

A REPLY FROM A BUTTER MAKER.

EDITOR CONSERVATIVE:—

Under "paternalism" you make some misleading statements. You say, "only those who buy from the farmer the product of the dairy and in large establishments, with expensive machinery, convert it into butter," whom you define as butter-makers, are demanding national legislation restricting the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine. The facts are, that not more than one butter-maker in one thousand owns such an establishment. They are owned, controlled and supplied by the very persons you try to divest of any blame in the matter—the farmers. These farmers hire the butter-makers, and whatever legislation he is demanding, is through their desire and by their advice.

The term butter-maker, in the parlance of today, means only those who make butter in a creamery, or in such an establishment as you mention, and not the owners thereof and his personal interests are infinitesimal when compared to those of the hundreds of thousands of farmers who employ him. You should place the blame, if any, where it belongs and not on the comparatively few who have raised the grade of American butter from where it was only a few years ago, known as grease and sold only in the local markets, to where it now is, the standard in the markets of the world.

What memorial has expressed the desire, much less a demand, that a certain variety of butter shall be the "legalized bread-spreader throughout the United States," and that "oleomargarine be declared unconstitutional," and how can oleomargarine or other substance be declared unconstitutional? Such demands if made will not, and should not, receive consideration by law-makers.

We do not sanction the fostering of one manufactured product to the detriment of another, nor do we sanction the manufacture of any substitute which is to go upon our markets as the genuine article.

The butter producer does not object to the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine providing it is known and sold as oleomargarine. It is the deception and fraud practiced that is causing this agitation by the producers and consumers through the butter-maker.

It is conceded that of the eighty-two million pounds of this counterfeit manufactured in 1899, ninety per cent was consumed by those who paid butter prices for it and supposed they were getting butter. (Authority, Hoard's Dairyman.)

You say "it is made from the fat of the bovine." Why did you not enumerate all of its ingredients? Or did you not know that the bovine fat is the smallest portion of the formula, if it is there at all?

If it is made entirely of the fat what

effect would it have on the farmer supplying the beef market? The average yield of this fat is not more than three per cent of each beef, or about one dollar and twenty cents, which you fear may be legislated against to the detriment of the beef market and which is only produced once in a life-time, whereas the bovine milk producer yields that much every week for from six to ten years and at last supplies her share of this "nutritious and infinitely superior" article.

Would you strangle the weekly producer of the one dollar and twenty cents' worth of a pure product in order to preserve the once in a life-time producer of the same value of fat, that the poor may not be deprived of the blessed privilege of buying a cheap substitute at the same price they could get the genuine article for?

You want gold and silver to circulate at their genuine commercial ratio. We want butter and oleomargarine on the same equitable footing, and nothing but proper legislation will secure these desires.

The figures quoted prove that under the present conditions the poor are the ones who suffer most and will be most benefited by the only important legislation now asked for, viz: that oleomargarine shall not be colored to imitate genuine butter.

N. S. ANDREWS.

Dubuque, Ia., Mar. 10, 1900.

SECRETS OF
LONGEVITY.

New York World: "The causes of Natural Death and How to Attain an Active and Useful Old Age," was the subject of a lecture by Dr. Cyrus Edson before the Hundred Year Club at 226 West Fifty-eighth street last night.

"Farmers are of long lives," said Doctor Edson, "but men in the city who observe the rules of health live longer than the farmer. The reason is that the city man exercises his mental pow-

ers more than the farmer and the secret of longevity is in mentality.

"The rules for a long life are: Plain food; plenty of good air; not more than eight hours of sleep; periods of exercise part of which should be of such a nature as to produce a deep respiration and perspiration; don't worry or go to extremes or excesses."

Doctor Edson said the average life of a brain worker was sixty-seven years. "The cause of death," said he, "is failure of assimilation, the giving out of one organ and failure of the nervous system."

Doctor Edson told of Thomas Parr, an Englishman, who lived to be 152 years old and outlived nine princes. Parr was supposed to have died because of a change of food and air, moving from the fresh country to London. He worked in a field until he was 130 years old and married a widow at 120.

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