awaken thought all along the line. And earnestly upon any topic, he is on when a man gets to thinking seriously the right road to success.

EQUALIZING DAIRY PRODUCTION.

By Hon. HIRAM SMITH, Sheboygan County, Wis.

Fourth Paper.

Expensive Methods.—The underlying principle of all farmers' institutes, dairymen's conventions and agricultural conventions, is the supposition or knowledge of the fact that many of the methods and processes pursued by the farmers of this State, and all other States, are expensive, which are pursued continually at immense loss. If all the farmers of this State had been practicing upon sound scientific principles, their labor all well paid, their methods of feeding such that nothing should be wasted, and no losses sustained, selling their products at proper times so that no waste is realized in that direction, we would have no necessity for farmers' institutes. But because that is not true, is the reason of the farmers' institutes, that in this way we may study facts by which we can correct our errors, and, therefore, I wish to point out, on this occasion, a few of the errors that a great mass of the dairymen in this State are guilty of without any profit to themselves, without saving in labor, without doing anybody any good whatever. They are constantly wasting a very large percentage of the products they get out of the soil and out of their cattle.

Summer Dairying.—First, the great mass of dairymen in this State are engaged in summer dairying. Their cows commence to give milk about the last of April, or the first of May, running until cold weather; then they dry off, and the winter product amounts to but very little.

There are a few exceptional localities that have learned better in that respect. Now, I know something about this, for I have paid a heavy tax of waste in pursuing this same course. You all know the difficulty of marketing butter in the summer is very great. You read the market reports, and you see that nearly all winter butter has sold for thirty and thirty-five cents, while nearly all last summer it was fifteen and sixteen cents.

Now, you know without my telling you, that the great body of the milk is gathered in May, June and July. Cows will give a big flow of milk then; they are having the best feed of the year, the best you have got. You can hardly find a poor cow at that time of year. Your cow is giving a large flow of milk, you are taking the milk to the factory, it is being manufactured into butter and cheese, and when the sales are made, they are the lowest of the entire season.

We were brought up to do business in this way; we knew of no other way, and a good many of us can scarcely see how we can avoid it; but is there any motive to avoid it? Most certainly. There is
at least thirty-three per cent. motive to change the whole business, and a very large portion of the farmers of this State are adding thirty-three per cent. without adding an iota to their investment and without giving one day's extra work to the profit on the cows.

Winter Dairying.—How will you do it? Have your cows come in when dairy products begin to go up in price, when they are scarce in the market, from October up to about this time of year, and dealers are handling it with a great deal of confidence. They can send it all over the South, in safety, and there is a good paying price offered for it. Now, why cannot the change be made? The objection is often urged that if I have a winter dairy I must have a warm stable. Of course, but you want a warm stable anyway if you are going to keep cows. You are suffering a great loss if you are feeding in a cold stable. You can't afford the expense of warming your cows with expensive food.

Make the Change.—After you have got your stable warm, then the change in very simple indeed. You have more time to attend to the manufacturing of butter if it is done on the farm than you have in the summer. In the summer you want to be engaged in cultivating your crops. In the winter there is but little to do. Therefore, you have more time to attend to your butter, and if your cows are giving the most milk and you are getting thirty-three or four or five, frequently up to forty cents, for the butter, it makes you feel pretty well, and a man who feels well, happy and bragging to his wife at the end of every sale, begins to think it is a pretty good business; but when a man has an immense amount of milk in June and his butter is selling for fourteen or fifteen cents, he goes home and says to his wife:

“Well, this is poor business, I have got to get out of the dairy business.”

But you can't get out of the dairy business in Wisconsin. Where will you go to, what will you do? We are here, we can't get away and we don't want to get away. Some men talk about raising big horses. It don't pay like a dairy.

Reform Methods.—We can't better our condition very much by going out of the business. There is a good opportunity to do better right where we are. Our investments need not be enlarged; but let us merely reform our methods, and make our labor count, and when we work hard let us work for thirty cent butter instead of fifteen cent butter. We can make just as many pounds; we can make more pounds. Cows will milk more months in the year coming in in November and December, when they would naturally begin to fail in their milk, and then when they do begin to fail in their milk they have succulent fresh feed, and it keeps them along and they seem to forget to dry up. It is an uncommon thing for my cows to go dry more than four weeks, and if one does, I say: “That is the one to weed out.” We can accustom our cows to milk eleven months, and they will give the largest flow when we can get more money, and the least when the products are worth less. If our cows dry up in August, and butter runs down to fifteen cents, it doesn't bother me. I don't care much where butter goes.

Results.—It makes one more watchful, it makes us happier, it makes a man more liberal to his wife, and she will treat him better, and she ought not to unless he treats her well. You can clothe your children better and spend a little more money every year giving your son and your daughter an education, so that they can be somebody in the world. It don't pay for them to
grow up and get sick of the farm and
go to Colorado, and come back and be
without any interest in the farm, with-
out any fixed principles. We have am-
ple room right here to make all the
needed improvements, which we can
easily and cheaply do.

SHALL FARMERS' WIVES MAKE BUTTER?

By JOHN GOULD, Western Reserve, Ohio.

Fifteenth Paper.

They Should Not be Asked.—Shall
the farmer's wife make butter, and if so,
how? In the first place she shouldn't
be asked to make butter any more than
she should be asked to spin the wool and
knit stockings. That is my position on
the question. The co-operative factory
should take charge of the butter mak-
ing. But we are not all ready for it;
there must be preliminary steps taken
before we get to that.

Good Machinery Required.—Then,
how shall the farmer's wife make but-
ter? If the farmer has good machinery
on the farm, he should furnish his wife
with good machinery with which to
work, to make the butter, and any man
who doesn't provide his wife with good
machinery with which to make butter,
should leave his own machines in the
barns and cultivate his fields as he has
for years past, for his wife is just as good
as he is.

Good Milk.—Another thing; if the
farmer's wife makes the butter, he
should do the milking. A farmer's wife
in the year of grace, 1888 is not built
for milking. But to come down to sober
realities. If she has to make the butter,
she must be provided with good milk
out of which to make it, because the
milk determines the quality of the but-
ter when made. No one can make good
butter out of poor milk. If it has be-
come loaded with stable odors, it will
have a stable odor when made.

Good Feed.—Now, how shall we get
good milk? You have all heard about
the good cow and her good food. We
must have first a good cow; she must
have all the comforts that a cow is en-
titled to; she must have good feed and
good care, and then we may reasonably
expect to get good milk. But remember
this—if we are after good butter, then
we need to feed a food to our cows which
is in the line of keeping with butter, so
we should feed blood-producing food.
You have been told here this afternoon
that milk is an elaboration direct from
blood, so if we don't have good, abun-
dant blood, out of which to elaborate
this milk, then we fail in getting the
highest type of milk out of which to
make the butter. Now, our cows should
be kept in a cleanly stable, and all the
sanitary conditions observed which go
to make a good production of butter.

Perfect Cream Raising.—The milk
having been brought into the house as
quickly as possible after the milking,
should be set out as quickly as possible,