



The Main Farm Buildings in Connection with the Saskatchewan Agricultural College at Saskatoon.

Dairying at Government Farms

THERE are ten government institutions in the province of Ontario with which farms are connected and at which dairy herds are kept. For the year ending Nov. 1st last, these 10 farms carried 394 cows, which produced 3,102,671 lbs. of milk with an estimated market value of \$60,000. The most noteworthy fact about these government herds is the high average production. Evidently M. S. E. Todd, under whose supervision these herds are, has not allowed politics to play any part in the management of his department, at least politics have not been allowed to infringe on the efficiency of the cows. The following table tells its own story:

Institution at	Number of Cows	Total Production	Average
Brockville	48	354,101	6,544
Guelph	78	724,473	9,288
Hamilton	64	517,131	8,079
Kingston	27	217,433	4,972
London	34	290,953	8,556
Mississauga	34	281,296	8,263
Orillia	30	251,556	8,375
Woodstock	24	235,181	9,883
Penetang	22	156,235	7,102
Whitby	36	246,761	7,660

Eight of these herds are Holstein grades, with the exception of a few pure-bred cows at Hamilton. At Penetang Ayrshire grades were kept and at Whitby, milking Shorthorns. These figures reflect credit on the management of the herds, when it is considered that in the averages two-year and three-year-old heifers are included. The improvement that has been obtained through intelligent selection and breeding is strongly evidenced at Guelph, where four years ago the highest yield from an individual cow was 9,000 lbs., while last year the average for 78 cows was 9,288 lbs., and individual cows produced 12,616 lbs., and 12,368 lbs.; 11,997 lbs., 11,472 lbs., and 10,168 lbs. A minimum production for the year has now been set at 9,000 lbs. Four cows at Woodstock averaged 14,673 lbs.; 12,838 lbs.; 10,402 lbs., and 10,140 lbs. respectively. At Hamilton, where there are more pure-bred cows, three cows produced about 13,000 lbs. each and two cows over 10,000 lbs. each.

It is now intended to change the Holstein herds that were at Brockville, Woodstock and Orillia to Shorthorn grades. The Shorthorn grades will still produce sufficient milk for these respective institutions, and the calves will be used for stocking a ranch to be opened in connection with the Industrial Farm in the Sudbury district.

Managing the Winning Herd

Jas. Burton & Son, Elgin Co., Ont.

WE are requested to give our methods with our dairy herd, which won first in the herd competition conducted by the Western Ontario Dairymen's Association.

We weed out the poorest cows every year, replacing them to the best of our knowledge with better ones, but we have never paid high prices, not more than \$90. Although we keep a good

pure-bred sire we do not raise any calves, but keep him for the sale of them.

When the cows freshen in the spring we always have sugar beets to feed them along with their ration of chop, made up of corn and oats, but generally give them bran mash for a few days when first freshened to bring them to their milk. We always keep our cows in the stable until at least May 24th, for we think if turned out before, it does not give the pasture a good enough start to last during the remainder of the season.

After being turned out about a week we take the grain away from them. By that time they are used to the grass. We do not give them any more grain until the pasture begins to dry up. About the middle of July or the first of August we start feeding them bran, giving them two quarts each twice a day until about the 1st of October, when we mix with the bran a third oat chop, giving them about three quarts the remainder of the season. During the season we did not give them any extra green fodder, but tried to give them a change from one field to another every few days.

We generally have them dry up about the first of the year and have them freshen in February and March, having them dry from six weeks to two months.

Rearing Calves McKay's Way

Geo. McKay, Perth Co., Ont.

I HAVE read several letters on calf-rearing, which I was pleased to see as the experience of others is always helpful when the prices of milk and milfeeds are high and good results important. Many men have many experiences, but here is mine. I believe a man should consider the finish before he starts to do anything, and if you cannot see something for your trouble you had better not start.

In the spring of 1911 I bought my first pure-bred Holstein heifer calf, and wanting to grow as good a cow as possible and as cheap as possible, this is the way I proceeded and the results. I brought her home at about a week old. I started her on five lbs. of fresh warm milk from the cow as soon after milking as possible twice a day. I kept clean fresh water in a clean wooden pail before her all the time, with salt in the one end of the manger away from her feed and water.

When I went to feed her the milk I took a small handful of the meal I was feeding the cows, which was bran, oats and oilcake, equal parts by weight, and as soon as she was finished drinking I rubbed it on her nose. She soon learned to eat it out of the manger. When she was about three weeks old she was eating nicely. I then began to put some finely pulped roots in with the meal, and from that on I fed her all the meal and roots, and hay she would clean up. I then began to cut down the milk until at about four weeks she was getting only 2½ lbs. twice a day as warm from the cow as possible. I never saw any sign of scours or indigestion, and there was no time lost making gruel; besides I don't believe it is good for the calf to swallow down meal either cooked or raw without chewing, as half the digestion takes place in the mouth.

She was loose in a box stall, so took plenty of exercise. She was never out the first year. As soon as the new corn came in she had all she wanted of it, and new roots, and the best clover hay I had with all she would clean up of the same kind of crop until about June 1st, 1912. She was then turned out on good pasture when her milk and chop was discontinued until the fall, when she would come in at nights with the cows. I then began to feed her the same kind of meal and the same kind of feed as the cow had all winter. I like the bran, oats and oilcake as it seems to keep them in fine condition and is a good muscle and bone builder.

She grew fairly well, considering who fed her. I bred her so as to freshen at about two and one-half years, and to-day I don't know what she weighs, but her heart girth is six feet eleven inches.

I might say her best milking her first year was about 48 lbs. a day, her next year she beat 60 and I hope this year to see her do better. I believe if you stunt a calf's growth you stunt its good qualities too, and a small dried up sort of a cow is certainly a disgrace and a loss to any dairyman.

Our idea of an obstinate man: A motorist with his car stalled in a snowbank, but still declaring that there is now no place for the horse.



Live Stock at the Saskatchewan College. Shorthorns, Ayrshires, Holsteins and Jerseys Are All Represented.