accompany the tablecloths.

Six yards of brown crash will make half a dozen kitchen towels.

Little caps made of heavy cloth and fitted over the ends of rockers save much scratching on base-boards and other furniture from having rocking chairs pushed against them.

Candy, fruit and nuts are used on the table as decoration and passed at the close of the meal.

Nuts are passed during the meal and olives with the soup.

Cheese and crackers for salad are served from a side table.

In place of grape fruit for the first course at luncheon serve the pulp of orange, ice cold, in sherbet glasses.

To the pulp add a little lemon juice, sugar to taste and a bit of chopped mint. It will be found exceedingly tasty.

In the treatment of premature grayness an iron tonic is often prescribed. At the same time the general system must be built up by means of nourishing diet, plenty of milk and outdoor exercise every day.

Sleep in a well-ventilated room.

Rise as soon as you wake, and get out into the fresh air as soon as possible, if only for a few minutes.

As for the cause, it may be over-study, weakness of constitution or a sudden shock to the nerves.

Walnut Wafers.—Beat two eggs light, without separating; add gradually one cupful of brown sugar, beating all the while, and a pinch of salt. Mix with two tablespoonfuls of flour and one cupful of walnuts chopped fine. If not stiff enough add more flour, but the batter should drop easily from a spoon. Drop by spoonfuls on greased tins, and bake for five minutes in a quick oven.

FARM NOTES.

—Raise calves from only the very best cows. Milking ability is inherited, and inferior cows can produce only their kind.

—Care of the woodland means protection from fire and grazing stock as well as the application of good common sense in cuttings.

—How do you know your seed corn will grow and give a good stand? Testing it will tell the story of the possibility of getting a stand with the seed on hand.

—Be sure to rake the mulch off shrubbery borders and flower beds before active growth starts. If this is left on too long it softens the plants. Do not remove the mulch on a bright sunny day.

—In Pennsylvania, shrub planting may be safely done during all of April and most of May. If nursery orders have not been placed for ornamental shrubs, do it now so they can be set out before it is too late.

—Demonstrations staged by The Pennsylvania State College extension service show that a mixture of barley and oats produces more pounds of feeding material than either did alone. More grain per acre for feed is always appreciated.

—Keep pig pens clean, dry and well ventilated. As soon as possible get the pigs out on clean ground so that they can take a lot of exercise. If pastures are available the sow and litter should be placed in them when the pigs are about two weeks of age.

—The delayed dormant is the first spray on apples, pears and cherries. Use a rather coarse, drenching spray aimed to wet the ends of the buds as the lice are in those places. Peaches must be sprayed while the buds are fully dormant to control leaf curl.

—Spring is the only time in which to set out strawberry plants, fruit specialists of the Pennsylvania State college say. Choose a time preferably just before a rain if possible. Set the plants 18 inches apart in the row and have the rows three feet apart.

—Proteins are important in dairy feeding. These are best provided in legume hay. Clover and alfalfa can be seeded with oats this spring; thus providing for the hay crop next year. Soy beans sown this spring will provide a supply of excellent hay next fall.

—In applying pre-pink spray there is no need of putting in arsenate of lead except in those cases where it was omitted in the delayed dormant spray or where the delayed dormant was applied early. Arsenate of lead should be put in the pink spray but there is no need of using nicotine in this application.

—Three Seniors in the school of agriculture at The Pennsylvania State College have been selected by the Foreign Service committee of the American Friends to assist Dr. C. T. Erickson in the organization of the Albanian-American School of Agriculture in Albania.

The young men are Charles L. McVaugh, George School; Geo. Rhoads, Oakbourne; and Henry W. Ridgway, Philadelphia. They will leave for Albania following their graduation in June, it is expected.

—Young apple and peach trees have been pruned too severely in the past and bearing trees have been pruned too lightly or too infrequently, Paul Thayer, fruit extension specialist of Pennsylvania State College, says.

Every orchard grower should aim to secure three things in his young orchard at the earliest date possible. These are strength, growth and productivity. Pruning, especially heading back, interferes with fruit bearing, but after fruit trees are mature and fruit bearing established, the trees should receive a careful and increasingly thorough annual pruning.

—A butcher in Bradford county was recently fined \$100 and costs for operating an unclean and unsanitary slaughter house. State officials found him using an old shed located on the edge of a swamp for the butchering. The only water supply was a shallow well which was contaminated by seepage from the surface.

In passing sentence, the Judge expressed his surprise that such filthy conditions could exist in his community and stated that the court was in through sympathy with the work of Dr. W. S. Gimper and his assistants in safeguarding the public's meat supply by inspection of slaughter houses and meat shops.

—Dairy farmers of Pennsylvania will again have an opportunity to show their prowess as dairy cattle judges. The second National farmers' dairy cattle judging contest at the National Dairy Exposition at Indianapolis, Indiana, October 10 to 17 will be the occasion.

According to the rules sent to dairy specialists at The Pennsylvania State College, only amateur individuals and teams are eligible for competition. Those who have officiated as judges at fairs and shows, county agents, college instructors, agricultural teachers, and representatives of colleges in interstate and national contests are excluded. Amateur teams must have the same qualifications as amateur individuals.

The teams may be chosen by farm bureaus, granges, farmer's clubs, State, district, or county breed or dairy associations, cow testing associations, or county agents. Members of the teams will be eligible for individual amateur honors.

Each contestant may be required to judge three classes of animals of the same breed, consisting of 4 cows, 4 heifers, and 4 bulls. Classes will be chosen from the Ayrshire, Brown Swiss, Guernsey, Holstein and Jersey breeds.

Prizes for first, second, and third places in each class will be gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. To all who score 90 or over, but who do not get a medal, a diploma will be awarded.

Applications by individuals or teams for admission to the judging contest must be made on blanks supplied by the National Dairy Exposition. They should be filed with the manager of the exposition on or before October 3.

New Postal Rates Went Into Effect Wednesday.

Reminding the public that Congress has decreed that the users of the postal service must help pay the increased salaries of postal employees, which became effective January 1, Postmaster General New has issued a statement setting forth the new postage rates which went into effect Wednesday, April 15.

"So far as the rates on first-class mail are concerned," the Postmaster General said, "there are no changes whatever except in the case of private mailing cards, including souvenir post cards. The rates on second, third and fourth-class mail have been increased in certain contingencies, but this increase is very slight and will not work any hardship on the mailing public. The excess revenue derived from such sources will enable the Post Office Department to meet its obligations, and at the same time provide increased compensation for its army of faithful employees."

Some of the changes in rates which went into effect April 15 follow:

First-class mail: Private mailing cards, including souvenir post cards, whether bearing written or printed matter, increased from one cent each to two cents each. The present one-cent postal cards will continue in use, the new rate applying only to post cards other than those issued by the Government.

No other changes in the first-class rates of postage have been made.

Fourth-Class (Parcel Post) Mail: "The same matter, weighing more than eight ounces, as handled in third-class mail. Limit of weight 70 pounds

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66-15-17

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The Diamond Brand
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Pills in Red and Gold Metallic
Cases, sealed with Blue Ribbon.
Take no other. Buy of your
Druggist. Ask for CHICHESTER'S
DIAMOND BRAND PILLS, for 25
years known as Best, Safest, Always Reliable
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in first, second and third zones, and 50 pounds in all other zones. Present pound rates in the various zones have not been changed.

Service charge of two cents in stamps to be affixed to packages in addition to postage has been imposed for each parcel, except those collected on rural delivery routes.

Special handling charge of 25 cents in stamps, with the words "Special Handling" written or printed on the wrapper, or by use of the new special handling charge 25-cents in addition to postage and 2-cent service charge, secures the same expeditious handling, transportation and delivery for parcels as though handled as first-class mail.

Registered Mail: Minimum registry fee increased from 10 cents to 15 cents on all domestic registered mail, in-

cluding that to island possessions of the United States and the Canal Zone. For the present the increased rate does not apply to registered mail to Canada, Cuba, Mexico, the Republic of Panama or other foreign countries.

Incubate Six Eggs for Every Pullet Wanted.

For every pullet desired next fall six eggs should be incubated. This number of eggs allows a 50 per cent hatch, for a 20 per cent mortality and for pullets culling in the fall.

It is advisable to hatch early as the chicks live better, grow faster and mature more quickly than the late hatched ones. On the other hand, it is useless to have early hatches if the laying houses are not going to be available when the pullets begin to lay.

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All-Wool Suits, with 2 pairs pants, as low as \$25.00. Better ones from \$30.00 to \$40.00.

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