

**EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
DAIRY AND FOOD
COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE
OF MICHIGAN. YEAR ENDING
JUNE 30, 1901**

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Eighth Annual Report of the Dairy and Food Commissioner of the State of Michigan. Year
Ending June 30, 1901 by Various

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VARIOUS

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BY AUTHORITY

1902
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LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL.

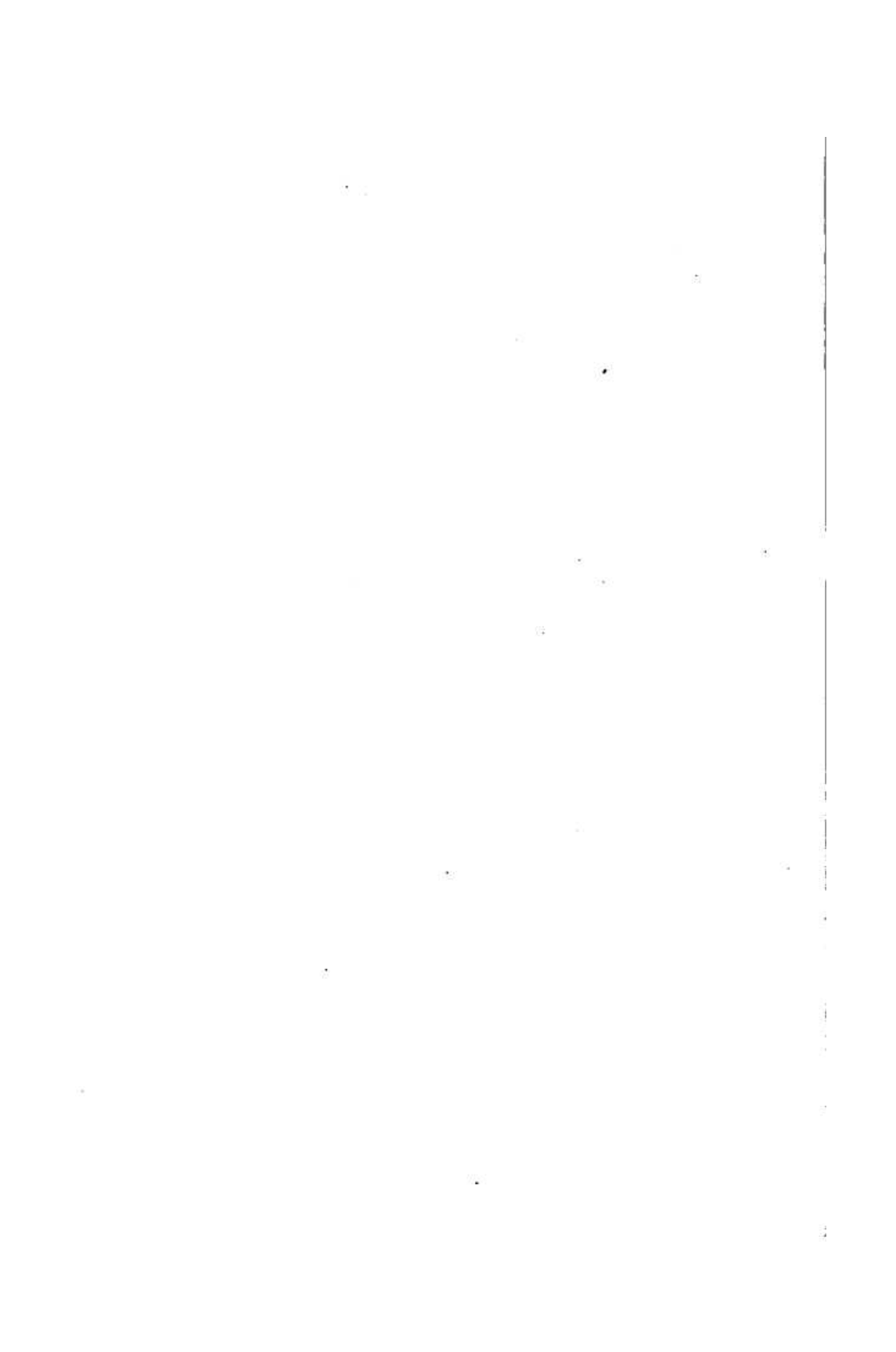
OFFICE OF DAIRY AND FOOD COMMISSIONER,
Lansing, Michigan, June 30, 1901.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, AARON T. BLISS, *Governor of Michigan:*

SIR—In compliance with section nine of act No. 211 of the Public Acts of 1893, as amended, I have the honor to submit herewith the annual report of this Department for the year ending June 30, 1901.

Very respectfully,

WILBER B. SNOW,
Dairy and Food Commissioner.



EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
STATE DAIRY AND FOOD COMMISSIONER.

This report is for the year beginning July 1, 1900, and ending June 30, 1901, and embraces the work of the Department for six months of the administration of the former Commissioner, Hon. Elliot O. Grosvenor, as well as that of the first six months of the present administration.

We wish to here acknowledge our indebtedness to the former Commissioner and one or two of the inspectors who severed their connection with the Department about the first of last January for their able assistance in the preparation of this, our first report.

POLICY OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

In general, the present administration of the Dairy and Food Department thoroughly endorses the Department's work in the past. We shall energetically continue the policy that has been so successful in former years subject of course to whatever changes, time and conditions may demand as expedient. It has been the rule to enter prosecutions as far as possible against the party or parties most responsible for adulteration and violation of the law. Under this rule retail dealers who have acted in good faith in the purchase of goods, and have exercised the caution which ordinary business prudence demands, will receive just consideration, and punishment be directed against manufacturers, who are the real violators, as far as practicable. Retailers must, however, assist the Department with full and frank statements as to adulterated goods in their possession, and furnish the necessary information to establish the liability of the source of their purchases, or the retailers themselves will of necessity be held and considered wilful violators of the law.

The monthly bulletin will contain from time to time notices of changes in laws and rulings that may be of material interest. Dealers who will give to these bulletins the meagre time necessary to understand the Department's position as there shown need have little fear of violating the State Food Laws through mistake.

The Dairy and Food Laws of Michigan will be enforced fearlessly and without favoritism; as leniently as may be consistent with the best results and as energetically as may be necessary to repress adulteration, fraud and deception. We ask at the hands of the people of Michigan the same generous support accorded in the past.

Since January 1, the lack of necessary funds has greatly hampered the work of the Department. After paying the expenses of the Detroit milk cases, which were on trial when we took charge of the work, there was but four thousand dollars left to meet all expenses. The Legislature came to our assistance by passing a deficiency bill giving the Department \$1,500 more. Four inspectors were appointed; two of these were unacquainted with the work of the Department and necessarily considerable time was required to educate them in the duties of this position. About one hundred samples of various food products were sent to the laboratory during this time and about thirty towns visited by the inspectors. Beginning July 1, the full force of inspectors will be put to work and with additional help in the laboratory it is expected that the standard of excellence established for this Department will be continued.

NEW LAWS AND AMENDMENTS.

The Legislature of 1901 enacted several new laws relative to the manufacture and sale of food products and also revised the statute creating the Department. The yearly expenses of the Department is now limited to the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars. Out of this must be paid every item of expense with the exception of stationery and printing. All expense bills must be audited by the Board of State Auditors. The annual salary of the Commissioner is made two thousand dollars and those of the Deputy Commissioner and State Analyst are made fifteen hundred dollars each. It is expected that with the funds now appropriated for the Department the full number of inspectors provided by the law, six can be kept at work throughout the entire year.

OLEOMARGARINE.

Probably the most important of the laws enacted by the last Legislature relative to manufacture and sale of food products is the so called "Anti-Color" oleomargarine law. This law goes into effect about the first of September next. It prohibits the sale of oleomargarine when colored in the imitation of yellow butter. The law does not, as many people think, absolutely prohibit the sale of oleomargarine. The law provided "that nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit the manufacture or sale of oleomargarine in a separate and distinct form, and in such a manner as will advise the consumer of its real character, free from coloration or ingredient that causes it to look like butter." This statute complete will be found in the laws of this report. This law is an exact copy of the Massachusetts statute which was held constitutional by the United States supreme court in the celebrated *Plumbley* case (155 U. S. 461). The court in passing on its constitutionality, not only recognized the right of a state to enact such a law, but expressly emphasized the