THE OMAH \ SUNDAY BEE: NOVEMBER 9, 1919.



RETIRES AT 9. -RISES AT 1 A. M. He Even Learns to Work in

His Sleep on Occasions; Is a Real Veteran.

Perhaps you have never seen him. For there are many customers that he milkman has never seen, although he has been leaving milk on their back doorsteps for many months. He comes around to many houses in the earliest hours of the morning, and if you are staid and middle-aged, nothing short of a death in the family would keep you awake until that hour. You may never see that man who places the milk there every morning, rain or shine, hot or cold.

Do you know what it means to peddle milk? To peddle milk, to possess a milk route all your own and to work it on the one-man plan is the most heart breaking toil that can be imagined. Here is the program followed by a man who did that very thing, did it for many years and now that he has stopped, often regrets that he is not still doing it

Out of Bed at 1 A. M.

Every morning the year round he was out of hed at 1 o'clock. He would go out to feed his horse, and then prepare himself a breakfast while his faithful steed was eating. It is that happy season of the year that is not too hot or too cold. soon as he has eaten he can hitch the horse to the wagon and start away. If, on the other hand, it is in the hot weather, the milk must be kept on ice until the last moment. This means getting up even earlier, for the milk must be taken off the ice and the wagon loaded. This means at least another half hour. The same thing holds true in the winter. The milk must be kept in a place that is sufthe road, and this, too, means load-ing the wagon in the bitter cold of quarts of milk, and fill the bottles the early morning. Even at that it much more rapidly than the old wet to the skin. may freeze and you may find three method, and with no loss from If a blizzard breaks over the country round he sticks his feet in the top of your bottle.

Then, after he has started, from the time the house of his first customer is reached, he must start on run and keep up his pace until the last customer is supplied. This man had a milk route on which he sold about 250 quarts each day. That meant that if he got on the road by 2 o'clock, or 2:30 at the latest, he would not be able to get back home until after 9 o'clock.

Not Like Good Old Days.

In the old days, when everyone put a pail on the back purch and the milkman poured milk into it from a can, the proposition of clearing up after the day's business was comparatively easy, but nowadays, when everyone takes milk in bottles. it means that in addition to washing all the cans and thoroughly steriliz-

ing them, all the bottles must be

ficiently warm to keep it from was done by pouring the milk from ders together a bit, and clad in a wet to the skin.

illed milk. By the time that all the milk is felt boots, and if he lives in the bottled, collected and iced, it is get- country, ties a shovel on his wagon ting well into the evening, and even and digs his way into town. though it is early, there are things there are drifts to wade through to be done about every well regula- and paths to break, going is slow, ted house that always fall to the and it means an earlier start. It men folks, and the milkman, al-though he has little in common with ing, and worst of all it means fall-

the rest of his race, must do them. During the 11 years that he ped-dled milk this man says it was seldom earlier than 9 o'clock at New Map of Texas

night when he was ready to retire. **Oil and Geological** That means between four and five hours of sleep before starting out again. Averaging an hour or two

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ing down, only to pick one's self up and trudging on, no matter what the accident may have been. Ice is the milkman's worst enemy, sterilized.

During the hours of the morning when he is abroad, it is so dark that He Has "Blue Saturday. when he is abroad, it is so dark that it is difficult to pick a footing, es-pecially when he is in a hurry. During the winter months almost every customer holds the welfare of his milkman on his back steps. If some cold winter night you hear a few thymps and hances inter arrive the statut day. A housewife has her "blue Mon-day," and the blue day in the milk-man's life is Saturday. There are money out in the milk bottles for fear that it will be stolen, and there the statut day.

milk and cream, and the cost of the upon the other days. And the site dashed many and out on the by seven glass bottles, a crash resulting in a few broken bottles means quite a bit financially. This is the average milk dealer corner of a house next door he was Probabl

Knows How You Keep House.

A milkman knows more about how you keep house than anyone outside of your personal family, and and he can almost tell from them the sort of housekeeper you are. There are the bottles that are frankly dirty, that have not been washed at all with vesterday's milk soured and hardened on them. That is per-haps the worst sort of housekeeping again. from the milkman's standpoint.

The next upward grade is the housewife who rinses her bottles in cold water and then sets them out.

The good housekeepers thoroughly wash their bottles, boil them and freezing until time to start out on a can into the bottle, but now there raincoat and rubber boots fares set them out. That brings joy to the forth, to return a few hours later, lieart of the milkman, because, although he washes and sterilizes all the bottles before they are used 'again, it is not nearly so difficult /if

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BETS"

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they are clean in the first place. the milk, keep up the business and milkman did not wait to argue, but means hard work for every member reaching into the rack in front of of the milkman's family and some-every milkman's route that are of nothing more.

the sort that are so clean "that it, hurts." This type thoroughly cleans and sterilizes the bottles and saving the old caps, puts them back on the does not even have to load his ed "Giddap, Napoleon," and de-the sort that are so clean "that it, hurts." This type thoroughly cleans and sterilizes the bottles and saving the old caps, puts them back on the bottle so that not the least bit of wagon before starting out. All he parted the spot on the run.

bottle so that not the least off of wagon being starting out, All he has to do is arrive at the starting bottles must be rewashed and sterilized. He Has "Blue Saturday. dealing is a lucrative proposition, for the dealer makes an average of 5 cents on a quart of milk. On a 250-quart route, one of the one-man variety, this means a profit of \$12.50

a day. Out of this must come all overhead expense. There are bot-tles and caps to be purchased. There is a horse to feed and care for, a varieties of humans-those few they some cold winter night you near a rea ther who will not mail either few thumps and bangs, just arrive at the conclusion that your milk-man has fallen down your stairs after having slipped on the ice that you neglected to remove.

after having slipped on the ice that you neglected to remove. A light, sifting snowfall after a cold snap means a financial loss to the milkman besides sundry and numerous bruises. The patches of ice everywhere are hidden, and he is constantly expecting to have his feet shoot skyward, and his bottles, smash on the ground beside him, and what with the present price of milk and cream, and the cost of the whoth a certain goar to customer the stars smash on the ground beside him, and what with the present price of milk and cream, and the cost of the milk and cream, an Is This a Dog's Life.

who owns a one-man plant, and greeted by a sight for the gods. decided you don't want to be the whose route is mostly in the read There she stood, panting, clad only milkman, and that seems to be the dential district. Usually he has feet in a nightie, carpet slippers and a consensus of opiniom. It not only means the drudgery of long hours. stairs to climb, scarcely ever more Pomeranian pup, while her husband, than one flight, and seldom that. So with his touseled head stuck out but it means the foregoing of all outside of your personal datativy, and often he knows a great deal about your personal characteristics. He takes a look at the empty bottles you leave out for him to take away. your customers a pint of milk and find a note in the bottle that they have gone out of the city for the day and do not want any milk?

There is nothing to do but to sigh ing the shivering pup with the other, philosophically and tramp down she carpet slippered her way back into her house.

one milkman saw, and every man The wagon man employed by the who has ever worked on a wagon

larger milk dealers, who operate has many tales of the same sort to Rinsing in either hot or cold water will never clean a milk bottle, be-cause the fat in the milk causes the glass to become greasy, and it is glass to become greasy, and it is not not start of the sort that would served road runs note of reso danger harder 'than ever to clean when the milkman gets home, because the grease has become so hardened that it is difficult to remove it.

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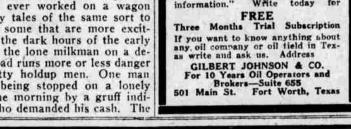
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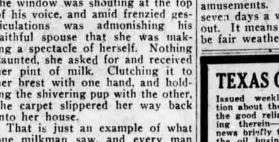
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