ABOUT LIMERICK FARMS

ng The Source Of Profit

ATERIAL OR FINISHED PRODUCT

(By P. ROCHE)

BACK TO THE DELUGE.

On this point it is surely unnecessary to emphasise now that the idea of growing oats and potatoes for export is going back a hundred years. Instead of packing a ton of potatoes into a foreign ship and selling them for £12 we should aim at putting a ton of butter into a fraction of the space and selling it for £270. America is offering potatoes at a penny a sack to get rid of its surplus and it is foolish to think that this is not a thing that will recur or that it may not affect whatever market we have in mind. It is all very well to say that someone influenced the farmers not to grow oats, to grow too much oats, to market the oats at the wrong time: influenced the Minister to sell, against his better judgment, 10,000 tons of oats wasted at home; made someone produce a glut of malting barley, which the brewers took at their own figure, but it is not real. Such a litany of hard luck as dogged the Minister cost this country many thousands of pounds. By the way, where did this remarkable glut of malting barley come from? Was someone allowed to import the English surplus, or did our farmers grow barley for malting without any contract, or was the contract repudiated? There is a mystery in the whole business that would bear ferreting out.

WATER AND AIR.

Of all the litters of young pigs that are being farrowed now, what percentage will die? A fairly heavy one unfortunately, and the greater part of it avoidable. Some will get killed by the sow lying on them, though this can be prevented by putting farrowing rails in the house and keeping the bedding from mullifying its use. Some will die from anaemia, though this, too, is easily prevented and cured. Some will die because the sow is not given enough water to drink this is a more frequent cause of deaths than is realised. A suckling sow will drink from four to six gallons of water a day in addition to what she extracts from the breakdown of the food, and if she does not get it she cannot nurse the pigs. The daily run to the dung lough, when she is allowed out, may keep her alive but it will not help the young pigs. Half the losses due to worms could be prevented by cleanliness, particularly keeping the sow's udder clean, without ever having to go to the trouble of giving dam or young what are called worm medicines.

LEAVE IT LATER.

Many farmers make a practice of topdressing winter wheat with about 1½ cwt. of sulphate of ammonia about the end of February. In most cases it should not be necessary this year as the crop is almost too advanced in leaf owing to the mild weather all winter, and more nitrogen will damage the crop and lower the yield of grain. It is better wait until April and see how the spring weather is shaping and then give a dressing of sulphate of ammonia if the crop looks as if it needs it. At that time it will still stimulate the crop and increase the yield of grain. Since I wrote about the destruction bf weeds in the corn crop a few weeks ago, a number of new weed-killers have come on the market. I have no experience of these, but doubtless, they are efficient for, at least, some weeds. Farmers who are thinking of using a weed killer should ask the makers what weeds the preparation will kill and the cost per acre. A weed-killer that could be applied at less than £1 an acre and that would kill preshaugh and corn marigold alone would pay well on many Limerick farms.

SHOWS, PLOUGHING MATCHES AND ALL THAT.

Many years ago, Limerick Show Committees used to give prizes for the best kept farms. It is a custom to which we should return. The ploughing match has outlived its usefulness and the shows are becoming stereotyped to produce nice-looking animals that nobody knows anything about as regards their productivity, hardiness, economical use of food, and general capacity to make a profit under farm conditions. It is really heartening to know that there are many small farmers in the county running their business along first-class lines—perhaps some big ones, too. On these, everything seems to start from an eight or nine hundred gallon cow giving a reasonable surplus of milk for pig feeding with a measured acreage of barley as the main pig feed. It is surprising how quickly a start as simple as this leads to a well-balanced, well run farm with good crops, good stock and, above all, a comfortable home where the food for the family is the best and cheapest in the world. No doubt, it is a good thing that the big farmer should import pedigree stock and get his reward in the shape of prizes, but it would be a far better thing if the ocuntry were to encourage the small and average man who makes the most of the circumstances in which he is placed.

NO BURNT LIME SUBSIDY.

It appears that the subsidy for the application of burnt lime to land is likely to disappear and that ground lime may be used in future instead of the kiln product. Ground lime has many advantages where it can be got cheaply. It is easy to handle and will not burn the hands or clothes of those spreading it; it is easy to store and does not require protection from rain; it can be applied to the land cheaply by an ordinary fertiliser distributor. While it is as effective as burnt lime in action, doing everything that burnt lime does, land needs almost double the quantity of ground lime compared with quick lime. A dressing of about two tons would be average for the county.

POTATOES ON THE FLAT.

Quite a few farmers in Limerick sowed their potato crop on the flat last year and with very good results. It is a technique that lends itself to considerable development and where there is plenty of clay there should be no real need for drill making, splitting the drill and all the rest. Fertiliser can be applied just as easily on the flat as in the drill, and unlike corn, it does not matter whether the phosphate and potash are sown with the sets or put in the ground near enough for the roots to reach them a month hence. If the manures are spread on the ground and ploughed-in, that seems to be quite satisfactory. For a good potato crop the requirements are—good seed, sprouted seed, heavy manuring, particularly with potash or seaweed, and ample cover for the growing roots and tubers. Spraying is, of course, always necessary.

STRATION

N AND TRUSTY

will be held on THURSDAY NEXT, MARCH 2, in a field kindly given by , Newmarket-on-Fergus, starting at

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SALE OF HEREFORD HERD

The auction, held on the 21st inst., of the Hereford herd, the property of Major A. G. Waller, M.C., Beechmount, Rathkeale, was most successful. There was a large attendance of buyers from the midlands and Munster. The bidding was keen and all lots cleared at satisfactory prices. The following are some of the chief transactions:—

1-year-old bull, 102 gns., to Mr. B. O'Gorman, Newcastle West; 2-year- old bull, 101 gns., to Mr. P. O'Connor, Charleville; Cow and calf, 100 gns., to Mr. John Laurie, Birr; cow, 85 gns., to Mr. R. Deasey, Birr; cow, 75 gns., to Mr. B. O'Gorman, Newcastle West; cow, 72 gns., to Mr. Ruttledge, Birr; cow, 70 gns., to Mr. B. O'Gorman, Newcastle West; cow and calf, 64 gns., to Mr. B. O'Gorman, Newcastle West; heifer yearling, 49 gns., to Mr. R. M. Willington, Shinrone; heifer yearling, 49 gns., to do.; heifer yearling, 37 gns., to do.; heifer yearling, 33 gns., to Mr. B. O'Gorman, Newcastle West.

The auction was conducted by Daniel F. Johnson, M.I.A.A., Rathkeale.

IMPORTANT CLEARANCE SALE

The clearance sale held on the lands at Ballyhourigan by Mr. John Lee on Tuesday and Wednesday, Feb. 14 and 15, was attended by one of the largest crowds seen in the district for years. Buyers attended from all over Tipperary as well as numbers from Limerick, Clare, Galway and Offaly. Bidding was very brisk from the start; this was especially so with the dairy cows and incalf heifers, and the prices all round were considered very satisfactory. Dairy cows, from £17 to £40 10s.; incalf heifers, from £29 10s. to £40. 3 year old bullocks, £29. 2 year old bullocks, £24 to £26. 2 year old heifers, £24 to £26. Yearlings, £10 to £13. Working horses, £21 to £41. All the farm implements and machinery made good prices and bidding continued extremely brisk right to end of the sale. Upwards of 200 lots were disposed on the first day, and despite very inclement weather conditions the very large attendance remained keenly interested. The household furniture on the 15th again attracted a large attendance and very good prices were obtained for all lots. The sale on both days was very successful and everything went with a swing throughout.

RESIDENTIAL FARM

On Monday February 6, Mr. John Lee, M.A.A., offered the Residential Farm at Ballyhourigan for sale by public auction at O'Meara's Hotel, Nenagh; annuity, £35 17s.; total P.L.V., £115; area, 175 acres 2 roods 18 perches, S.M., residence, one storey, slated; all outoffices slated and 4-bay hay shed. Bidding opened at £1,000 and advanced to £1,150, at which price it was withdrawn. Immediately after a bid of £1,500 was offered, but again reserve was not reached. The holding is now for sale by private treaty and an early sale is expected. Messrs. Jas. O'Brien and Co., solrs., Nenagh, have carriage of sale.

CROOM FAIR

Though rather small, Croom February Fair provided brisk trade. There was a large attendance of buyers, and the following were the prices: Calves cleared at £5 to £10; butter, 2/2 lb.; eggs, 2/6 doz.; potatoes, 1/10 stone; turnips, 3/- cwt.; mangolds, 3/- to 3/6; cabbages, 2/9 hundred; turf, £9 to £10 lorry; turkeys, 2/8 lb.; chickens, 1/8; hens, 1/4; Guinea fowl, 2/-.

OBITUARIES

Mrs. Bridget Bugler, Rivers, Annacotty

We deeply regret to announce the death of Mrs. Bridget Bugler, relict of Henry Bugler, late of Rivers, Annacotty, which took place on the 10th February, at the residence of her daughter, Mrs. Culhane, Castletroy House, Co. Limerick. The remains were removed to St. Patrick's Parish Church and after Requiem High Mass the following morning, the sad and very representative cortege took its way to Mount St. Lawrence Cemetery, where the remains were interred in the family burial place.

Rev. Father O'Regan, C.C., said Mass, assisted by Rev. Father Green, C.C.; Rev. Michael O'Donoghue, Rev. Father Creed, C.C.; Very Rev. Canon Moloney, P.P.; Rev. Dr. Cowpar, P.P.; Rev. Father O'Grady, Adm., St. John's; Rev. Fr. O'Callaghan, Rev. Father Smith, P.P.; Rev. Father Aloysius, O.F.M., and Rev. Father Ryan.

The chief mourners were: — Pat Bugler and John Bugler (sons); Mrs. M. Culhane, Mrs. T. O'Brien, Mrs. M. Hourigan, Rev. Mother Patrick (Presentation Convent, Cashel), Sr. Patricia (Mercy Convent, Tipperary), Sr. Peter (Good Shepherd Convent, Limerick) (daughters); Mrs. Pat Bugler, Mrs. Annie Bugler, Mrs. John Bugler (daughters-in-law); Michael Hourigan, T. O'Brien (sons-in-law); Mrs. K. Barry (sister); John Bugler (brother-in-law); Mrs. John Ireton, Messrs. James, Harry, Michael, Pat and Kevin Culhane, Misses Maureen and Eileen Culhane, Misses Muriel and Irene Bugler, Mr. Harry Bugler, Mr. John Bugler, Misses Mary and Breda Hourigan, Masters Richard, Michael and Dan Hourigan; Miss Ann Bugler, Miss Joan O'Brien, Miss Patricia Bugler, Master Tom O'Brien (grandchildren).

Mass cards were received from—The Rev. Mother, Presentation Convent, Cashel (Novena of Masses); Rev. W. F. Scanlan (Novena of Masses); Mr. T. O'Brien (Gregorian Masses); Sister Patricia (do.); Mr. and Mrs. J. Bugler, Kilmihill (do.); Rev. Mother, Divine Heart, Good Shepherd Convent, Limerick (Novena of Masses); Rev. E. J. Scanlan (do.); Jack and Eileen Hickey, Mr. and Mrs. McKenna; Miss Harty and Josephine Purcell; Vienna, Marge, Dympna, Nuala, Joan and Thomas; Teresa O'Regan; Delia and Tom; John and Nora; her loved child, Katty; Joe and Maureen Barry; Pat and Tess; Rosaleen O'Dwyer, Tom and Anne Killilea; the Butlers, Shanbally; Michael and Eily; Mr. and Mrs. Desmond J. Barry; Muriel and Irene; Alice Leonard; W. D. and Nellie Harty; May; Michael and Mrs. Collins and family; all grand-children at Castletroy House; Mr. and Mrs. A. O'Dwyer; Mary Larkin; Mrs. Leonard and family; Annetta O'Toole; sister, Katie; Mr. and Mrs. Maher and family; the Lyons family; Scanlan family, Annacotty; Buena Purtill and family; Cashel Community; Lill Scanlan; Our Lady's Sodality, Cashel; Dan and Kitty Costello; Jack, Marian and Patricia, Kilmihill; Rachel and Jim; Daysie and Michael; Harry and John; Jim Foley and family; Denis and Mrs. Sweeney; Kit and Ralph; Mabel, Kitty and Jim; Joe Garry; Bridie Bowden; Gerald and Peg O'Connor; Annie; M. Fitzpatrick; Cecil McDonnell; John and Mrs. Noonan, William St.; the McInerney family, Emistymon; Frank and Aileen Crowe; Mrs. Gleeson; May Foy; Edward and Mrs. Ita Fitzgibbon; Jane Scanlan, Craghea; Sarah Hourigan; Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Ryan, Raheen; Seamus and Nora Troy; Nora and David Bermingham, Ballysimon; John and Kathleen Troy; her loving grand-children in Ahane; Ted O'Connor; Sara Vaughan; Staff, Stephen Fuloidy, Ltd.; Mammy; Peg and Joan Ryan; the McCarthy family, Maryville; Michael and Nellie; M. N. Guinan and family; M. Brady, Janesboro'; Rev. Bernard O'Dea, O.S.A.; E. Queally and family, Kilmihill; Dr. and Mrs. Moran.

Telegrams and letters were received from Mother Divine Heart; Bessie Looney and family; Ned Scanlan, Harry, Rose and Joan Farrell; Freyne; Nita O'Connell and family; Mick McInerney; Muriel; Joe Giltenane; the Buckley family of Dunboyne; Ivan and Millie Harris; John Flannery; J. J. McNamara; P. Ryan, Rathkeale; Mrs. Hickey, do.; Sister M. Dominic; Fitzgerald family, Lansdowne Tce.; Claffey, Ballymahon; Rev Bernard O'Dea, O.S.A.; Kathleen Roche; Mrs. Ita Fitzgibbon; Sister M. Albert; M. Naughton; J. Stewart; Mary and Vienna Larkin; Eileen, Gort; Michael and Nellie Kilkee; Nan and Olive Ireton; Foley family, Askeaton; Rita Johnson; Rev. M. Cecelia, Convent of Mercy, Tipperary; Sara McGrath, Sister M. Lelia, Convent of Mercy, Tipperary; Kiernan and Elsia O'Driscoll, Valencia; J. J. and M. O'Dwyer; Paddy and Mary Hannon; Nellie Hackett; Mary O'Driscoll; Liam O'Donoghue; Sadie Smith; D. Broderick; Pauline Costello; Rev. Mother, Convent F.C.J. Laurel Hill; Nora McGrath; Jane Scanlan; Claire Larkin; Eily Callaghan; Sister Oliver, Mercy Convent, Tulla; Mrs. Geraghty; Rev. W. R. Hourigan, P.P., Kilbehenny; Sister Madeline, Mercy Convent, Nenagh; E. Costelloe, Patrick Street; Mary O'Brien; Julia Hartnett.

Beautiful floral wreaths were received from—Pat, Tess and family; Eily, Michael and family; May and family; your loving grand-daughter, Ann; your loving nieces, Mabel and Kitty Gavin; Rev. Mother Patrick; Sister Patricia, and Sister Peter.

Mr. John Hogan, Kinneard

The funeral of Mr. John Hogan, fermer, prominent member of Glin Creamery Committee, Kinneard, Glin, took place during the week and was extremely large and representative. Deceased and his wife and family of 12 children are very popular in their native place. Out of the 12 children only one was absent from the funeral through illness. His eight sons bore the coffin from the Parish Church to Kilfergus burial ground. To his widow and large family, deepest sympathy is offered.

Chief mourners:—Mrs. Mary Hogan (widow); Mrs. Delia Conway, U.S.A. (sister); Mrs. Costello, Mrs. Moloney, Mrs. O'Mahony, Miss Eily Hogan (daughters); Messrs. John, Michael, James, Patrick, Daniel, Thomas, Joseph and Con (sons); Miss Kitty Hogan, Mrs. Molony and Mrs. O'Connor (nieces); Messrs. John and Thomas Hogan (nephews); Mrs. John Hogan, Dublin; Mrs. Path. Hogan, Ashara, Glin (daughters-in-law); Messrs. John Costello, Glin, and James O'Mahony, Dublin (sons-in-law).

Rev. Father Ryan, P.P., Glin; Rev. Father Connors, C.C., Glin; and Rev. Father O'Connor, C.C., Athea, officiated at the Parish Church and graveside at Kilfergus.

Numerous letters of sympathy, telegrams and Mass cards were received by the family.

Mr. J. Keane, Fanningstown, Fedamore

The death occurred on Wednesday, the 8th of February, of Mr. John Keane at his residence, Fanningstown, Fedamore, at an advanced age. The late John Keane belonged to a well-known County Limerick family. He was very popular with all classes and his death even at so fine an age occasioned deep regret over a wide area. The remains were removed to Fedamore Church and the funeral took place to the family burying ground, Knockaney.

The prayers at the graveside were said by Rev. Father O'Grady, P.P., Fedamore.

The chief mourners were:—Mrs. Mary Keane (widow); John, Tim, Patrick, James, Michael (sons); Bridie, Kitty, Peggy, Sister Mary Magdalen, Convent of Mercy, Derby (daughters); Michael Keane, Baggotstown, Denis Keane, Templebraden (nephews); James Michael, Bill, Batemans, Castlerkin; Jack, William, Nic, James Deely, Bulgaden (nephews); Mrs. Barthley, Grange; Miss E. Bateman, Knocklisheen; Mrs. K. McNiece, Limerick; Mrs. Joe Hayes, Lisnagry; Mrs. Michael Gleeson, Maddaboy; Miss May Deely, Bulgaden (nieces); Mrs. Pat Keane, Baggotstown; Mrs. James Keane, Templebraden; Mrs. M. Keane, Baggotstown (sisters-in-law); Mr. Patrick Hancy, Ballinagreena (brother-in-law); Baby and Denis Hanley, Ballinagreena; Mrs. Denis Keane; Hugh and Sara, Templebraden; Michael Horan, Ballinagreena; Pat, Stephen and Maureen, Joan, Bernie Bartley, Grange; Michael, John, Pat, Willie, James and Mary Gleeson, Maddaboy; Joe and Micheal Hayes, Lisnagry; John, Joe, Bill and James Bateman, Knocklisheen; Mrs. John Keane and family, Bottomstown; Michael, Peg, Maisie Horan, Knockane; the Bateman family, Castlerkin; Pat, Dick, Maryanne, Maggie Harris, Ballyglasheen, Tipperary; the Ryan family, Ballinagoola; Mrs. Kelly, Sheahan's Cross; Walsh family, Rathaney; the Cooke family, Bottomstown; Mollie Burke, Ennis Road (cousins).

Mass cards and telegrams of sympathy were received from the following:—The Bateman family Castlerkin; the Barthley family, Grange; Hayes family, Lisnagry; the Horgan family, Bansha; the Harris family, Ballyglasheen; the Fedamore G.A.A. Club; the Horan family, Garrydoolis; the Hourigan family, Ballyglasheen, Bansha; the Fahy family, Barnlough, Bansha; Nancy Broderick, P.O., Bansha; John Hackett, Limerick; Mrs. Kelly, Bansha; Nonie and Bridie Hanley, London; from Staff, Manor Hospital, Derby.

It would be impossible to give full list of all who attended the funeral.

Mr. T. Morey, Meanus

The death occurred on the 12th instant of Mr. Timothy Morey, Meanus, Co. Limerick, in the Co. Infirmary, after a brief illness. Deceased was employed by the Greybridge Co-operative Society for the past 38 years, during which time he was held in highest esteem by his employers and all who came in contact with him. The remains were removed to Meanus Parish Church and the funeral to the adjoining cemetery was of huge dimensions.

The officiating clergy at the graveside were: Very Rev. Canon Riordan, P.P., V.F., Bruff; Rev. J. Brown, C.C., Bruff; Rev. E. Houlihan, C.C., do., and Rev. T. Greene, C.C., St. Patrick's.

The chief mourners were: James Morey (brother); Mary, Bridget Mrs. Hogan (sisters); Peggy, Mrs. Stephen Hogan (nieces); Patrick and Nicholas Hogan and Michael Hogan (nephews); Patrick Guare, Owen Nash, Denis and Timothy Neville, Mrs. O'Connor, Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. McCarthy and Mary Neville (cousins); Michael Hogan, Denis Mulcahy, Michael Mulcahy, Thos. Mulcahy, Daniel Mulcahy, John Mulcahy (brothers-in-law); Mrs. Grogan (sister-in-law).

The family received many Mass cards and messages of sympathy.

THE MUNSTER FAIR

The Munster Fair at Limerick this morning was well stocked, but trade, generally speaking, could not be described as brisk. Fat heifers and bullocks were in demand at current prices, but "honey" animals had to be exchanged at reduced values. This was especially so in the case of 2- and 1½ year olds.

Average prices: 3½ year old bullocks (fat), £45 to £50; secondary sorts, £42 to £45; 2½ year olds, £37 to £40; 1½ year olds, £31 to £35. Prime beef, 85/- per cwt., on foot.

ABBEYFEALE MARKET PRICES

(Monday, 20th February)

Calves cleared at £5 to £10; butter, 2/2 lb.; eggs, 2/6 doz.; potatoes, 1/10 stone; turnips, 3/- cwt.; mangolds, 3/- to 3/6; cabbages, 2/9 hundred; turf, £9 to £10 lorry; turkeys, 2/8 lb.; chickens, 1/8; hens, 1/4; Guinea fowl, 2/-.

MARKET PRICES

LIMERICK MARKETS—Saturday.

Butter—2/7 to 3/- per lb.
Hen Eggs—2/10 to 3/2 per doz.
Duck Eggs—2/10 to 3/- per doz.
Chickens—13/- to 20/- per pair.
Ducks—8/- to 12/- per pair.
Old Fowl—11/- to 18/- per pair.
Turkeys—2/6 to 2/9 per lb.
Geese—8/- to 12/- each.
Eating Apples—2/6 to 3/6 per basket.
Cooking Apples—2/- to 3/- per basket.
Potatoes—1/5 to 1/10 per stone.
Turnips—80/- per ton.
Upland Hay—160/- to 185/- per ton.
Weekly Cattle Market — There were 174 calves in market. They sold at from 40/- to 215/- each.

THE PADDOCKS, LIMERICK WEEKLY CATTLE AND SHEEP MARKET

Wednesday, February 22.—Increased entry in all departments except the store section; good attendance of buyers, with shipping and local interests very well represented; a first-class show of prime beef on sale, a steady trade in this section, especially for medium weighted and small heifers, also heavy heifer cows, which met brisk trade at advanced values; secondary cattle, and those short of condition, however, were in quiet request; all round late rates easily obtainable. In cow section prime fresh young cows in good demand, older sorts, and those suitable for canning changed hands readily, almost a complete clearance effected. No aged or forward stores on offer; a fair entry of young stores, these drafts met brisk enquiry with useful bred feeding bullocks easily negotiated at full terms; promising young stores of the right stamp readily bid for, secondary and poor stores dull and difficult to cash. Increased entry of weanlings, which met a steady sale; a big attendance of buyers present in this section; choice store cattle wanted and more could easily have been sold.

Fat heifers and bullocks, best, £45 to £51; second run, £33 10s. to £39. Fat cows, best, £41 10s. to £50 10s.; second run, £33 to £39 10s.; others, £27 to £30 10s.; old, best, £20 to £24 5s.; second run, £14 to £19 10s.. 2 year old heifers and bullocks, £29 to £34; second run, £24 10s. to £27; small, £18 10s. to £20. Yearlings, best, £16 to £17 10s.; second run, £11 to £14 10s.

Sheep—Numbers showed a substantial increase, an excelent turnout of mutton; usual attendance; trade opened quiet, buyers operating cautiously; pens of prime quality wethers, and heavy sheep in fair demand at easier rates; best hoggets enquired for; secondary and small sheep met a quiet market, vendors had to accept lower rates in order to clear; fresh ewes in good demand, all round business was quiet, with a weaker tendency, rates ruling on a somewhat lower basis. As vendors were willing to accept the lower rates an exceptionally good clearance was effected. The total turnover again showed a substantial increase over the corresponding sale last year. Fat middle weight, best, 175/- to 187/-; second run, 165/- to 172/-; small, 152/6 to 163/-. Ewes, 154/- to 170/-. Hoggets, best, 146/- to 155/-; small, 107/- to 125/-.—Wm. B. Fitt and Co., Auctioneers.

THE PADDOCKS, LIMERICK WEEKLY DAIRY MARKET

Tuesday, February 21.—Entry about the same as last week, but a mixed description; not many choice heifers or cows on offer; anything showing promise was freely bid for, and readily cashed; more could have been sold backward and poor heifers not in demand. There was a large attendance of buyers, and good enquiry for anything of the right stamp. Top price for incalf heifers went to Mr. Ed. Shanahan, Carheeny, Kildimo, at £47; the same owner also obtained £46 10s., £46 and £44. Top price for dairy cows went to Mr. A. O'Shea, Newmarket, Co. Cork, at £42 10s. Incalf heifers, best, £41 10s. to £47; promising, £31 to £37. Dairy cows, best, £38 10s. to £42 10s.; second run, £30 to £35; backward, £25 to £27 10s.—Wm. B. Fitt and Co., Auctioneers.

MESSRS. WILLIAM B. FITT & CO'S PROPERTY SALES

The adjusted Fee Farm Rent of £23 7s. 8d., out of Nos. 121 and 122 O'Connell Street, Limerick, which was offered for sale by auction on Dec. 9 last, and unsold, has now been sold at a satisfactory figure. Messrs. M. Sellers and Co., solicitors, 47 O'Connell Street, Limerick, acted for the purchaser. Messrs Rooke and Beers, solicitors, 6 Merrion Square, Dublin, had carriage of sale.

LIMERICK CATTLE MARKET WEEKLY MARKET, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

Dairy Cows and Heifers.—The entry at to-day's market totalled 69 head, comprising calved and incalf cows, spring calving heifers and a small lawn of spring calving dairy cows, and with better weather conditions a very good attendance of buyers and better quality animals on offer, trade was good and steady, the greater portion of the entry changing hands under the hammer. Spring calving heifers sold better than at recent markets, all classes being well but to, the top heifers being in particularly good demand. Top price for incalf heifers went to Mr. J. Burke, Stanton, Ballysimon, at £43; the runner-up being Mr. M. Cantwell, Limerick, at £42 10s. Top price for calved cows went to Mr. D. Cusack, Limerick, at £39. Top price for spring calving dairy cows went to Mr. Michael Fitzgibbon, Singland, at £40. Incalf and calved heifers, best, £40 10s. to £43; seconds, £39 to £40 5s.; others, £33 to £39 10s.; small, £28 to £32. Incalf and calved cows, best, £37 10s. to £39 5s.; seconds, £31 10 to £36; small, £24 to £28 10s. Spring calving dairy cows, best, £36 10s. to £40; seconds, £30 to £35 10s.

Store Cattle.—Numerically the entry was as high as last week but not so many strong cattle. There were more buyers than at recent markets and while bidding was not very free in the ring there was a good selling trade and a much greater volume of business transacted than at last market. Two year old and two and a half year old bullocks and heifers, best, £33 10s. to £36; secondary, £31 to £27 10s. One and a half year old bullocks and heifers, £27 to £28 5s.; seconds, £17 to £19 10s. Yearlings and weanlings, best, £19 to £21; seconds, £15 10s. to £17; small, £12 to £14 5s.

Licensed bull, 24 gns. Breed sows with bonhams at foot, £28 5s. to £36 10s.—Louis de Courcy, Auctioneer.

LIMERICK CATTLE MARKET WEEKLY FAT STOCK MARKET, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

More sheep on offer but a very small entry in the cattle section. Strong attendance of buyers, especially for fat cattle. A full clearance in the sheep section was not effected; two pens of heavy sheep lacking finish failed to clear. All the fat sheep changed hands at from £7 15s. to £8 10s. per head. One pen of twelve fat sheep were sold at 2/3 per lb.—Louis de Courcy, Auctioneer.

BRUFF CATTLE MARKET TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

There was an excellent entry of dairy cows and incalf heifers at the opening sale on Tuesday last, at the Salevards, Bruff. The entry, which numbered 26 head, included a number of choice heifers. There was a large attendance of buyers and a good clearance was effected. The following are some of the prices obtained:—Dairy cows, £29 10s. to £34 5s.; seconds, £29 to £29; incalf heifers, £42 to £43; seconds, £35 10s. to £36 5s.; others, £29 to £31.—Desmond J. Barry, Auctioneer and Valuer, 1 The Crescent, Limerick.

KILFINANE FAIR

Kilfinane February Fair, though not one of the old established ones, is gradually increasing in importance and on last Monday there was a big increase of buyers and supplies on former years. Good clearances were effected and prices were about average of recent fairs. Yearling bullocks, £14 to £19; 2 year old, £28 to £32; springers, £30 to £45; old cows, £12 to £20; boilhams, £4 to £6 10s.

MILK PRICES QUESTION

Unanimous Call For Increase

DAIRY DISPOSALS BOARD CRITICISED

Views Of Co. Agricultural Committee

THAT the Dairy Disposals Board, by paying cheap prices for milk in non-competitive areas, and concentrating on paying high prices in areas where there were co-operative creameries, was trying to disrupt and destroy the co-operative movement in this country, was a statement made at the Limerick County Committee of Agriculture meeting last Saturday, **Mr. P. Fitzsimons, Co.C.**, Chairman, presiding.

The members had been discussing ways and means of making the production of milk economic for dairy farmers.

Mr. J. W. Canty, Chairman, Limerick Co. Council, said he didn't think it was of any further use for the Committee to press for a higher price for milk. What they should now concentrate on was how they should set about getting the present price stabilised for a period of about four or five years. He wasn't to be taken as meaning that farmers were making big profits from milk, but he thought they were never likely to get the Minister to agree to give a higher price than the present one. Dairy farmers' real problem at the moment was the labour question.

"ONE REAL TROUBLE."

"Our trouble at the moment is getting our cows milked," he said. "There is one real trouble we have and that is the application to us of the Agricultural Wages Act. We are put out as the only body of people of our kind in this country or in any other who are compelled by law to pay a certain wage. I would much rather that we went back to the old bargaining system between employer and man. Agricultural labourers to-day are organised the same as every other type of workers. They have their own unions—they have a Minister for State. For that reason they are much better equipped to-day to do their bargaining. We have some small farmers who have no chance in the world of paying the wages ordered by the Wages Board. Some of them might contemplate employing old people who would not be worth the £3 a week laid down in the Act. They cannot employ the old people, who accordingly suffer."

Mr. Canty said these were very small matters, but very important to the question they were discussing.

"It strikes me too," he said, "that everybody in the country could afford to pay about twopence a lb. more for butter. That would not cause any hardship and would work out well for everybody concerned in the industry. Anyway, I'm proposing now that we ask the Minister for Agriculture to stabilise the present price of milk for four years at least."

THE PRESENT PRICE.

Mr. P. H. Donegan, Co.C., said that the present price of milk was completely inadequate and that was the point from which the Committee should look on the discussion. It wasn't a question of wages any more; the ordinary farmer was more troubled by the question of getting labour at any price.

Mr. P. Maguire, Co.C., said that according to Professor Murphy of Cork, it cost 1s. 6½d. to produce a gallon of milk in the eight average dairy farms in the Mitchelstown area which he had examined. Applied costings per gallon in the Mitchelstown area would be slightly over 1s. 8½d.

That information, **Mr. Maguire** said, was given privately by Professor Murphy for the benefit of the shareholders of the creameries and was certainly not for propaganda purposes. He (Mr. Maguire) had been given permission to use the figures before the Committee.

Mr. J. Hayes, Co.C., said the surplus butter left after the retail should be put on the open market the same as tea was at the moment. If that were done most people would be in a position to buy the butter at the higher price and thus give a fillip to the industry.

WAGES PAID TO FARM WORKERS.

Dealing with Mr. Canty's references to the wages paid to dairy farm labourers, **Mr. Hayes** said, "I don't regret the day that these workers are organised in Trade Unions and that they are represented by a Minister of State. Thanks be to God the notorious hiring fair of Kilmallock is finished. I think the wage the agricultural worker gets at the moment is the very minimum any decent farmer would pay."

Mr. Donegan said most farmers were paying more than the Agricultural Wages Act rates.

Mr. P. T. McCarthy, Co.C.—It is about time the poor worker got something for his labour.

Mr. D. P. Quish said the entire co-operative dairying industry was being undermined by the interference of the Dairy Disposals Board, a State protected business which apparently was never known to publish a balance sheet or statement of accounts.

WILL DESTROY CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT.

"If these people are allowed to continue as they are," he said, "they will destroy the entire co-operative movement. They are withholding a just price for milk in the areas where there is no competition from creameries, and competing against the co-operative creameries in other districts. They are out to destroy the co-operative movement and are not out for the good of the rest of the general community either. I think we should ask the Minister to look into that. I suggest that they should be asked to publish a balance sheet and show it to the general public. Let them tell us whether they are operating at a profit or a loss. They are unjust in their entire operations."

Mr. J. J. McNamara, Co.C., said the Committee would have done a good day's work if they had got the Minister to stabilise the price of milk for a certain period of years. Looking for an increased price was just hitting their heads against a wall.

Chairman (Mr. P. Fitzsimons, Co.C.)—A number of people in my area have sold a large number of their cows recently. They just could not keep going.

Mr. McNamara—If farmers could get and use milking machines they wouldn't be too bad.

Mr. Donegan—It looks as if the Dairy Disposals Board were hiding behind a Government screen. The public should be made aware of how the Board is carrying on.

MINISTER'S ATTITUDE.

Mr. P. Lillis, Co.C., said that apparently the Minister for Agriculture himself hadn't the slightest regard for the co-operative movement. The Committee would be rendering a great public service if it could get the Department to press the Dairy Disposals Board for an annual balance sheet. He agreed with Mr. Canty's suggestion that the only sensible action the Committee could take was to try and get the Minister to fix a price for milk for the coming five years.

Mr. Lillis said the Minister was not doing his duty to the farming community until he published the figures of the Dairy Disposals Board.

Mr. Maguire said that in view of Professor Murphy's figures he had to propose that the Committee again press for a higher price for milk.

UNANIMOUS DECISION.

After some further discussion the Chairman suggested that the Committee ask the Minister to fix a price for milk at 1/4 a gallon in summer and 1/6 a gallon in the winter, and to maintain that price for five years.

All the members were in agreement with this proposition, which was unanimously adopted.

The new prices the Committee is seeking are an increase of twopence per gallon on the existing prices of 1/2 and 1/4.

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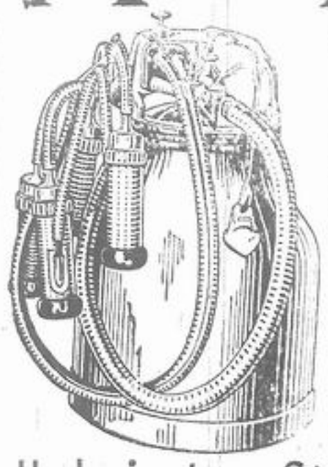

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