

FARM BUTTER AT FAIRS

Hints for Farmers' Wives With Dairy Exhibits.

Flavor Is Butter of First Importance—Firmness Also a Strong Point—How to Cure and Pack in Best Condition for Showing.

(Contributed by Ontario Department of Agriculture, Toronto.)

"To show or not to show," that is the question many a woman thinks over as the time draws near for the holding of the annual fall fair.

There are some who would not miss the event, and make entries in many classes; while others are rather timid about exhibiting, especially if they are doing it for the first time.

Let us take the exhibiting of butter. Sometimes a woman goes home from the fair feeling rather hurt because some neighbor took more and higher prizes than she did. She thought that her butter was good, but the other must have been considered better by the one who was acting as judge.

There are times when a judge has to mark very closely to place the prizes.

Score cards are not used at all of our fairs, nor do all judges use the same score card, but the one proposed by the National Dairy Council reads as follows, as regards points awarded:

Flavor	45
Texture	15
Incorporation of moisture	10
Color	10
Salting	10
Packing	10
Total	100

The flavor of the butter is a very important point to consider. It should be clean and sweet without taint of any kind.

An objectionable flavor, no matter how slight, would prevent one receiving a full score. Some defects in flavor are more serious than others, but many of these could be avoided by taking a little more care.

The care in the stable and in the separator room is just as important as the churning or the holding of the butter afterwards.

If a judge should find two lots of butter with the same total score he would give the higher place to the lot with the better flavor.

The texture of the butter is another point that is taken into consideration. Butter should have good body—firm and waxy.

You have out butter that looked good and remained firm on the plate, but you have also seen just the opposite to this—butter that had a greasy appearance, the drops of moisture large and milky, and it became soft when left in the plate for a short time.

The judge comes across just as great contrasts when going through the exhibits and he scores accordingly.

To secure good texture it is necessary to make use of suitable temperatures and to work the butter in the right way. Cool the cream immediately after separating and churn it at a temperature that will bring the butter in nice firm granules in 20 to 30 minutes. (Too high temperature means soft butter and greater loss in the buttermilk.)

The temperature of the wash water should be such that it will not make the butter too hard or too soft for working. Work the butter by pressing it carefully and evenly. A sliding or cutting motion will tend to make the butter greasy. Overworking should also be avoided. Butter is worked to make it compact and to distribute the salt and moisture evenly.

ly. When butter is cut the surface should be close and the drops of moisture should be clear and very minute.

The color of the butter should be even and bright. If the butter is not worked enough the color will be uneven, although this is not noticeable at the time of working.

If the butter is too soft, the salt should be mixed through it, and the butter placed where it will come to a proper firmness before working. By doing this it will score higher for both texture and color than it would if worked in the soft state. The salt in the butter should be evenly distributed and thoroughly dissolved. It is better to have the butter salted very lightly than to have it oversalted. The popular butter at the present time has mild clean flavor, close body and light salting.

The flash or packing should also be considered. In fact, the judge will notice the appearance of the exhibit before he has had time to draw out a plug of butter on his trier. Let the prints be well made—solid, even, with clear-cut corners and the papers wrapped neatly.

Butter tubs and boxes require a lining of parchment paper, and crocks should be in good condition, free from cracks or breaks in the glazing. The top of a large package should be smoothly finished and covered neatly with parchment paper.

Butter for exhibition should be made two days or more before the fair to give it time to become set. It should be kept in a clean cool place on the farm, and be brought to the fair in the best possible condition.

Butter made and cared for in this way will score higher than it would if made the morning of the fair, as is sometimes the case.

Do not feel discouraged if you do not secure the prizes that you hoped to win. Try again, remembering the little rhyme which says,

"Good, better, best, never let it rest, Till your good is better, and your better, best."

—Miss Belle Millar, O. A. College, Guelph.

Keep Green Their Memory.

Canadian fathers and mothers whose sons were laid in soldier graves of the Garrison Churchyard, Shorncliffe, Eng., will find comfort in the fact that the entire district holds an annual flower memorial service to commemorate the Canadians who died at Shorncliffe.

Hundreds of little children with bunches and wreaths of fragrant English flowers attended this year's service and placed their tributes on the graves. Local governing bodies, clubs and societies were represented and sent floral tokens. The ceremony opened with the singing of "The Maple Leaf" by the children and afterwards addresses were given by the mayors of Folkestone and Hythe.

Among the noted assembly were many people whom returned men will remember for their hospitality to the C.E.F. They included: The Mayor Wood of Folkestone, Deputy Mayor Sir Stephen Penfold, Aid. G. Spurren, the Mayoress (Mrs. Wood), Lady Penfold, Town Clerk Kidson, Town Sergeant Chadwick, Mayor Twopenning of Hythe, Deputy Mayor Price of Hythe, Councillors Tunbridge, Col. Osborn, Rev. Mr. Macpherson, G. C. Walton, Rev. H. D. and Mrs. Dale of Hythe, and Mr. E. Palmer, the organizer. There were detachments of men from the M.G.C. (cavalry), 14th Brigade, R.F.A., and the M.G.C. The band of the Machine Gun Corps played.

Solomon's Temple.

It is believed to-day by many savants that the Old Testament description of Solomon's temple was written by the Jews after their return from the captivity, with the memory of the real splendors of Babylon fresh in their minds, says Anstruther Mackay, writing in the Atlantic Monthly. It is possible that the actual temple was a simple place of worship. If it had been otherwise, it is hardly possible that no remains of it would be visible to-day, seeing that the temples of Egypt, which are so much older, remain, in some cases, almost in toto.

Freddie's Comedrum.

Little Freddie's mother lived quite near the railway and it happened one day that the King passed that way on his way to Balmoral; and everyone was eager to get a glimpse of the royal train.

Freddie was lucky and saw it, and then he asked his mother where the King was going to.

"He's going to his other big house, dearie," said his mother.

Freddie was deep in thought for a moment, then he burst out: "Oh, mamma, how did he get the other people out?"—Spare Moments.

Vital Repairs.

King—The people over there have all become tallers.

Queen—How's that?

King—Fatching the seat of war—Home Sector.

DISGUSTED DAD.

"I dunno how that boy of mine got through college."

"Didn't he learn anything?"

"Why, he can't even read the Latin on his diploma."

Truth Telling.

This present word of ours, in sooth, is overwhelmed with deatht.

Most folks would like to tall the truth if they could find it out.

Appropos.

Hampton—What are they going to call the first eugenic twins that were born in this town?

Rhodes—Eugene and Eugenia.

Her Redeeming Point.

"Your laundress seems to be a timid sort of woman."

"So she is, but she manages to put up a stiff front."

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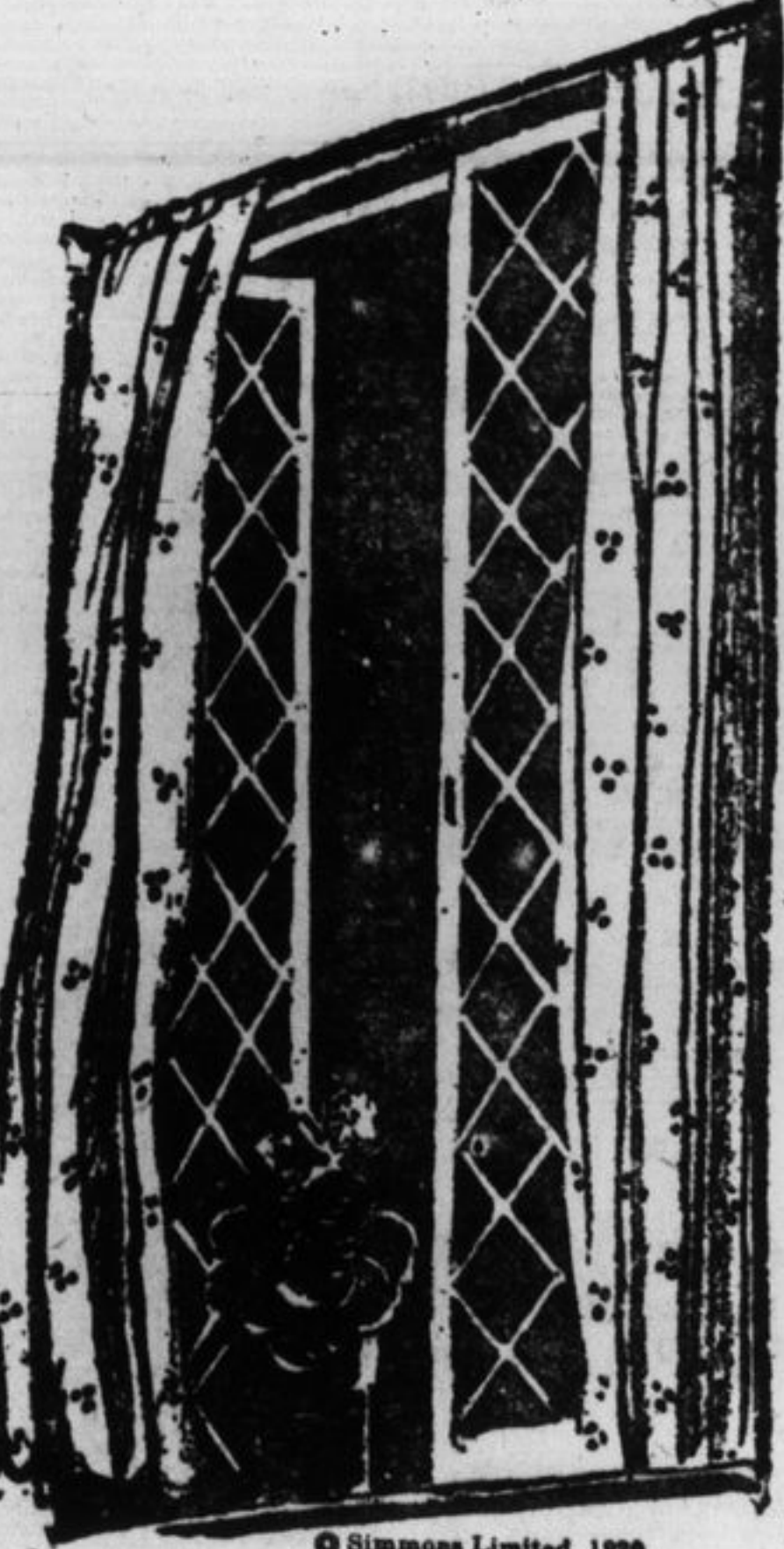
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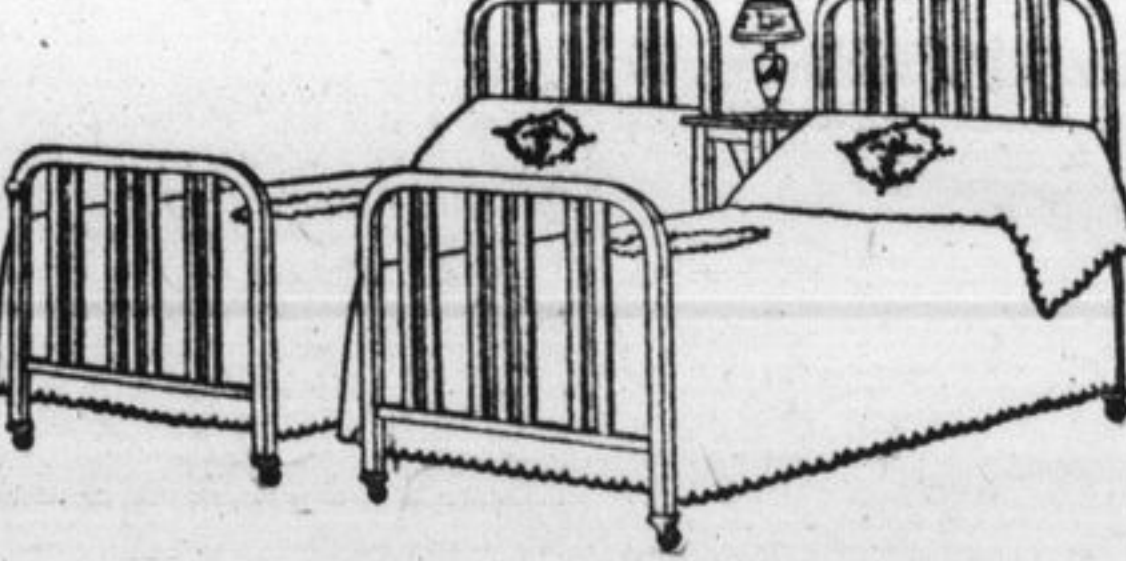
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