## AUGUST 8TH.]

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# FARM AND DAIRY.

This column is devoted to agricultural subjects, and the editors will be grateful to farmers if they will use it for the intelligent discussion of matters pertaining to their important calling.

#### Sharing the Profits.

Mr. J. H. Birkett of Kingston, has introduced the profit sharing system in a planing mill that he operates in that city. The result of the experiment will be of great interest to the cow and the breakfast table, though the those who study labor questions, and who, asks the Ottawa Citizen is there now-a-days cream, and though the sight of herds of kine that does not give some attention to these? being led through the streets in the early Mr. Birkett has eleven employees, and his plan is to deduct from the gross receipts the expenses of running the business and six per cent. on the capital invested, and then the the "color blindness" to which we have reremainder equally between himself and the men. The basis of the division is supplied by the fact that the total amount of wages paid during the year is about equal to the capital. In apportioning that part of the profits which goes to the men among them each man is given a share corresponding to the amount of wages that he earns during the year.

The principle thus put in operation presents one of the methods by which the relations between capital and labor may be ameliorated and the position of the working men improved. It is not by any means a new idea. It has been tried with excellent success in England, France, Germany and the United States. It is in fact one form of co-operation, for the workmen as they receive a share of the profits are treated as if their wages were a portion of the capital invested. It might be supposed that this plan of conducting a business would be injurious to the capitalists and that he is making a sacrifice for which he receives no return by surrendering any fraction of his profits to labor. But this is not the result of experience. The new interest taken by employees in the success of their master's undertaking has been found to lead to increased efficiency. They recognize that in serving the establishment they are serving themselves, and an impulse given to them to exercise industry, energy, economy and care which is found to lend increased vitality to the common enterprize.

Where labor disputes are becoming se common and where the hostilities produced by them are so bitter one cannot but welcome the hope held out by experiments of this kind of a new constitution of industry in which the conflicting interests will be united, harmonious feeling restablished and the industrial welfare of the community placed upon an irrefragable basis. -St. John's (P.Q.) News.

They do not, as we should naturally expect object to having the milking process prolonged through several streets; nor will they give a drip the less, even though crowds of idle persons assemble to see the fun. If the system "catches on" there is no doubt that the Londoner will have cause to be thankful, becanse he will have a certainty of being supplied with an absolutely pure product. There would only be a few minutes between first person served would very likely get most morning would be strange and unusual, yet in time we should all get to acknowledge the desirability of the reform if it were not for . ferred.

#### RETURNING HOME.

### To Get the Traffic Steamship Lines Cut **Steerage Rates**

The steerage travel from New York has grown to an enormous extent within the last few weeks and has materially affected the policy pursued by the Dominion, the Beaver and the Allan Lines in regard to their steerage arrangements. The former rates of these three lines, \$24, was reduced to \$20, and recently to \$15, where it now rests. The reasons for this unprecedented cut were stated by Mr. H. E. Murray and Mr. George Hannah, of the Beaver and Allan Lines. It seems that there has been for some time an attempt on the part of the Continental Lines sailing from New York-the North German Lloyd, the Hamburg-American Packet Company, the Red Star and the Netherlands lines-to form a combination with the British lines and raise the steerage rates. The British lines, which comprise the American, the Cunard and the Auchor lines, decided not to advance the rates, as the British steerage trade done by the Continental lines was of small importance. The Continental companies, among which the North Jerman Lloyd took the lead, determined to retaliate by cutting their British steerage rates. The English companies returned the compliment by making a cut on their own Continental traffic, thereby underbidding the other companies for the Continental trade. The cutting became fast and furious. The North German Lloyd and her confederates dropped the British rates from \$25 to \$10. The Cunard Line was forced to do likewise and followed by the Anchor Line. The was American had at first evinced a disposition to side with the promoters of the trust, but finally joined with the Cunard and the Anchor. There the matter had rested for some weeks, neither side retreating from their position, while the tide of emigration and immigration swells with every passage. The fact has frequently been noticed that The Germania last week left New York with 500 in the steerage against an average of 125. On Monday the Teutonic sailed with 700 steerage passengers, her average being 175. enough at times to set a whole neighborhood Mr. Hannah stated that the steerage accommodations of the New York Liners were being taxed to their utmost capacity-some extremes in the price of hogs or sheep are steamers holding as many as 1000 in their likely to follow in quick succession from the steerage; the people were packed closely toreadiness with which farmers turn from one gether, the berths almost touching each or to other. A famous sheep raiser is said other-in fact the people were packed like to have given as the secret of his success the sardines, or, almost, as Mr. Hannah expressmaxim, "Buy when your neighbors sell, and ed it, "like dead men." The greatly sell when your neighbors buy." The ex- decreased rates from New York would planation is that farmers are likely to move naturally induce intending emigrants to take in crowds under a common feeling that profit advantage of the \$10 rate and journey to the lies in the direction sought by others. Often American metropolis. Hence the \$15 rate. At present the Dominion and Beaver Lines report only a small increase. The Allan Line, however, has had more traffic. The Parisian sailed with 139 in the steerage. The average this year up the date of her sailing had been but 70, somewhat below that of last year-89. On the whole, it would appear that the outward bound steerage traffic is of much larger proportions, comparatively, in the United States than in Canada. While the increase here has been somewhat pronounced, in New York it has been almost impossible to procure berths. As the railroad fare to New York from Toronto is some two dollars less than that to Montreal, Mr. Hannah remarked that the traffic from Toronto would have been diverted to the New York lines but for the difficulty, and, in fact, the improbability of being able to obtain a steerage berth when once the passengers had arrived there. Therefore, the Ontario traffic continues to flow as usual through Montreal. The great impetus in American emigration is generally considered to be due to the Chicago strike and the news of the \$10 rate having spread through the large cities on the lakes -Detroit, Cleveland, Toledo, and Buffaloand those in the interior has been the means of turning many a foreign workman's face homeward to the hand of his birth. One interesting fact noted has been that many miners from Montana and Idaho have left America, attracted by the rich gold fields of South Africa. As regards the present outlook in New York, Mr. Hannah added that from appearances the continental lines were becoming tired of the "wild cat" struggle and would in a short time return to their former rates. The British companies would follow suit and the Montreal lines would also return to their usual rate of \$24. In any case, in all probability hold good for another



#### Fashion in Farming.

farming communities change production speedily with little apparent reason. The ordinary fluctuations in particular crops seem into new efforts for profit by special cropping. It has been a matter of common remark that their seems to be no better reason than that our neighbors are doing it.

### The Cow Milked While You Wait.

Sector a London Telegraph: To take a cow from door to door and milk her in presence of each customer is the very newest departure in the London milk business. It is one that is not lacking in boldness and originality, and it deserves more success than it is likely, we fear, to meet with. The practice is common enough in Egypt, where housekeepers appreciate the advantage of being able to judge for themselves whether the animal from which they draw their supply looks healthy or the reverse. . But then the average Egyptian is not the slave of the British urban superstition which demands that milk should look thick and yellow in order to be genuine. It is all in vain to assure most people in English towns that pure milk is not of a rich, yellow hue, and that as a matter of fact it ought to be white. They know better than the cow and the milkman combined, and as they demand yellowness they are supplied with it to their hearts' content. All that has to be done, and is done, is to mix various coloring matters with the fluid, and these pigments usually are innocuous, though not always so. This popular delusion as to the appearance of real country milk will probably be fatal to the enterprise of the tradesman who is now taking a "personally conducted" cow on a milk-round to the houses of his patrons. It will be impossible to induce the cow to produce milk of the required color and consistency, even if it is fed all day long on buttercups, saffron, and yellow chalk; and customers will denounce it as a bovine fraud, or, at all events, as being in a feeble and unheathy condition. As far as the experiment lines were in no hurry and the \$15 rate will has gone at present it is said to be one to which the cows themselves take kindly. month.

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