



THE DAIRY

AN AFTERNOON WITH THE COWS.

A Few Notes About the Greatest Dairy Test That Ever Was.

If anything can be determined positively as to which is the best dairy cow, it ought to be this summer at the World's fair grounds. Such a thoroughgoing and extended trial was never before made in the records of cheese and butter history.

The cows entered were those calving at nearly the same time on the exposition grounds. The contention will be as to which breed of cows yields the most butter and cheese at the least expense of feed.

My afternoon with the World's fair cows was one of the most interesting of my visits at the exposition. They were beauties, those cows. First I visited the Guernseys. The enthusiastic superintendent, Professor Caldwell of the Pennsylvania Agricultural college, kindly escorted me through the Guernsey stables.

They talk so eloquently you are almost disposed to vow that you will get a Guernsey cow. But meanwhile you pass to the Jersey stables, under the superintendence of that shrewd Yankee-Canadian, Mr. Valancey E. Fuller. He is best known in connection with the great St. Lambert cow family.

Mr. Fuller does not believe in much cornmeal for Jerseys, especially fresh cows. He says a fresh cow is generally in a more or less feverish condition for the first week or so and that cornmeal aggravates this condition.

Among the big Shorthorns are one or two that have given the enormous amount of 56 pounds of milk a day. I learned incidentally when visiting the World's fair cows that in weighing and measuring milk it is estimated that about two pounds of milk make a quart.

The cheesemaking test was just finishing when I visited the cows. The modern theory of several gentlemen at the agricultural experiment stations and elsewhere is that milk which is richest in butter fat is also richest in all the other solids; hence the milk that makes the most butter will also yield the most cheese, if the theory be true.

The final result of all, however, will be known when it comes to be summed up and averaged how much food the three breeds consume in proportion to the yield of butter and cheese. That, of course, cannot be calculated for certain till toward the end of the exposition.

ELIZA ARCHARD COSNER.

THE GREAT SHEEP REGION.

Where Sheep Are Taking the Place of the Wheat Crop.

One of the pronounced recent departures in the agricultural industry of the northwest is a change from exclusive grain growing to a mixed industry, in which live stock and dairying are prominent features. In Minnesota special attention thus far has been given to horses, cattle and hogs, but in Montana and the Dakotas sheep are arousing the most notable interest.

In Minnesota the sheep industry has not yet attained the prominence given to several other branches of stock raising. Indeed the state has more dogs than sheep. Yet the government report for 1891 credits the state with 400,000 sheep, and an average wool clip of seven pounds per sheep.

Ample preparations should be made for green food for them. A plot of clover or rye or orchard grass should be always laid out for the early spring feeding. A stock of bran should be especially provided for the season when the old coat is shedding, and a daily ration of it given through the summer.

Stock feeders near the Rocky mountains have one advantage over their eastern competitors in the matter of curing hay and fodder. The dry, light air of their country cures hay and fodder in a way that preserves much more of the food value than is the case with the same kind of crops cured in the rain region.

There is one plant that is never touched by an insect, and that is tansy. If you rub a horse over with a handful of it before taking him out upon the road, it is claimed that the flies will not touch him. At any rate it does not cost much to try.

The open air horse show at New York paid expenses. The promoters hope it will do something more next year. It is much pleasanter to see fine horses out doors than in a wooden circus tent, shut up in a stifling atmosphere with duds and fashionable women who come to show their style and good clothes.

Among the useful classes may be named park hack horses and delivery wagon horses, for the latter of which a prize of \$100 was offered by a well known dry goods firm. Most of the premiums were \$100 in money. Then, too, there were burdle and other races, tandem teams and high jumpers, for the millionaires and their best girls.



A Bright Lad,

Ten years of age, but who declines to give his name to the public, makes this authorized, confidential statement to us:

"When I was one year old, my mamma died of consumption. The doctor said that I, too, would soon die, and all our neighbors thought that even if I did not die, I would never be able to walk, because I was so weak and puny. A gathering formed and broke under my arm. I hurt my finger and it gathered and threw out pieces of bone. If I hurt myself so as to break the skin, it was sure to become a running sore. I had to take lots of medicine, but nothing has done me so much good as Ayer's Sarsaparilla. It has made me well and strong."

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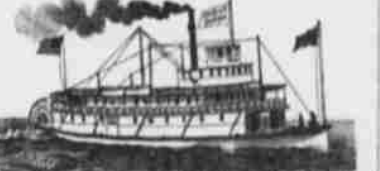
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