

GOSSIP

HOLSTEIN OFFICIAL RECORDS

During the period from August 12th to October 13th, 1910, records for 147 cows have been accepted for entry in the Holstein-Friesian Advanced Register; eleven of which were begun not less than eight months after the freshening of the cows making them, and twenty-seven of which were semi-official yearly or lactation records. Of the 109 ordinary records, four were extended to fourteen days, and two to thirty days. The averages by ages or classes were as follows:

Nineteen full-aged cows averaged: age, 8 years, 1 month, 19 days; days from calving, 17; milk, 453.9 lbs.; per cent. fat, 3.39; fat, 15.369 lbs. Six senior four-year-olds averaged: age, 4 years, 8 months, 6 days; days from calving, 16; milk, 407.3 lbs.; per cent. fat, 3.50; fat, 14.252 lbs. Ten junior four-year-olds averaged: age, 4 years, 2 months, 28 days; days from calving, 23; milk, 417.2 lbs.; per cent. fat, 3.24; fat, 13.51 lbs. Five senior three-year-olds averaged: age, 3 years, 9 months, 29 days; days from calving, 19; milk, 377.1 lbs.; per cent. fat, 3.54; fat 13.361 lbs. Eleven junior three-year-olds averaged: age, 3 years, 3 months, 5 days; from calving, 23; milk 356.6 lbs.; per cent. fat, 3.36; fat, 11.995 lbs. Twenty-four senior two-year-olds averaged: age, 2 years, 8 months, 10 days; days from calving, 16; milk, 316.6 lbs.; per cent. fat, 3.44; fat, 10.898 lbs. Thirty-four junior two-year-olds averaged: age, 2 years, 2 months, 2 days; days from calving, 24; milk, 316.2 lbs.; per cent. fat, 43.2; fat, 10.832 lbs.

This herd of 109 animals, of which two-thirds were heifers with first or second calves, produced in seven consecutive days 39,398.2 lbs. of milk containing 1,341.235 lbs. of butterfat, thus showing an average of 3.40 per cent. fat. The average production for each animal was 361.5 lbs. of milk containing 12.305 lbs. of butterfat; equivalent to 51.6 lbs. or over 25 quarts of milk per day, and over 14½ lbs. of the best commercial butter per week. While these averages are lower than I usually have to report, it must not be overlooked that the records were made during the period of heat and flies, that the list is largely composed of heifers, and that the averages shown by these heifers in their own classes are very high.

A young breeder writes to ask as to whether I think he will stand any show for winning prize-money, if he takes up the official test work and makes an effort in that direction. As to prize-money, every Holstein-Friesian breeder nominally has an equal chance with all other breeders; but the breeding of the cattle and the skill with which they are handled are the all-important factors. It is rarely the case that any animal not strongly backed by A. R. O. breeding makes a notable record; and the greater part of the prize-money is won by those breeders having not only the cattle, but also experience in handling them. However, one must creep before one can walk, and walk before one can run; and those who now have the prize-winning cows and heifers, if they bred them, also had to begin on the lowest step of the ladder.

To win prize-money is a great honor; and as the amount of money and number of prizes for the present fiscal year has almost been doubled, while no one herd can win more than three prizes in any one of the four prize divisions, it is evident that many prizes will be won by breeders making their first efforts. But winning prizes is but a part of the game; it is the gain in the development of the animal, the herd, and the owner himself, that is most to be considered. If this be accomplished, even though no prize be won, the reward is great. Any man who proves the capacity and value of a cow beyond question, not only enhances the value of that cow herself but also the value of her offspring and near relatives. And the reward is not all to be measured in dollars and cents, for a man derives a greater degree of personal satisfaction in the possession of cows that have proved their capacity and value by making good under official test, and that are for that reason enrolled in the Advanced Register among the aristocracy of the breed. Let a breeder make a start, thus gaining experience in developing his cows so as to get the best results; and it will not be long before he will be winning a share of the prize money.

An average of three pounds of fat per day for seven consecutive days is a large record for any season of the year, and is specially large for the warm season; yet the full-aged cows, Lady Fytje and Lilly Gewina 2nd, produced 21.973 lbs. fat from 528.1 lbs. milk and 21.967 lbs. fat from 556.8 lbs. milk, respectively, while Parana Abbeker Lyons Mechthilde 2nd produced 20.144 lbs. fat from 554.5 lbs. milk. The junior four-year-old Trixy Stone, is the only prominent animal in the two four-year classes; she showing 18.617 lbs. fat from 568.3 lbs. milk.

The senior three-year class is headed by Pontiac Korndyke Maid, 16.359 lbs. fat from 451.2 lbs. milk; while the best among the junior three-year-olds is Witkop Pietertje Beauty 2nd DeKol, 16.275 lbs. fat from 469.2 lbs. milk in seven days, 61.979 lbs. fat from 1,864.4 lbs. milk in 30 days. Among the senior two-year-olds, the most noted are K. P. Duplicate, 17.087 lbs. fat from 383 lbs. milk, and K. P. Jewel, 15.87 lbs. fat from 386.9 lbs. milk.

The junior two-year class is strong, Cedar Lawn DeKol Johanna leading, with 19.533 lbs. fat from 570.1 lbs. milk, and showing that she can hold out well; while Queen DeKol Johanna, 17.739 lbs. fat from 439.6 lbs. milk, comes well to the front and takes high rank in her class. A nice record of 13.211 lbs. fat from 407.5 lbs. milk is made by Shelter Valley Dora Cornucopia; and Miles' Flora Belle Wayne, Ethel Beets DeKol Tryphenia, Kalsora Gert 3rd, Jolie Johanna 3rd Countess, Mercedes Nannette 2nd, and Laura Inka DeKol Wit, gain honorable mention by a production of over 12 lbs. fat.

In the division of records begun not less than eight months after freshening, there are eleven records reported; all being creditable, and some of the heifers showing a larger production, when far along in the lactation period, than they showed when making the prior records in early lactation. Such results show both the capacity of the cows and the care and skill of their handlers. Almost every breeder, whose cow is making a fine showing in the semi-official test, desires to show her capacity on regular official test not less than 240 days after freshening; and as, in addition to the honor gained, our association encourages such tests by the offer of liberal prizes, we shall soon have lists of records in each of the seven classes of this division of which Holstein-Friesian breeders may well be proud.

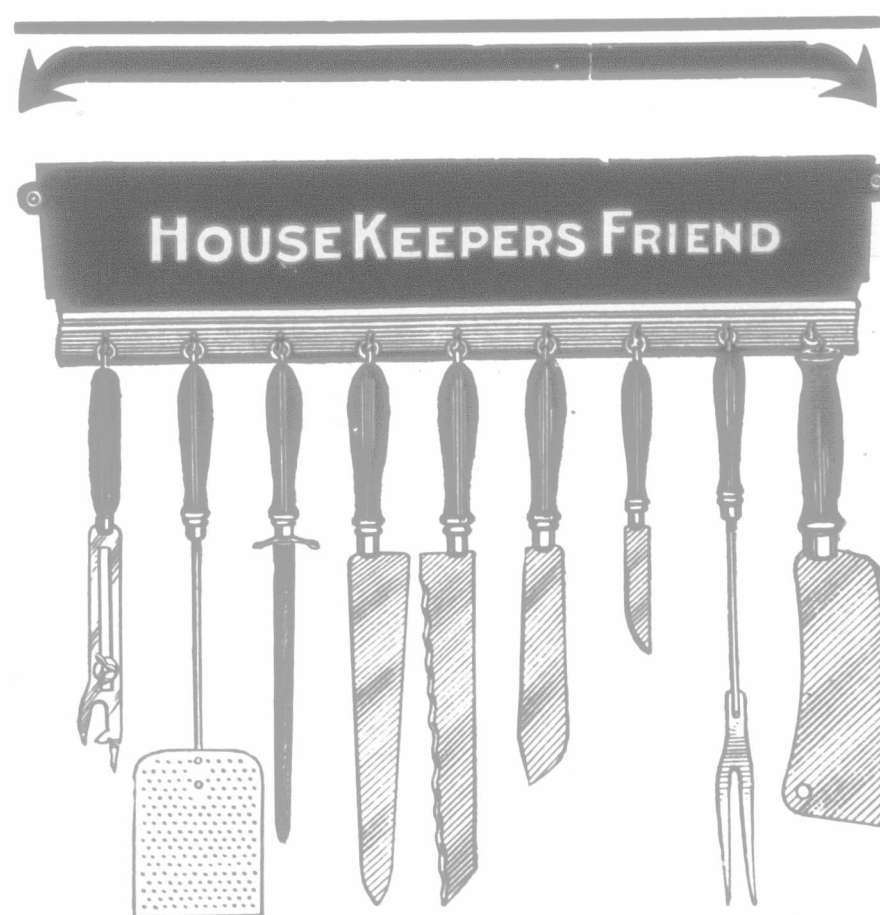
Since my last report, twenty-seven cows and heifers have completed their semi-official yearly or lactation records, or such part of their lactation periods as was covered by the tests; and in studying the results, the reader should always note the length of the records in days. The full-aged cows, Belle Netherland Johanna and Mazie Bawndale, show a production each of over ten tons of milk in 365 days; the former producing 808.912 lbs. of butterfat and winning third place in the general list; the latter showing the fine record of 657.102 lbs. of fat and gaining place in the high honor list consisting of cows producing 600 lbs. or more of fat in not to exceed 365 days, an amount of fat equivalent to 700 lbs. of commercial butter. It will be noted that Johanna DeKol of Green Meadow produced 494.576 lbs. of fat from 14,241.4 lbs. milk in 255 days.

The leaders in the four-year class are Maid of Cloverdale Queen Johanna 448.1 lbs. fat and 1,650.29 lbs. of total solids from 14,784.1 lbs. milk in 365 days, and Nutula Queen Alcartra, 439.461 lbs. fat from 13,987.8 lbs. milk; while the junior four-year class is well represented by its leader, Grace Hengerveld Burke, 596.344 lbs. fat from 15,553.2 lbs. milk.

Among the senior three-year olds, Pauline Queen Johanna, 475.757 lbs. fat from 15,155.2 lbs. milk, is apparently in the lead; but it will be noted that Netherland Countess Calamity in 281 days produced 407.523 lbs. fat from 10,592.2 lbs. milk. Vale Ormsby Aaggie represents the junior three-year class, with 426.712 lbs. fat from 13,467 lbs. milk.

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