

Another Reply to Mr. Carlyle

G. A. Brethen Peterboro Co., Ont.
Editor, Farm and Dairy.—In a recent issue of Farm and Dairy I was quite amused by Mr. Carlyle's comparison of the great dairy breeds, Ayrshires and Holstein-Friesians. Under ordinary circumstances you know the old adage says "Comparisons are odious," but I do not think this holds good in this particular case, because Holstein breeders the country over have enough confidence in the merits of their cattle to welcome comparison from any source, and with any breed.

Now, Mr. Editor, I am not acquainted with Mr. Carlyle, but as I have been doing quite a lot of that extra work he speaks of, namely, milking three times a day, I have had quite a good opportunity to get pretty familiar with the Holstein cow and odd as it may seem in this case, "Friendship does not breed contempt." There is just enough cowman about me to get right under that cow once in every eight hours and take her milk away if she is willing to do her part in putting it up, and I have found her willing.

AYRSHIRES PREFERABLE SOMETIMES
I have no quarrel with the man who is favorable to the Ayrshire cow, not the slightest—not with the cow. I candidly acknowledge that in some

respects (well developed over, for instance) she is quite superior to the Holstein as they have been bred in recent years. As a forager on hill, rocky pasturage, I would suppose her to be able to show better results than her heavier rival, and that man is wise who in choosing a breed, be it in cattle, horses, or poultry, takes into consideration the uses to which they will be subjected.

Granted that each dairy breed has some one quality at least superior to the others, and we can truthfully say regarding these prominent qualities in the different breeds—

"All are needed by each one;
None are pure and good alone;
I think the time will come when one breed will combine all or nearly all of the excellencies of the different breeds existing at present, and that breed that first reaches this ideal will be the one with men behind it who have confidence in the merits of their cows and are enthusiastic and unanimous in the advancement of their favorites."

Mr. Carlyle asks, "Why do Holstein cattle sell so much higher than any other breed of cattle?" I would answer just simply the old question of big demand, small supply; same as \$10 cwt. pigs and \$7 beef.

EVERYTHING IN BLACK AND WHITE
"If farmers will get down to business and keep records of what the

cow consumes, milk, etc., they would not be running after the breed so much as I am afraid, Mr. Carlyle. If every farmer who advocates would prove a failure in heading off these crazy people because the fact of the matter is that those men who do keep records of everything in black and white are the very men the country over who go to auction sales and pay a long price to get cattle of the same complexion as their business methods, (everything in black and white.)

Re your Old Country companions, Mr. Carlyle, I am afraid you will have to seek a more reliable authority than the one you quoted. He may be an honest man, but a mighty poor prophet. "What would Holsteins do in the Highlands?" You quote your authority as saying "in two generations they would have nothing." This hardly corresponds with a recent write-up of the Ayrshire breed by no less an authority than Mr. Drummond in which, if I remember him correctly, he makes the statement that the original Scotch Ayrshires were imported from the Netherlands. So this rather disqualifies the theories of your traveller friend as to how Holsteins could thrive in the Highlands and the complete annihilation of Holsteins in their native land if they only let the Ayrshires at them.

HOLSTEINS AND NET PROFITS

As the question of profit over feed consumed has been quite frequently advanced of late, when comparing the relative qualities of the different breeds I would just like to ask Mr. Carlyle this question: In the light of the fact that the Holstein breeders of Canada at a recent meeting announced their readiness to compete in dairy tests at winter fairs on the basis of profit over feed consumed with the one condition that all money be divided among different breeds, be pooled and Ayrshires, Jerseys, Holsteins, etc., compete in an open class, the cow showing the highest score on above basis to take the bunch, if there is so much confidence among the breeders of other classes of cattle about profit over feed consumed, why don't they take it up?

Holstein cattle sell high because people want them. They want them because they are money makers. They want them more, the more they learn about them. The knockers are the ones who never know them. If Mr. Carlyle wishes to boost the Ayrshire cow, one good big record like the one made by R. R. Ness at the recent Winter Fair, Ottawa, would do more to boom his favorite than 1,000 letters on breed comparison.

All honor to men like "Bobbie" Ness who are big and broad enough (in mind) to see good qualities in other cattle than their own. I think every Holstein breeder in Canada owes the genial Bobbie a world of gratitude for providing the exception necessary for proving the rule "That the Holstein sinners are the Dairy Test winners."

Eastern Show Had Successful Year

The report of the Board of Directors of the Eastern Ontario Live Stock and Poultry Show on the past year shows that a wonderful increase in exhibits and attendance was taken place in the last few years while the last show was by far the best yet held. The farmers of Eastern Ontario and Western Quebec are realizing the educational possibilities of the show and are becoming most enthusiastic in their support of it. The attendance last year totalled about 18,000 as compared with 10,000 the year previous. The following is a comparative statement of exhibits and prizes for the Shows of 1910 and 1911:

Number of exhibits....	2722	3028
Prize money offered \$6000.00	\$6000.00	\$6000.00
Prize money paid \$6428.50	\$6708.25	

The Financial Statement shows that receipts for the past year amount to \$14,044.77 while the expenditures were \$14,445.48. The largest receipt was the grant of \$7,500.00 from the Ontario Legislature.

The next show will open at Ottawa, on Tuesday, Jan. 16th and close on Friday, Jan. 19th, 1912. Several large increases in the prize list will be made as the Legislative grant has been increased to \$8,500.00, while further increased grants have also been made by several of the Agricultural Societies. The Clydesdale Horse Association, the Dominion Shorthorn Association and the Canadian Ayrshire and Holstein Associations.

Registering a Clyde Mare

I have a Clyde mare with six top crosses of Clydesdale blood. I know the owner of the dam, grand dam, and great-grand dam. What steps should be taken to have her registered?

A mare can be considered pure bred and is eligible for registration in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Canada that has four top crosses by sires recorded in the Clydesdale Stud Book of Canada. Before your mare can be registered it will be necessary to have her dam and grand dam recorded.—J. Brant, Accountant, Live Stock Records, Ottawa, Ont.

Cement Tile Experiments

The readers of Farm and Dairy who contemplate installing underground drainage will find information of prime interest to them in that section of the 1910 report of the Ontario Agricultural College and Experimental Farm dealing with the cement tile experiments conducted by Prof. Wm. H. Day at the College. The experiments go to show that cement tiles are quite durable.

The cost of making cement tile by hand with one of the hand machines now on the market is estimated at \$10.64 per 1,000. The cost varies, depending upon the strength of the mixture, the cost of hauling and the price of cement (and, of course, the men who run the machine.)

Concluding his report upon these experiments in tile making Prof. Day publishes the following warning: "There is, we think, an element of grave danger in the cement tile situation, viz., that in some cases tile made by inexperienced men will be of very inferior quality. To show how easy it is for this to occur we might note that if cement tile just made are exposed to strong sun or drying wind or both so that they dry in a few hours the 'first set' of the tile is interfered with and the quality permanently injured. So that any one who may think much of cement tile should take every precaution that no inferior tile are made, and if perchance any should be, they should be discarded rather than placed in the drains. It is useless only one defective tile to render a whole drain useless."

The College report may be had free on application to the Department of Agriculture, Toronto. Members of Farmers' Institutes will have received the report ere this, or will receive it shortly. Others wishing to inform themselves upon this new and important subject should avail themselves of this opportunity to get the information.

Interest and Profit.—Just noticed in reading my Farm and Dairy yesterday (May 3d) that the label said my subscription was due in April. Kindly pardon this oversight on my part. While I am not a farmer still every article in Farm and Dairy appeals to me, for they are all written with good common sense and in a practical style that one cannot help reading them other than with great interest and profit.—S. Way Kent, Paris, Ont.

SOME HISTORY about Typewriters



Modern and Ancient

CHAPTER ONE

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