

tilating shaft which is air-tight from top to bottom, except where openings are provided,—the air blowing across the top acts like an inspirator tending to draw the air out.

“The best ventilating shaft is such as would make the best chimney. If you understand what are the essential conditions of a good chimney, then you know what are the essential features of a good ventilating shaft.”

REPORTS OF YOUNG MEN IN CHARGE OF COW TESTING ASSOCIATIONS.

The young men in charge of the Cow Testing Associations of Wisconsin held a meeting. Six of them prepared papers giving their experiences in operating cow testing associations.

The great work that the Wisconsin Dairymen's Association is doing is to a large degree in the hands of these young men. Wisconsin has twelve good cow testing associations containing, in round numbers, 5000 cows. Every one of these men is very much interested in his work and not only helps the farmers in determining individual differences in the cows of their herds, but also discusses the matters pertaining to farming.

REPORT OF THE WINNEBAGO COUNTY COW TESTING ASSOCIATION.

BY WALTER PRYSE, NEENAH, WIS.

The Winnebago County Association was organized in January, 1908. From this time till February, 1911, the organization had a slow but steady growth with about 200 cows under test at a charge of \$1.50 per cow per year. The slow growth of the association was thought to be due to the charges for testing. Hence, in February of the present year a reorganization was made whereby the association was attached more directly with the County Agricultural School. The fees were reduced to \$1.00 per cow with the minimum of 12 cows for each herd tested.

Subsequent to this change and as the result of persistent boosting on the part of those interested, especially the Instructor of the State Dairymen's Association, Mr. H. C. Searles, the original testing associ-

ation grew so large that a division was made necessary. At present, two divisions are in operation with a tester in charge of each and a total of over 800 cows under test.

To give at this time the benefits which the farmers have derived from the work of the testing and the association as a whole is difficult. However, it can be said that the association has had its good influences since its first organization in 1908. Of the 26 farmers in the older division, 25 of the number have silos, and 5 have pure bred herds. Furthermore, practically all of the members in this older division have registered sires to head their herds.

WHY A FARMER SHOULD HAVE HIS COWS TESTED.

BY WALTER DOMBRAK, WAUPUN, WIS.

A good many of the farmers have some cows in their herds that are not paying for themselves. Therefore, if he had them tested he could tell whether or not they are a profit or a loss to him. And another thing, if he has his cows tested, he knows what each cow tests, and can then raise the heifer calves from the cows that are profitable. In this way he can also grade up his herd, because generally if the dam is a good tester, her calf will be a high tester.

Many of the farmers are feeding their cows a great deal more than they really want to feed them. I have had some farmers guess at the weight of the feed fed to one cow, and they would guess 6 or 7 pounds, when it would weigh 10 pounds. In this way if the farmers would have their cows tested, I think they would get a better knowledge of what they were feeding.

By having their cows tested, they get the cow's average test, number pounds of milk she will produce in one year, number pounds of butter fat, value of her butter fat, number pounds of feed fed per day and year, and value of it. By doing this, a farmer can find out what cows he is feeding at a loss, and at a profit and how much. I know of some farmers that will milk later at night and later in the morning on the day the tester is there, so as to get more milk so the average pounds of milk will be more for the month, just in order to have a good showing in the book.

But if a farmer does this, the test is no good whatever, because he don't get the right number pounds of milk of the right test, and if he does this wouldn't know any more about what his cows were doing, than he would if he didn't have the test. I have found that a