

Alberta Demonstration Farms

The Demonstration farms instituted by Hon. Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture for the province of Alberta, of which there are seven all told, established at Vermilion, Stony Plain, Ath-

but several of the cows have given over 2,000 lbs. of milk in a month, one cow especially has been milking over 10 months and is still giving 45 lbs. per diem. A lot of fifteen calves were sold

ers around Sedgewick, the government have supplied them with around 35 head of dairy Shorthorn bulls since the 1st of January this year, and the demand is greater than the supply.

To show the milking qualities of the Dairy Shorthorn, may be mentioned a cow, "Lady McKay," which was purchased for this farm for \$300, commenced milking April 8, and at the end of September the amount received for her milk was \$151.02. Her calf sold for \$300.00. She is expected to milk the full year, and as it only requires 5,500 lbs. of milk to qualify in the R. O. P., this cow qualified in three and a half months.

A New Wheat

At Sedgewick a whole section of land was under crop this year. Nine acres of corn of the North West Dent and Red Cap varieties, was put into the silo, which was recently erected on the farm. Three kinds of spring wheat were grown, Red Fife, Marquis, and No. 46. Marquis ripened four or five days ahead of No. 46, which in turn ripened four or five days ahead of Red Fife, and gave the best yield. No. 46, which is a new strain of Red Fife, has been grown for a couple of years at Sedgewick, alongside the

Good Cows at Olds

At Olds 28 head of dairy cows are milking, 10 pure-bred Holstein and the balance Holstein grades. In the seven-day test of "Vrouka Queen," 110 days after freshening, her record was as follows: Total milk, 523 lbs.; butter, 23.76 lbs.; average milk per day, 74.90 lbs.; average test butter-fat, 3.63; average lbs. butter per day, 3.39. Twenty-two cows at Olds gave an average of 1,132 lbs.

One hundred steers will probably be fed this winter, and Yorkshire and Tamworth hogs are kept here, as well as Barred Rock poultry. Nearly all the grain on this farm is cut for green feed.

Claresholm and Medicine Hat

At Claresholm two herds of 14 animals each, Ayrshires and Dairy Shorthorns, are kept, and very good records are made.

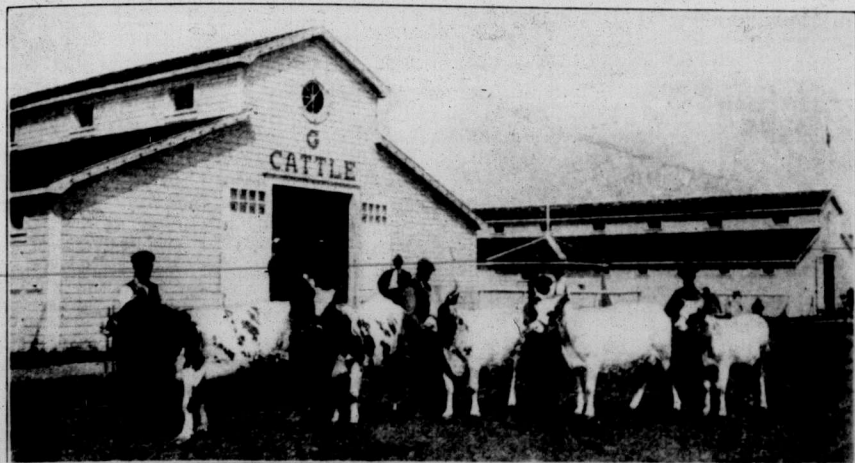
Forty acres were sown to Marquis wheat, and yielded 1,600 bushels, grading No. 1 Northern, which grain will all be sold for seed. A bunch of steers will also be fed on this farm this winter.

At Medicine Hat a herd of 25 pure-bred Jerseys are kept, 20 of them milking in September, brought in a milk cheque of \$426.00. Berkshire hogs and Buff Orpington poultry are kept and there is a ready market for all classes of young stock.

Crops on Medicine Hat farm were better than for the past two years. Nine acres of corn ripened. Red Cap was earliest and will be used for seed purposes. The alfalfa which was sown in drills is doing very well.

The Demonstration farms of the provincial government of Alberta are fulfilling the purposes for which they were established. Practical demonstrations of mixed farming under different conditions of soil and climate, give the farmers of the district, and more especially the new settlers in each district, a good idea of what breeds of stock can be kept and what crops can be raised with the greatest profit and advantage.

The complete records of performance show clearly the money to be made in dairying, while the returns from the steer feeding show how the grain raised can be most advantageously marketed on the hoof. Now that agricultural schools have been started in conjunction with some of the farms the bene-



Herd of Ayrshires on the Alberta Government Demonstration Farm at Claresholm

basea Landing, Olds, Sedgewick, Claresholm and Medicine Hat, each under the supervision of a capable manager, who in turn is under the superintendent, H. A. Craig, of the Department of Agriculture, Edmonton, are doing good work this year, and are proving both an object lesson and a benefit to the farmers of the different localities in which they are situated. It may be of interest to the readers of The Guide to learn a little of what is being done on these farms, and of the different breeds of live stock kept on each. On the Stony Plains farm there is a dairy of 40 cows, chiefly pure-bred Holsteins and Holstein grades, and the milk from this dairy is sold to the Edmonton city dairy, who sell it unpasteurized, the only unpasteurized milk to go through the city dairy, and as they themselves state, "it is the best milk which comes into the city," they pay an enhanced price for it, to supply a special trade. The dairy cattle at Stony Plains, and on all the farms, for that matter, are tuberculin tested, and as a proof of the superior class of cattle in this herd, only a couple of cows reacted from the test, and, of course, were slaughtered.

Milking Machines

Milking is done by aid of the milking machine, everything in the way of sanitation and cleanliness being strictly insisted upon, the cows are brushed down, their udders wiped with a damp rag, and as soon as the animal is milked, the milk is taken directly to the milk room, which is separate from the stable, and run through a milk cooler, which lowers the temperature of the milk to 40 to 44 degrees Fahr. within ten minutes after milking. It is then emptied into tanks, which are placed in ice cold water and ultimately shipped in specially insulated cans to the City dairy, who retail it at 15c per quart, in special double capped bottles. The other stock kept on this farm are Yorkshire hogs and Plymouth Rock poultry.

At Vermilion

At Vermilion farm there is a herd of some 30 head of Holsteins, of which twelve are pure-breds and the rest grades, and this herd has done especially well this year. Complete records of the performance of each animal will be available in the beginning of next year,

for \$10 apiece at weaning time, and found a ready sale. There are also 100 head of pure-bred Berkshire and Yorkshire hogs, as well as some 30 head of pure-bred and grade Oxford sheep, which do very well, also about 150 head



Holsteins at Alberta Government Demonstration Farm at Stony Plain. "Milking Time"

of Rhode Island Red poultry, a large number of the latter being for sale. Sixty head of steers, principally two-year-olds, start fattening about Nov. 1.

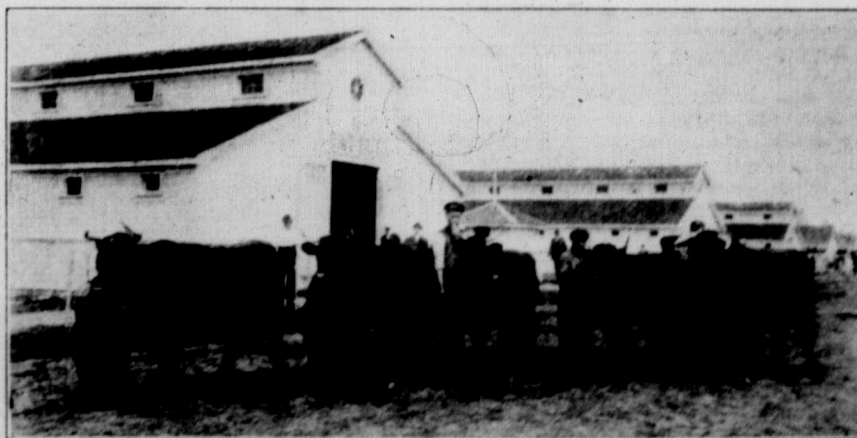
The Timothy crop on Vermilion was very fair, barley threshed 50 bushels per acre, alfalfa sown last spring is going into winter in good shape, nine acres of good corn was cut and stooked, and will be brought in as required, and mixed with green oats, and cut up for feed. Roots were a good crop, while all the grain crops were cut green for feed.

The Sedgewick Farm

At the Sedgewick farm there is a herd of dairy Shorthorns, and some particularly good milk records have been made; one cow gave 7,588 lbs. milk in 5 months and 21 days. Her senior yearling heifer, which was 2 years old on 1st Oct., freshened in the last week of July, and gave 780½ lbs. of milk in September. This heifer is a grand-daughter of "Butterfly King," the stock bull at Sedgewick, and he has two other daughters in this herd which gave 40 to 45 lbs. of milk during September.

To show what demand there exists for this class of stock among the farm-

other varieties, and is believed to be a better wheat for the district, particularly as it is a good drought resister, the straw is longer and its milling qualities are as good as Red Fife, while it has the



Herd of Dairy Shorthorns, headed by the famous bull "Butterfly King," on the Alberta Government Demonstration Farm at Sedgewick

additional advantage of ripening earlier. All the grain grown was of first-class quality, and safely harvested without any frost.

fits to the farming community of this western province, and particularly the coming generation of farmers, cannot well be over-estimated.

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