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CANADIAN NORTHERN

Cow Testing: What the People Say

In one of his annual reports, C. F. Whitley gives quotations from what people say of Mr. Whitley's special charge, cow testing. From Lanark Co., Ont., comes this statement:

"We all know in a general way that some of our cows give much more milk than others, but I am quite sure that none of us realized the difference was anything like so large as it has proven to be. Our best cow gave 7,150 pounds of milk and our poorest cow gave 4,206 pounds, a difference of one and a half tons, which is easily \$50.

"As my cows cost exactly the same feed in winter and the same pasture in summer, any one can see at once the greater importance of cow testing to raise up the milk production without one cent of increase in the cost.

"Another point is we know how just what our cows are doing for us; before, we only gave them credit for milk sold to the factory; our best cow paid us \$50, which is far in excess of what we ever expected her to make.

"Milk fed to our calves must be just such as we get from our cows, so that we should be as much interested in the quality as in the quantity; we had no way of knowing the difference in quality till we tested each cow separately and found great differences."

"I find it very much more interesting dairying when keeping records, as well as being able to know which cow to get rid of. I wish there were more in this district keeping records as it is a good guide when you want to get new stock or young calves."—(From Cassburn, Ont.)

Wants More Of It.

"We have been weighing our milk now for three years and find it very beneficial. Please send more sheets for daily weights; we would not like to keep cows if we had to stop weighing the milk."—(From Hollen, Ont.)

"I never seem to miss the time spent weighing daily, and in any case the benefits more than offset the time spent."—(From Hollen, Ont.)

"I have been weighing cow for one year and find that I have such poor cows in the herd that I am ashamed to send in the figures. I promise you that the unmistakable eye-opener which I have received this year will result in a much happier return next year."—(From Inna, Ont.)

"And another man near Stratford, Ont., who with a herd of 10 cows, including one farrow and three 2-year-old heifers, has an average of 3,333 pounds of milk, writes:

"I certainly feel well-pleased with the idea of weighing the milk at every milking. A person takes more interest in his dairy work when he knows just what his cows are doing every day. I also believe we should keep an account of the feed they consume."

The Dairyman's Indicators

By G. L. Martin.

In order to put dairymen upon a business basis, every farmer needs to use the milk scales, the tester and the record book. The successful business man has a ledger to guide him in his transactions. Every dairyman needs to write a separate account with each of his cows so that he may have an indicator to tell him at the end of the year just how much feed each cow has consumed, the amount of milk produced and the percentage it tests.

Too many farmers of the country are keeping the scrub cow, feeding and milking her twice each day, 14 times each week, 60 times each month and 720 times each year, merely for

the pleasure of her company, when a portion of this time might well be expended in estimating the feed, weighing and testing the milk and crediting same to each cow. Many good dairymen squander 30 minutes each day gambling with the scrub cow, when three minutes time with the scales, to test and record book in the would put the herd upon a paying year.

basis and money in their pockets. The keeping of records is a business transaction and means the essential difference between knowing and guessing, pleasure and drudgery, profit and loss, success and failure.

The small farmer can keep a variety of fine stock sufficient to produce something to sell and bring in a bit of ready cash every month in the would put the herd upon a paying year.

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