

THE DAIRY SHORTAGE.

John Gould, of Ohio, makes interesting experiments. The dairy is made up of more than a dozen cows, and the highest price ever in the history of the dairy is now being paid for milk. They are inclined to believe that the dairy is the best type being raised in the country. Of course there has been some fluctuation in the price of milk, but most of the time it has been the highest in the country. They are inclined to believe that the dairy is the best type being raised in the country. Of course there has been some fluctuation in the price of milk, but most of the time it has been the highest in the country.



STRUCTURE MILK TYPE.

According to the milkman's estimate, Nov. 1, the cows are actually put on their winter ration, but previous to this time they have been given milk, fresh cream and butter, and with plenty of sweet corn fodder and two pounds of "cut" each daily. As soon as the weather gets cold they are kept in, but nothing but the feed contained during the day is given, allowing them to digest the ration fed by daylight. By Thanksgiving they go into winter quarters and will be practically kept in the stalls till Easter Sunday.

Consuming about 100 lbs. of alfalfa are given, and for the next six months the ration will be substantially the same. The cows are fed on six pounds of alfalfa, five to six pounds of wheat "seconds" and from three to five of the best clover hay to each cow daily, varying of course somewhat according to the condition of the animals. The cows are watered twice a day, but a watering device will be used in the future, so that each cow can drink when she chooses.

The cows are fed with "Dutch" hay, two in a half stall, 6 feet 4 inches wide, and on a two-thirds dirt floor, plenty of bedding being used and absorbents in the gutter. The stable is warm and light, sunlight being sought in simulators on the three sides of the stalls and plenty of fresh air is introduced, but there is little draft. The stable never freezes and the water is pumped from a deep rock well into a large, closely covered iron tank standing in the stable, so that the cows get it at a temperature of about 60 degrees.

In the spring the cows are not turned out until the ground has made a good growth—usually about May 1 to 15. The "seconds" grain is dropped off gradually and out of it the cows get ten cents' worth of alfalfa and two pounds of cut daily to each cow as long as the conditions give milk, which will do well within two months of calving. I am finding out that with the winter milk the health of younger milk giving becomes stronger and more pronounced in amount, so that this year, when the first of the cows came into the dairy in September, eight of the twelve were giving, on the average, fifteen pounds each daily.

The milk record of the twelve cows for the twelve months ending Nov. 1 is as follows: 11,400 pounds, but if the amount were to include the milk between calving in 1901 and 1902, then about 6,000 pounds of milk should be added to this, and three of the cows in calving in three months are still giving a united total of five pounds daily. While all are good cows, attention is called to one, a pure bred Shorthorn that calved on Aug. 25, 1901 and came to the dairy with a 100-pound mass of milk. When she had completed her year of milk giving she gave eighteen pounds a day. At 200 days she gave nine pounds and the 25th three pounds, when she was given her liberty and calving again.

While I have no great record breakers, the dairy is a fair one and the animals are long milk givers, and their performance is somewhat contrary to the general opinion that a pure bred cow cannot be brought, but must be raised, though a friend says the opinion is all right with a summer dairy, but will not hold good with a winter one. The milk of the herd is sold at the dairy and the average price received for the year is slightly above \$1.10 per 100 pounds. John Gould is Rural News Writer.

whole living of myself, and wife for several years in catching rattlers and getting the oil out of them. I know some folks are mighty scared about rattlers, and for one who can't know about the capture of a rattler, it is pretty risky business, getting tangled by a rattler. I occasionally get nervous among the rattlers, but I have to keep a steady nerve and quick eye in my business.

This old gentleman tells us that he had always found him valuable pure rattlesnake oil, and that several years ago he got the oil from a dozen snakes that he came across in his woodcutting operations in the mountains. When the summer was over he had twenty coppers, and got two dollars an ounce for all of it, from a Los Angeles druggist. He has since made a business of finding rattlesnakes up and down the mountain sides and through the canyons. He catches from 100 to 200 snakes in a summer, and sends them to the druggist for \$200 to \$400 worth of oil from them. The market price for the product is two dollars an ounce, and there is little fluctuation. Rattlesnake oil is used in rheumatic diseases and in rheumatism for some skin diseases. The oil is said to be a powerful white color and is free from any odor. It tastes much like lard. A good sized rattlesnake will furnish from one to two ounces of oil.

"How do I catch the snake?" Well, that is easy enough. I wear boots up above my knees so as to protect me from any rattler I may tread upon, and I always go with a strong forked stick or club in my hand. I have to keep my wife about me constantly, and to think quick when I am in a snake-leader and hear a rattler. I always try to get the rattler by putting the fork of my stick over their neck as quick as a flash, and then I have the creature just where I want him. I next strangle the snake by pressing my fingers down upon the neck. I put the rattler in this way so as to keep them from biting themselves, and thereby letting the poison into the oil that I am after. In nine cases out of ten rattlesnakes will bite themselves if they have a chance, and they are the smartest things alive, except human beings. Once in while I get the rattler by smothering him in the mud, but I don't like that way, for it is more dangerous and the oil is not so good.

"Have I ever been bitten?" Yes, five times, and I suffered so much the last time that all this writing of me would not induce me to be poisoned so again. That was four years ago, and I can feel pain from it to this day. I don't believe any one ever fully recovered from a dose of rattlesnake poison. It is the most awful stuff on earth. I have seen a man bite a cow, and a drop of the poison in an hour's time."—Pomona (Cal.) Progress.

An improved method of signaling to the drivers of locomotives in thick weather has been brought forward in England. On the locomotive it is fixed an electric bell, to which is attached a contact device, which operates by means of a movable bar which is associated with any electrical device. When the engine passes such a signal box contact is made and the bell rings, and by the number of beats upon the gong the engine driver knows whether to proceed or whether to stop. The apparatus does not interfere with any existing signaling arrangements, and will be quite automatic in action provided that the signal man attended to his lever just as if the weather was clear.—London Letter.

An Anecdote of Whittier. A friend in conversation with Mr. Whittier, the poet, remarked that he was about to contrast to furnish a lot of oak timber for the government gunboats, and asked him if he did not interfere with any electrical signaling arrangements, and will be quite automatic in action provided that the signal man attended to his lever just as if the weather was clear.—London Letter.

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