

### Words of Appreciation

I have been in the west for the past year or 16 months and occasionally a Farm and Dairy got this far. When I was farming in Prince Edward county I looked forward with great pleasure to receiving Farm and Dairy but since coming west I have engaged in other business which does not relate to, although it depends on the farmer, and his business.

Although your paper has not been of practical assistance to me in my present occupation, still it was read when it came with a great deal of pleasure. If I ever go into farming again the first thing I do will be to renew my subscription to your paper. On account of the Farm and Dairy I bought a Babcock Testing outfit and made our cows "toe the mark," as well as improving other branches of the farm. But that is all past now and I will not require the paper in a practical way again so far as I see now. Wishing you success with Farm and Dairy.—Geo. Milford, Lethbridge, Alta.

### What a Run Out Farm Needs

J. A. Macdonald, Carleton Co., Ont.

I have found that the dairy farm, of all farms, never runs down if properly conducted. I know of no branch of farming that will bring up a run-down farm as quickly and as permanently as dairying with a herd of good cows, providing there are plenty of calves and pigs to use up the by-product. Dairying with a herd of indifferent cows and no calves or pigs will, however, fail to enrich a farm or its owner. In fact, a poor herd of cows, poorly fed, and with no animals to use up the by-product, it is my observation, will likely impoverish the farm and the farmer, and it is because so many try to run a dairy on these lines that the business is often unsatisfactory and gives cause for the oft-reported cry that "Dairying does not pay."

In my neighborhood a poor herd is usually poorly fed, and the product fetches poor prices. The measure from poorly fed cows is of inferior value, the pastures are poor, the product infertile and the owner lacks that enthusiasm and confidence observable in a real dairyman.

The crops grown by the real dairyman are comparatively easy on the land. The following figures prove the truth of my statement. They show the amount of necessary fertilizing ingredients taken from the land by a given amount of corn and wheat. The crop of one acre of corn, 30,000 lbs., removes from the ground:

40.7 lbs. nitrogen  
15.7 lbs. phosphoric acid.  
9 lbs. of potash.

A 30-bushel crop of wheat removes from the soil:

45 lbs. nitrogen.  
22.7 lbs. phosphoric acid.  
45.28 lbs. potash.

This wheat, which is usually sold, removes from the farm that which should be retained to fertilize the soil. If the dairy farmer will grow a crop of oats, or some such feeding grain, instead of wheat, and feed this grain at a profit to his cows, he will not diminish, but actually improve, the productive power of the farm. An equally good plan would be to sell the wheat (if he must grow it as the rotation), and buy bran and other concentrated foods high in fertilizing value.

When the dairyman sells 1,000 lbs. of milk only the following manurial constituents are sold:

5.4 lbs. nitrogen.  
2.5 lbs. phosphoric acid.  
1.7 lbs. potash.

If butter is sold, the fertility sold is practically nil, and the better the

butter the less fertility is lost. When selling 1,000 lbs. of butter we sell only one lb. of nitrogen and two lbs. of phosphoric acid—about 25 cents' worth of fertility in \$300 worth of product. Then from the 1,000 pounds of butter sold there would be 30,000 lbs. of skim milk, worth, to feed calves and pigs, 800, besides the accumulative profits of growing calves of improved dairy capacity.

### How to Build a Dairy Herd

By S. E. Jones.

Get your idea well fixed in your mind, and have that idea a lofty one. Without a good model, the most skillful sculptor cannot produce a work of art; either can a painter bring forth a picture upon his canvas for people to admire. It becomes just as necessary for you to fix upon your own model in order that all your efforts may be directed toward reproducing this ideal in the living creatures of your herd.

Knowing that the characteristics of sire and dam are likely to be reproduced in their offspring, remember this law in making your first purchase.

Now secure one or two of the finest females of milk-producing strain you can afford. If you cannot afford a good cow, you are not ready to found a herd.

#### DUAL PURPOSE CATTLE A MISTAKE

In making this selection, be sure first of all that your dams come from a line of good milk producers. We hear a great deal about the dual-purpose cow. I believe this theory of the dual purpose of stock is a mistake. No such theory should hold with a beef, one should produce. To make is true of milk proof beef. The same your selection with this in mind. It is important also to select a breed that matures young. Other things being equal, there is no sense in waiting three years for a heifer to freshen, if you can secure a strain which will freshen in less time. This is so simple a business proposition that I trust it needs no further comment. Yet many inexperienced beginners overlook this important direction.

Much assistance may be gained from men who have made a success of dairy breeding. Visit with such men. Counsel with them. Study their herds. Quiz them. Get all the information from them you can, and I will say that I believe that, as a class, they are as willing, or more so, to give you the benefit of their experiences as any set of men in any line of work.

#### TEMPERAMENT HEREDITARY

In addition to the above points, look well to the temperament of your dams. Even the temperament is likely to be transmitted to the offspring, consequently it is wise to select such as are quiet and docile in disposition. And lastly, see to it that your females are sound and free from hereditary disease. This will insure strong and vigorous offspring.

The sire has been said to be two-thirds of the herd. This statement has not been overdone. If you must economize in any part of the herd, let it not be here. The sire cannot be too good. To select any sire but the best you money can buy is to spend money foolishly. A scrub sire will reproduce a scrub calf just as surely as a purebred herd sire is likely to reproduce his quality. It follows that one should never head his herd with any but a purebred sire and one that is bred closely in the line. He should be vigorous and strong—one whose ancestors have strong official records for at least four generations. His vigor, vitality and constitution are indeed very important points to be taken into consideration.



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