

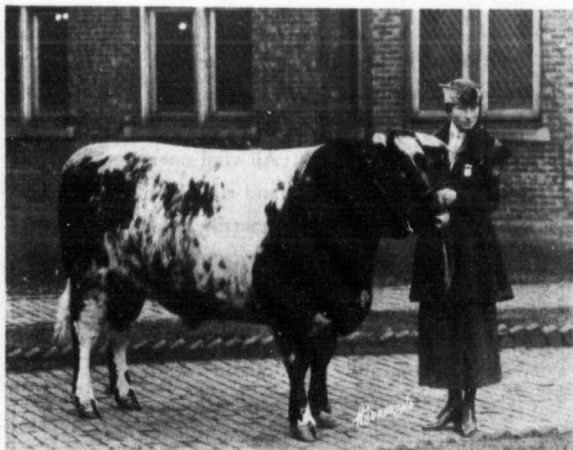


The Place of the Dual Purpose Cow in Western Canada

(Experimental Farm Note)

The dairy type and the beef type of cow each occupies a place in which it is supreme. The dairyman, whose main business is the production of milk, and is so situated that that business is the most profitable he can engage in, wants a cow that will produce the largest amount of milk at the least cost. Her beef-producing qualities and the value of her calf he can afford to ignore. The beef-producing rancher is the opposite; with him, the production of meat is the only purpose for which cattle are kept.

wheat is the chief source of revenue, but, as an important sideline, cattle are kept to utilize waste products, to supply the farm table with milk and butter, and to increase the revenue by the sale of steers. The ideal cow for these requirements is a cow of dual-purpose type and breeding. Such a cow does not need to be able to beat the dairy cow at dairying, nor the beef cow at beef production, in order to be most suitable for her job. She must be reasonably good at both milk and beef production, able to



"Merry Monarch"—Grand Champion Steer, International 1917. Highest priced beef animal ever sold—fetching \$2.10 per lb. on the hoof.

If a cow has enough milk to give her calf a good start, that is all that is required of her. Any additional milk-producing ability is a source of danger to the health of the cow, and is not wanted.

Between these two extremes come most of the farmers of Western Canada. They have not the situation, facilities, nor inclination to be dairymen. They have no longer the free open range for cheap beef production, and want more than a calf a year as the product of a cow. In other words, they want both milk and beef from their cattle. On most of these farms, the production of grain crops is the main feature of the farm. The sale of

produce either economically, and to live on ordinary feeds without special care or pampering.

There can be no doubt of the demand in Western Canada for the dual-purpose cow, but what of the meeting of that demand? There are, all over the country, thousands of grade Shorthorn cattle that are used as dual-purpose cattle. Some of these are reasonably suitable for the purpose, most of them need improvement in both dairy and beef functions. In the aggregate, however, they are producing both three-quarters of the dairy produce of the country and three-quarters of the beef. They form an excellent base on which to build up a stock of dual-purpose



"Produce More

and waste less in food and labor than I have ever produced and wasted in the past" is the heart-language of every patriotic Canadian as 1918 dawns. Every Dairyman and Farmer who reads this paper has his whole vision directed upon the food shortage—the labor shortage, the feed difficulty. One thing that will help him in his labor problem and in the saving of his butter-fat is the

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