

PROGRESS OF THE TOWN-MILK INDUSTRY . . .

to the advantage of the consumer. Representatives of both Departments attend meetings of milk authorities and give expert technical advice.

What Remains to be Done

Progress in all phases of the town-milk industry in New Zealand has been rapid during the past few years and betokens a sound good will on the part of all those engaged in it. Nevertheless, complacency cannot yet be justified, as much remains to be done.

Town milk is still bought on a gallonage basis and no extra reward is paid to the farmer who produces a higher-quality milk than does his neighbour. Payment for quality has still to come.

Certain towns have milk-treatment stations which should be replaced by new ones. To name these towns (there are only three or four) would be invidious, but if the consumers in these areas could realise the costly difficulties under which these stations have to operate, they would soon request that remedial action be taken. The treatment of milk is too import-

ant to justify chances being taken with old buildings and out-of-date plant.

In New Zealand about 85 per cent. of all the town milk sold in urban areas is pasteurised. This figure has been rising steadily and further progress can be expected. There is still a danger where dairy shops buy raw milk for use in milk shakes. This raises a problem for mothers who insist on their children having pasteurised milk at home (school milk, of course, is pasteurised). Such mothers should allow their children to patronise only dairy shops which handle pasteurised milk exclusively. All milk sold to shops and milk bars in the larger urban areas should be pasteurised.

Too much "billy" milk is still sold. Hygiene demands that milk should be untouched by hand, and that demand can be met only by the sale of milk in sealed containers. Milk sold in bottles is now a high proportion of the whole, but the position will not be satisfactory until all milk sold to homes is delivered in bottles filled and sealed under laboratory control.

All vehicles used for the conveyance of town milk should have fixed covers to protect the milk from the effects of the sun. Good progress has been made, but many vehicles are still lacking in this respect.

Certain local milk authorities deserve congratulation for their part in ensuring fair play and proper supervision over all sections of the town-milk industry in their areas. Unfortunately, a few districts cannot boast that their milk authorities come within this category. A milk authority is not an imposition from above, but is a safeguard not only to the consumer but also to every section of the industry. Milk authorities are not something new and untried, for equivalent organisations have been operating in other countries for many years.

The past is creditable and the future is bright. The industry is stable, there is no milk shortage, the standard of treatment has risen appreciably, and control and supervision are being carried out on properly co-ordinated lines on both local and national levels.

Show Dates

THE following are dates and venues of A. and P. shows up to mid-January.

*November 2—Ashburton A. and P. at Ashburton.

November 3—Amberley A. and P. at Amberley.

November 3 and 4—Manawatu and West Coast A. and P. at Palmerston North.

November 7 and 8—Thames Valley A. P. and H. at Te Aroha.

*November 8, 9, and 10—Canterbury A. and P. (Royal Centennial Show) at Christchurch.

November 10 and 11—Wanganui A. and P. at Wanganui.

November 10 and 11—Whangarei A. and P. at Whangarei.

November 11—Waihi A. and P. at Waihi.

November 15—North Otago A. and P. at Oamaru.

*November 17 and 18—Egmont A. and P. at Hawera.

November 18—Waimate A. and P. at Waimate.

November 18—Bay of Islands P. and I. at Waimate North.

November 18—Tairāri Agricultural Society at Outram.

November 21 and 22—Otago A. and P. at Dunedin.

†November 24 and 25—Auckland Metropolitan A. and P. (spring show) at Auckland.

†November 24 and 25—Nelson A. and P. at Nelson.

November 24 and 25—Stratford A. and P. at Stratford.

November 25—Kaikohe A. P. and H. at Kaikohe.

November 25—Kelso A. and P. at Kelso.

December 2—Winton A. and P. at Winton.

December 2—Motueka A. and P. at Motueka.

December 2—Tokomairiro A. and P. at Milton.

December 2—Whangaroa A. and P. at Kao.

*December 5 and 6—Gore A. and P. at Gore.

December 9—Wyndham A. and P. at Wyndham.

December 12 and 13—Southland A. and P. at Invercargill.

January 1—Nuhaka A. and P. at Nuhaka.

January 12 and 13—Wairoa County A. and P. at Wairoa.

January 13—Blueskin A. and P. at Waitati.

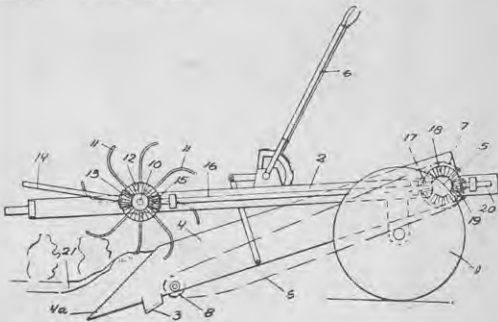
* The Department of Agriculture exhibit will be staged at this show.

† The dates of these shows have been changed from November 17 and 18 owing to the holding of the local body elections on November 18.

Recent Patent Specifications for Farming Inventions

The following particulars of recent patent specifications of interest to farmers have been selected from the Patent Office Journal issued on July 24, 1950, and are published by permission of the Commissioner of Patents, Wellington. Photostat copies of any specification will be supplied for a small fee on application to the Patent Office.

No.	Description.	Applicant.
98597	Potato Digger.	N. V. Nilsson.



[Only those references which are necessary to an understanding of the specification are quoted in the abridgment below.]

To avoid the disadvantage, common in ordinary potato diggers, of roots and vines gathering around the edges of the side shields and thereby impeding proper progress of soil and potatoes toward the delivery end of the digger, a shaft 10, transverse to the direction of travel, carries a number of pins 11 of which the two outermost pins move in a plane immediately outside their adjacent shields 4. The peripheral speed of the pins 11 is greater than the driving speed of the potato digger and in the opposite direction of its forward movement so that roots and vines or the like adhering to the side shields will be thrown by the pins backward along the machine. The vines are thereby pulled loose from the scooped-up soil mass and are thus removed from the operational area of the digger. Details as to the construction of the power drive for shaft 10 and an elevator 9 are also given.

90414	Butter Production (Salt Addition in Continuous Process).	Aktiebolaget Separator.
93044	Continuous Process of Buttermaking,	Aktiebolaget Separator.
93066		A. J. Chapman and R. E. Burney
95396	Plough Lift,	Chase Protected Cultivation Ltd.
95421/2	Cloche for Plants,	American Chemical Paint Co.
95876	Plant-hormone Compositions,	S. Malthus.
96558	Potato Sorter and Bagger,	N. V. De Bataafsche Petroleum Maatschappij.
96757	Insecticide Compositions,	International Harvester Co.
97203	Hay Baler (Pick-up Type),	The Wessex Aircraft Engineering Co., Ltd.
98358	Dissemination of Insecticides,	C. Galbraith.
99245	Crop-lifting Attachment for Harvester,	A. S. Kerr.
100017	Flower-pot Moulding Machine,	C. D. Birchfield.
100847	Cap for Milk Bottle,	