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A GREAT HOLSTEIN HERD WHERE THE TUBERCULOSIS PROBLEM IS SOLVED

The Bang System in Actual Practice—Absolutely Healthy Calves Raised from Tuberculous Cows by being Taken away from Their Mothers at Once and Fed upon Pasteurized Milk—Information of Great Practical Value Gleaned by an Editor of Farm and Dairy while on a Visit Recently to the Woodcrest Farm in New York State.

BOVINE tuberculosis has been robbed of its terrors and has been eradicated completely from the Woodcrest Farm, whereon is one of the most noted herds of Holstein cattle in New York State. The cattle are all under the U.S. Federal Government supervision. The Bang system of eradicating tuberculosis is practiced and it is proving a great success and satisfaction.

One of the editors of Farm and Dairy recently journeyed to the Woodcrest Farm to see this great herd of Holsteins, and to gather information at first hand about the Bang system of eradicating tuberculosis from cattle, since on the Woodcrest Farm is one of the greatest herds of cattle in America, and on this herd is being worked out this system of eradicating tuberculosis, which is of vital concern to every cattle breeder in America.

A PRACTICAL MEANS OF ERADICATING TUBERCULOSIS

It is many years since we first heard of the Bang system of eradicating tuberculosis. The system is practiced on a number of herds in various countries in continental Europe. Some government literature about this practical means of getting rid of bovine tuberculosis has been circulated in probably every agricultural country. Editors of the agricultural press have from time to time disseminated information about this great scheme, and the United States Government officials have been active for some time in eradicating tuberculosis from herds in some sections in their country. We understand that tuberculosis has practically been eradicated completely from the cattle in the District of Columbia. A few herds here and there scattered in various parts of the States have been under Federal supervision, and some States, notably Wisconsin, have taken up the matter themselves of eradicating tuberculosis from the cattle within their States. Possibly the most successful individual attempt at this great and important work has been in connection with the Woodcrest herd at Rifton, Ulster Co., N. Y.

The practical working out of the Bang system

is well described by Mr. J. W. Dimick, proprietor of the Woodcrest Farm. Speaking to an editor of Farm and Dairy in this connection, Mr. Dimick said: "Down at my Bontokoe Farm, I have a special establishment to take care of my reactors. Fifty-seven of my best cows are down there. Were I to have had those cattle slaughtered the State would have allowed me \$100

them absolutely healthy cows, and now, after two years, out of 140 calves that have come from there, not one has reacted to the tuberculin test; all have been declared absolutely healthy by the Federal Inspector.

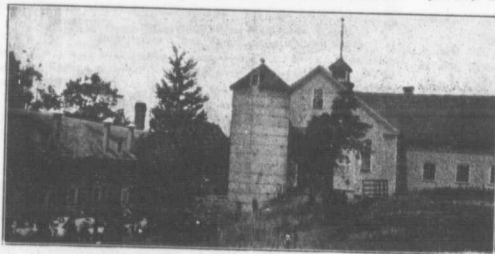
"To all appearances, those cattle down there, which have reacted to the tuberculin test, are perfectly healthy. The calves, as soon as they are born, are taken immediately away and brought up to my Woodcrest herd. We do not allow the cows to lick their offspring, or nose them about in any way. We clean them dry and then, if the weather be cold, roll them up in a blanket and bring them to our main herd and place them in the nursery. At six months of age these calves are tested with tuberculin, and at regular intervals of six months thereafter they are subsequently tested for tuberculosis.

PREVENTING SPREAD OF TUBERCULOSIS INFECTION

"All of our milk is pasteurized. This prevents any spread of infection from the milk. Everything in connection with our reacting herd is completely equipped and there is no occasion whatever for even the attendants on that farm coming over to our tuberculin-free herd."

PERHAPS IT IS A BLESSING IN DISGUISE

After investigating the whole system thoroughly, including the reacting cows owned by Mr. Dimick, and the equipment he has for taking care of them, we arrived at the conclusion that possibly it was really a blessing that those cattle were tuberculous, and reacted to the test. These cattle are under the vigilant eye of the Federal Inspector. They cannot be sold, nor can they be taken away and disposed of other than for slaughter, and then only under inspection. These cattle constitute a great working herd, and since many of them are most valuable animals, and some of the best that Mr. Dimick has, and since from them can be raised absolutely healthy stock, they are an invaluable asset, which he cannot sell and which no one can buy, and yet they go on producing for him year after year the choicest of



Partial View of the Main Barns and Calf Barn at Woodcrest Farm



Mr. Dimick's Bontokoe Barn, Erected Especially to Take Care of His Reactors

A little over two years ago the Woodcrest Farm, at Rifton, Ulster Co., N. Y., placed their large herd of Holstein cattle under Federal supervision, to eradicate tuberculosis from the herd. This splendid barn and equipment was erected on a separate farm one article tells how Mr. Dimick, by means of the Bang system of eradicating tuberculosis, is enabled to raise absolutely healthy calves from reacting cows.

per head. They are worth on an average about twenty times that figure. Had they been slaughtered at this sacrifice they would have represented a tremendous loss, which, coming to me, probably would have meant that I should have required a guardian for the rest of my natural days.

AN ENCOURAGING TWO-YEAR RECORD

"As it is I have down there at Bontokoe a working herd of great value. I am able to raise from