

An Alberta Ayrshire Herd That is Making a Reputation

A Few Notes of Interest on Mr. Rowland Ness and His Lakeview Exhibition Ayrshires

If the farmers of the Pacific Coast can claim that their conditions are especially suited to the Jersey, it must also be admitted that the Ayrshire is the breed best suited for the Prairie sections of Southern Alberta. This is the experience of Mr. Ness, of DeWinton, Alta., and the appearance of his herd when show time comes around is sufficient proof of the statement.

Rowland Ness is a son of Mr. R. Ness, of Howick, and a brother of R. R. Ness. This explains, to some extent at least, his success with Ayrshire cattle. It apparently runs in the family. It is just eight years since he settled in the West, but during that time he has built up one of the best herds on the Prairie, and both his farm and equipment at DeWinton, would be a credit to any of its Eastern breeders.

DeWinton station, near which Lakeview Stock Farm is situated, is just 18 miles south of Calgary, on the C.P.'s West Line, and is a place well worth visiting. The farm consists of a three-quarter section of rolling land, 175 acres of which are under cultivation. This does not represent all the

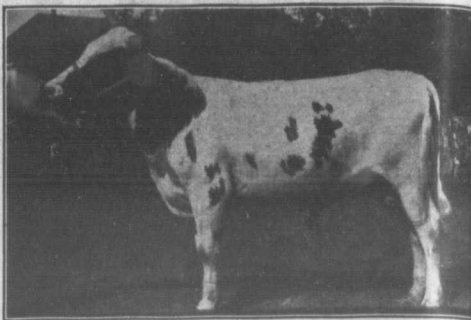
they do not measure up to his standard of excellence in other ways, receive the same treatment. This means that when a breeder secures a young sire from Mr. Ness, he is assured of both show type and heavy production.

The Bulls.

Mr. Ness has always been particular in the choice of his herd sires. At present he has Burnside Masterman, and Lakeview Oyama. The former is a three-year-old and was one of the outstanding bulls in the Western Fair circuit, having been champion at Edmonton, Saskatoon, Brandon and Regina. In spite of his immature years, he shows a strength of body and dairy type which is hard to equal. The junior sire also is a good individual, is two years old, and is being used quite extensively in the herd. These sires are giving excellent results. The line-up of young stock shown by Mr. Ness at the Western Fairs, is ample proof of the statement.

Other Stock.

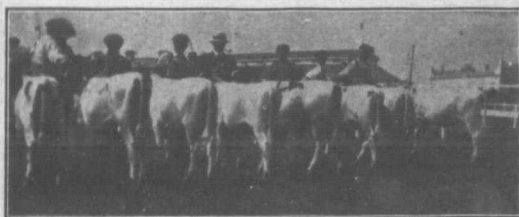
Not only does this farm carry a splendid herd of Ayrshires, but when Mr. Ness first came from the East he brought with him two Clyde Stallions and four mares. He now has 30 head



Lakeview Oyama, a Good Specimen of the Ayrshire Breed.

Junior sire in Mr. Rowland Ness' herd. This young bull won the Junior male championship at Edmonton, Saskatoon, Brandon and Regina.

—Photo by an Editor of Farm and Dairy.



Some of Rowland Ness' Young Stuff at Saskatoon Fair.

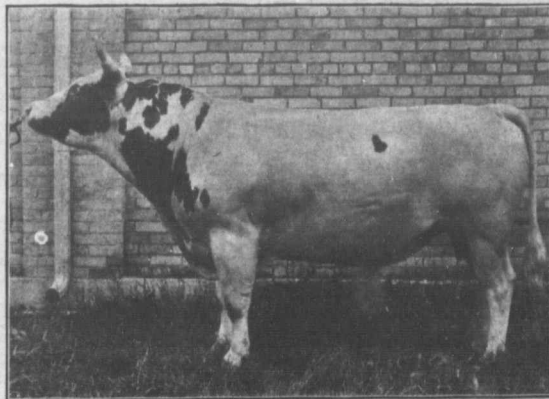
The Ness herd is particularly strong in the young animals. This fine row of youngsters was taken at Saskatoon and represents the calves for three animals, get of one sire. Look down the line and see what an even lot they are. It would be difficult to find an even bunch of young stuff, both male and female, than what Mr. Ness took with him to the fairs this season. These young animals are bred by Burnside Masterman, the senior sire at Lakeview and they are all from R. of P. dams. For Mr. Ness does not raise calves to that age from any other class of dams.

—Photo by an Editor of Farm and Dairy.

tiltable land on the farm and Mr. Ness is gradually increasing his area under crop and could have, if he saw fit, the whole farm in the regular rotation. Bordering the farm is a 100 acres lake from which the farm gets its name, and which also was the main reason for Mr. Ness' locating in that particular spot. A never-failing supply of water is almost an invaluable asset in Western Canada, as the work of supplying a large herd by artificial means is a very serious proposition.

The Herd.

When Mr. Ness came to Alberta eight years ago, he brought out one cow and one calf. The cow, Burnside Elfreda, is now owned by the Alberta Government, and the calf, Lakeview Clara, was sold last fall at the Calgary Show. After giving the Ayrshires a try-out on this small scale, he returned to the Province of Quebec the following year and brought out 32 head, many of which are still in the herd. The following year he bought several from Mr. Trimble, of Red Deer, and also a few from Mr. Richards of the same place. The herd now numbers 87 head, 45 of which are of milking age. In it are eleven cows that are in the R. of P. and from these, and these alone, are the calves raised to replenish and increase the herd. So particular is Mr. Ness in this respect that all bull calves from other than the R. of P. cows, unless they are unusually fine individuals are castrated and sold for beef or veal. Even some of those from his tested cows, if



Burnside Masterman, Sr. Sire at Lakeview Ayrshire Stock Farm.

Mr. Ness is particularly proud of this animal, and has good reason to be so. This bull won grand championship at Saskatoon, Brandon, Regina, and Edmonton. He is but a three-year-old. Should he develop during the coming year as is naturally expected he should, he will be an unusually hard bull to beat. He represents the smooth, compact, type of Ayrshire, Messrs. Laycock and McDonald's bull, which beat him at Calgary, is of a larger, heavier, slightly rangier class of animal.

of horses on the farm, all but one team of which are registered Clydes.

Mr. Ness is also a successful poultry man. At his farm are to be found good specimens of the following breeds:—Barred Rocks, Buff Orpingtons, Dorkings, Pekins and Brown Ducks, and Bronze Turkeys. Mr. Ness won four silver cups at Saskatoon Fair in 1917 on poultry alone.

Though living in what, until recently, was ranch country, Mr. Ness' buildings are all of the approved Eastern style, and are especially adapted for the system of mixed farming, which he carries on. The cow barn is 35 by 75 feet, and is equipped with steel fittings throughout. The horse barn is 30 by 75 feet, also modernly equipped. Situated on the farm is a private power plant, which operates by electricity all the small machinery, such as washing machine, pump-

ing, turning grindstone, running the fanning mill, and numerous other operations, besides driving the milking machine. This latter is one of the latest additions to the farm equipment. It was put in last fall, and Mr. Ness says he would be absolutely unable to continue dairying during present conditions without it. The same power which runs the machinery also operates the lighting system, which lights all the buildings about the farm.

When Mr. Ness started dairying in the locality eight years ago (there was no other farmers engaged in the occupation, dairying being considered a not suitable to the district. He was alone in the business for four years, but at the present time there are 25 farmers shipping milk from DeWinton station. He also built the first modern dairy barn in that district, an example which has since been followed by many others. Mr. Ness ships his milk to Calgary, where it is paid according to its fat content, the price running about 24 1/2 cwt. in summer, and 22 1/2 for the winter, although a considerable raise is expected before the coming winter.

On the Show Circuit.

Like the rest of his kind, Rowland Ness is an experienced show man, and his record on the Western Fair circuit for the past five years bears out the statement. On the recent fair circuit in Western Canada, Mr. Ness was one of the strongest exhibitors. Besides the winnings of his senior sire, Mr. Ness also had an outstanding winner in Borrow Moss Lady Primrose, who won the championship at several of the fairs in the mature female class. Unfortunately we were unable to secure a photo of this cow, but she is a hard one to beat. At Lakeview Vera Secord Junior champion female of several of the Western fairs. Rather than spend time in enumerating prizes won we may say that for the fairs at Saskatoon, Edmonton, Brandon and Regina his best won practically all the highest prizes, including senior and junior championships, both male and female, in several classes.

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All entrants

1. Any person
2. Any article during the present to cause any exhibitor of compliance with such has not real future.
3. All entries to the Circulation
4. Should the article exhibited in
5. Upon the exhibited, which of any prize awarded
6. The 1st prize winners not
7. Grains and previous year.
8. Every person specimen entered.

Persons contributing articles, prizes, as no deposit than Tuesday, Sept.

Address