DAIRY PRODUCT PRICES.

Prices for produce are not regulated solely upon the supply and demand, but also upon quality. Although a farmer may grow a crop it does not signify that there is a fixed price for his produce simply because the market reports indicate that the produce in his possession is quoted at a certain figure. It is labor that fixes the prices, of production, and as long as the prices obtained for produce are equivalent to the expenses incurred just so long will the article produced be sent to market, but should any difficulty arise by which the remunerative prices cannot be realized the farmer will direct his attention to more saleable products, which in turn lessen the supply of other kinds, and an equilibrium of prices is again maintained.

Perhaps no better illustration of the importance of superiority can be given than to mention that in some markets the best quality of butter retails at \$1 per pound, although butter as a rule, is sometimes very plentiful and often sells at a low figure, but no matter how well the market may be supplied the butter that brings so high a price is always quickly sold, and the market is never overstocked. One may ask why such is the case. Simply because, while the market may be liberally supplied with butter, and even of good quality, that of the best quality is never in excess. Then again, it may be inguired how such butter is prepared. It is labor that increases the price-labor in the shape of preparation and management. In the system of management the stalls are washed out and kept as neat as the floor of a dwelling house. The food of the cows is carefully inspected and is of the purest quality. The animals are brushed and washed. The drinking water is always fresh and given from clean vessels. The manure is frequently removed, and the beds are of clean, dry material, changed morning and night. The attendants are dressed in clean, white gowns, the udders are washed in warm water and dried with a clean towel. The hands of the milkers are as clean as if sitting down to their meals. The pails are scrubled, scalded, washed, aired and made scrupulously clean. The milk is strained twice and not allowed to come in contact with the slightest odor. The milk house is a model of neatness. In fact, the strictest cleanliness is observed in every operation from the time the milk is drawn from the udder until it reaches the customer. It is apparent that such a mode of dairying demands labor and care, but that is only an item compared with the high prices obtained.

It is the proper management, without regard to cost, that enables dairymen to succeed. The best dairymen employ a large amount of labor, and again sell the labor at an advantage. That is the sole explanation of the whole matter. To obtain the best prices, then, the article sold must be of the best quality. No farmer need have any fear of not finding a ready sale for his produce if he has endeavored to improve it in quality, but if he simply follows an ordinary routine of growing and marketing crops he will not only have difficulty in naming his own price for his produce, but will find the market at all times filled with those having articles of the same quality for sale, while his sales must depend upon the number of buyers who cannot produce anything better. Prices of many products are not with in the control of any syndicate or combination. True, an organized effort the farmer who hauls produce to market of a quality superior to that usunor be in danger from monopolists. He has something which they cannot affect. To create a corner in it they wright, in The Cultivator. must increase his price also, and must even purchase his entire stock at his figures. He is not in competition with others, for care, management and the skilful application of labor of house plants in winter. These has lifted him high above their plane should have recourse to one or more of action, and made him a dictator of the disposal of his own. As with produce so with stock. The farmer who breeds his cattle, sheep and swine in a systematic manner, in regard to thrives in the shade and speedily both the mode of breeding and the selection of breeds, is at once far leaves show a rich mottling of creamy ahead of those who are not so careful. He may at any time confidently estimate upon larger prices, greater it rarely flowers in cultivation, a forweight and fairer profits, and, although his task may be more laborious, with greater outlay for the cost of production, yet in the end he will reap an ample reward for all his ef- application of carbolic soap suds. forts.-Philadelphia Record.

SKIMMILK CALVES.

Skimmilk calves can be raised at a farmers imagine, but most of them are not so raised. It is not a difskimmilk calves six months old frehead, and at that rate they are very

first, and this quantity is gradually Bessie L. Putnam, in The Epitomist.

increased up to about six quarts. The largest meals should be given night and morning and half as much at The milk should be as near the temperature of the milk from the cow as possible. All calf milk should be fed warm and sweet. Later sour milk can be fed, but in that event it must be fed sour all the time. To change from sweet to sour will cause trouble. When two or three weeks old skimmilk can take the place of the sweet full-cream milk, but the change should be made gradual. This is necessary because the quantity must be increased. It takes nearly twice as much skimmilk as cream milk to produce a pound of flesh or fat. When the change is complete the calves can be fed nearly all the the skimmilk they will eat, but a little meal and ground grain can be added about this time to give them more strength and growth. At first put a little moist ened meal in their mouths after drink. ing, and they will soon acquire a taste for grain. Within a week they will learn to take the meal themselves from the pail.

Four-week-old calves will eat nearly three-quarters of a pound of meal a day, and in eight weeks about double this amount. The feeding must be done with care, and the food should be given after this in large proportions. Hay can be fed to them when eight weeks old, and they will enjoy nibbling at it. Nothing but clean bright hay or grain should be given No more hay or grain should be given than they will eat up clean at

The calves need plenty of sunshine, clean quarters, fresh air, but warm sleeping places, and regular kindly treatment which will make them grow and fatten rapidly. Good thrifty calves will then net in their owner more profit than most other animals. -E. P. Smith, in American Cultiva

STACKING HAY OUTDOORS.

To preserve hay stacked outdoors it is much better to make the stack as large as possible, and in such a way that the rain and snow cannot moisten the interior. There is, of course, always the disadvantage of making the stacks so large that the wind will blow them over. A large base or foundation is necessary. A comparatively low stack spread over a large area is always, in my estimation, more satisfactory than the tall, conical stacks which offer plenty of wind surface to the gales and have little resisting

I have successfully stacked hay out of doors by laying a firm foundation of wooden rails and making the foundation twice as many feet each way as the height. It requires some sort of a derrick to make such a stack, but home-made derricks can easily be built for the work and by making the stack large enough it will pay to go to this expense. Three men can then stack as much hay as half a dozen when each one must depend on the pitchfork to get the hay to the top of the stack. Derrick stacking will, as a rule, make the centre pack solid so that less moisture will penetrate down to ruin it. A good hay-stacking derrick can be made out of a single long pole, supported by two guy ropes, with the lower end of the pole working in a loose socket. A pulley and block on the upper end of the inclined pole, with one end attached to the fork and the other to a block on the ground so that a team of horses can be attached to it. A smaller derrick can be manipulated by hand, but a single horse to pull up the load of hay will answer the purpose much better. Two men can in this way stack the hay neatly and quickly, carrying each forkful to the top of the high stack. The derrick can easily be shifted and very quickly taken apart or put may for awhile cause serious fluctua- up again. Once built it should last tion in prices of staple products, but for years, and in the end it will pay for itself many times. It can also be employed for stacking straw and grain. ally sent is a master of the situation. It performs its work so noiselessly and and may not fear the manipulators quickly that there is very little friction or accidents. The stacks are apt to be made better, too .- C. L. Main-

FOR THE SUNLESS WINDOW.

Many complain of the lack of a sunny window as a barrier to the culture of the numerous species which do not demand sunshine, in fact, prefer not to have it. There is the well-known leopard plant or farfugium, which wilts if placed in direct sunshine. The white on the thick, leathery green background, and are truly handsome tunate occurrence, as the blossom is not at all beautiful. The chief insect enemies are the scale and aphis, both of which may be routed by an The umbrella plant is another boon for the shady window, supplying the attractions of the palm, yet lacking its too exacting demands. It is really greater profit than nine-tenths of the one of the simplest plants to grow. the chief requisite being moisture, not only root moisture but a moist atference between theory and practice, mosphere. A most successful grower but a difference between methods. Fine potted her plant in rich black soil using an ordinary pot, and placing it quently bring from \$15 to \$20 per in a jardiniere containing water. Plants thus treated soon show large, profitable if the cost of raising them | palmiike leaves, preferred by some to has been kept within reasonable lim- the palm, because of their less stiff and more graceful appearance. This There is some risk in the work until | plant is readily propagated by invertone has become expert at it. Then ing a leaf in a dish of water, where it is simple and sure. The calf must it will soon take root. The rubber be taken from the mother early. Some | tree has a tropical appearance, is of do it when it is a few hours old, and rapid and robust growth, and is reit is fed by hand without knowning markably free from insects. During anything about sucking. Five quarts the growing season it requires liberal a day divided into three meals should watering, and the leaves should be be all that the calf should be fed at sponged frequently to remove dust .-



THE IDEAL HOSTESS. The ideal hostess has an evenness of temperament that soothes and refreshes, and, above all things, says the Washington Star, she is sympath-In her face and manner is reflected some of the emotion that controls your own. No matter what you may tell her, whether a story of joy or sorrow, of aims and ambitions, she listens with appreciation. By her face she shows her keen interest in all that concerns you.

The ideal hostess is unselfish. She is ready and willing at all times to sacrifice any passing fancy or whim of her own, if, thereby, she can add to the pleasure of others. And it is this spirit of unselfishness that contributes largely to making a hostess a paragon among charming hostesses.

The accomplished hostess should be bullet-proof against shocks and surprises. There is the unexpected but welcome guest, who, feeling assured of a welcome, presents himself or herself. The hostess is delighted, of course, and wishes she could single out this one whom she is so glad to see and settle herself for a good old-fashioned talk. But such a procedure

would be a slight to her other guests. A thousand and one things, well calculated to destroy the pleasures of every one concerned, may happen in the course of an evening. Let one of these things appear, and a downright calamity can be averted only by the

tact or mother wit of the hostess. If dancing is among the pleasures of the evening, the ideal hostess must tend the wall flowers gently and cautiously for your wall. flower is an extremely sensitive plant that never understands why she is a wall flower, but blames the hostess for slights for which her own unattractive personality is responsible. The aggressive wall flower in about two minutes can institute a refrigerating process that will put a hostess and a roomful of guests in such cold storage as will literally freeze out the whole com-

This is a warning to the hostess to look out for the wall flower. The American beauties can take care of themselves. Then there are other guests who do not dance, but who always are looking out for slights. Someone is always hurting their feelings, and they carry bunches of chips on their shoulders that will kindle into a blaze of wrath at the slightest provocation.

All these elements and all others the hostess must harmonize, if she is to be ideal, even though she may be so tired and worn out from the strain of preparation that, if the truth were known, she would rather hie herself to her bed and dream and forget the aims and aspirations of social triumphs.

Above all things the ideal hostess must be obliging. If she has any talents or accomplishments her friends feel that they must pay her the compliment of asking an exhibition of the same. If she sings, they want to hear She must be agreeable and smile on and on until the last guest is

Altogether the hostess has the sorriest time of any one within her gates -literally. She is constantly anxious lest something may spoil the e.ening, and so all that is best in her charming self is put to the test.

Many women entertain, but after all few know how to be a really charming hostess.

WHAT TO DO FOR BABY. A young infant in perfect health

sleeps almost all the time, both day and night, only waking for its meals. baths, dressing and undressing. Hence, when it is restless and wakeful there must be some cause for it, which must be ascertained at once by the nurse or mother. Sometimes the clothing is too tight or a pin my be hurting the sensitive flesh. Even a crease or wrinkle in one of the tiny undergarments may disturb baby's rest.

But the most frequent cause of sleeplessness is overfeeding. The fond mother, especially if she be young and inexperienced, imagines that every time her darling cries it must be hungry. Probably most of us, though we may be unwilling to admit it to anyone but our own selves, have some times experienced the unpleasant feeling caused by eating too much and too fast. With us relief is in our control in the form of exercise, but the tiny infant must lie passive, as it has been placed, generally on its back. Its misery is intense, and it cannot even get up.

It is desirable to have regular and fixed hours for feeding the baby, and an interval of at least two hours should elapse between each meal. There is surely greater danger in overfeding than in underfeeding.

It is sometimes a good plan to wholly undress a sleepless crying baby and pass a sponge sqeezed out of warm water all over the little body, dry thoroughly and dress again. This has been known to quiet a wakeful, crying infant when everything else falled -- American Queen

THE MUFF CHAIN FAD.

tion of fashionable girls, and odd examples may be seen every day. Miss Adelaide Randolph is using one of carved jade that harmonizes well with her pale green carriage gown. Her furs are chinchilla. One of the queens of musical comedy lotts in her victoria displaying a muff chain composed of threaded gold hearts. But coral and jet are in most extensive use. There seems to be no limit to the beauty of these chains, and some women who have money to spare use their pearl chains for this purpose. This is downright gambling, for the weight of the muff may tear the thread and scatter the pearls. Gun metal and turquoises make a desirable combination, but the shops are turning out so many cheap chains that several women have already turned to simple silken cord. Unless shopping, it almost as easy to carry the muff without a chain, and this fad may be short-lived .- New York Press.

MODELLING IN WAX. Recently a few women with artistic tastes discovered what an interesting thing it was to model in wax and all at once it has become the fashion. It all began with one woman who was convalescing after an ill ness, and who took up this as a time killer. She made so many beautiful things with her deft fingers that her friends became fascinated with the work and immediately bought a stock materials to see if they could do as

Tools are the least part of it. Sets of them always are bought by the beginner, but the fingers prove to be of the most use, and only in shaping intricate crevices where the fingers will not reach, are the tools of value.

Modelling wax comes in brown and red, and the heat of the hand renders it pliable. When the moulding is begun, and the desired figure begins to take shape, one adds on the different parts instead of moulding out from the centre piece. Should the wax become too hard to be pliable it can be softened by placing it in a pan over a dish of boiling water. Clay is also used, but that is not so pleasant to work with, as it has to be kept moist with a damp cloth around it as one works. There is another useful material for moulding, a substance between clay and wax, which comes in a dark green color and is used for large work. For small figures wax is preferred .- New York Herald.

FLORAL FANS. Of fads in fans there is literally

no end, especially now that they are so small as to admit of many fanciful

A smart fan of the season is so constructed that when closed it looks exactly like a bunch of flowers, violets and valley lillies being most liked. If the flowers are scented, the illusion is complete, and it is impossible to tall them from reality They may be regarded as bouquets and carried in the hand, or suspended by a ribbon from the wrist and treated as fans

One pretty design upon which the ornithologist frowns a little until he learns that it is all artificial, is mainly of white dove wing feathers, with a lower edge next to the carved ivory cibs of swansdown. Between the two runs a horizontal strip of soft brown feathers, terminating on one of the broad end sticks of the fan in a stuffed bird.

One of the daintiest fans seen this year is all Battenberg lace, giving a unique and extremely pretty effect. Many have three large, highly ornamented ribs, one in the middle, as well as the usual two at the ends. Moire is immensely popular as a material this season, although satin is a close

FASHIONS FOR GIRLS. Albatross is one of the most service able materials for girls' house frocks. It is soft and clinging, and yet wears well and cleans beautifully. It is quite practical to follow the prevailing fashion of wearing white in the house when albatross is used for the material for a young girl's gown, as it washes almost like cotton or linen. White nuns' veiling, albatross, or louisine makes a charming house or dancing-school frock if trimmed with heavy ecru lace and a little fold of pale blue or vellow velvet at the throat.

A trimming which is very effective on dresses for young girls and children is the very narrow black velvet ribbon sewed on in two or more rows at equal distances, showing a space between the width of the velvet and a row of cat-stitching in heavy black twist spanning this space. Such simple handwork gives an individuality to a gown which lifts it immediately from the over-crowded ranks of the ready-made.-Harper's Bazar.

For wear by women in mourning are lorgnette chains of gun metal intersected with baroque pearls.

Collars of stiff linen show designs of flowers in white in the corners. Peridot, a handsome green stone on the sage tint, is combined with diamonds in some of the lovely brooches and pendants that have made their

appearance this season. Chrysoprase with its apple green coloring is introduced in some of the art nouveaus designs, particularly in belt buckles and clasps.

A new design is a date brooch in the form of a four leaf clover with one of the figures in each leaf in diamonds and green enamel for the Muff chains are absorbing the atten- background and stem.

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