



## The Supply of Milk

### National Policy

### Breeding for Quality or Quantity

To the Editor of The Times

Sir

Progressive dairy farmers can but welcome the Government's policy for the improvement of the nation's milk supply and the small additional price to be paid for T. T. milk. But it should be made clear that this is  $\frac{3}{4}$ d. a gallon only and not 4d. As might be supposed, the premium being already  $3\frac{1}{4}$ d.

Frequent references have been made to the quality of T. T. and accredited milk, but this is a misnomer, and what is meant is cleanliness. Quality (plus cleanliness) is another matter and, to the bitter disappointment of numerous enlightened breeders, Mr. Hudson makes no reference to it and offers no premiums for it. Milk, whether dirty, clean, or T. T., need only conform to a standard of 3 per cent butter fat, and no encouragement is offered to breeders who for years have been grading up their herds and whose output averages 5 per cent or even more. In a nutshell - the cream in one gallon of standard milk would make 5.52oz. of butter, while one gallon of quality milk makes 9.2oz.

On this important question the Minister of Agriculture should give a clear indication of his policy. Does he aim at herds headed by pedigree bulls carefully selected for the quality, or for the quantity only of the milk their progeny may be expected to produce? If he desires quality he must be prepared to pay a fair price for it.

Yours faithfully,  
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