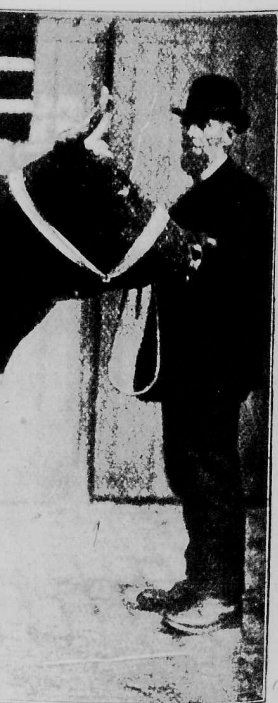


30 lb. an average of
below Countess 2nd,
ears, and given a total
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Moppy Gem 5th, has
s, and given a total of
7,750 lb. per annum;
in the herd five years
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ulip Leaf, has been in
ena a total of 37,795
per annum; Warwick
herd four years, and
an average of 8,136
s been in the herd
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num; Fly, has been in
a a total of 74,130 lb.,
per annum. Necklace
herd four years and
an average of 7,825
aisy, has been in the
total of 42,360 lb., an
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Having spoken of a disbelief in the theory of form having anything to do with the milking powers of a cow, although I am aware that many hold a different opinion, I strongly assert that *management has almost everything to do with the subject.* No doubt, breeding from parents of milking strains deserves every attention that can be given to the matter, but without proper management of the young females the produce of even deep-milking cows may, and as a rule, will prove of little value as dairy animals.

After a somewhat wide experience in observing all matters connected with cattle in different parts of the world, I have no hesitation in stating that, speaking generally, the cattle bred and reared in the poorer districts of a country are, comparatively speaking, deeper milkers than others reared upon rich good land anything likely to encourage early development of a superabundance of fat in the system must operate against the milking powers of animals in after life.

I am quite aware that many of our Shorthorn breeders, who give the necessary attention to milk, hold a firm belief in the importance of using bulls the produce of deep-milking dams. I am entirely with them in this, but am inclined to go part ways with them when they are prepared to sacrifice form and imagine that a want of flesh and peculiar shape indicate milk-producing powers.

A fair description of the type of cow required would read as follows: Either white, roan, red, or red and white in color, more frequently the three latter colors, thus disclosing the predominance of Shorthorn blood; will be distinctly feminine in appearance, of moderate size, about 1100 to 1350 lbs. live weight, deep chest, comparatively large not paunchy barrel, fairly thin in the neck and narrow at top of withers, with a soft pliable and only moderately thick skin (it is an exception to find a good milker with the thick mossy hide desired on the beef type of animals) and with well developed, tortuous milk veins and large milk wells, a regular shaped udder, free of meatiness, yet a vessel withal unlike a dishrag in its texture or consistency. In addition, whenever possible, the general purpose cow should possess an authentic milk record of yearly production amounting from 5,000 to 10,000 pounds, and should give an average test of butter fat of four per cent. or thereabouts.

Some hold firmly to the idea that cows with broken colors (red and white) are rarely poor milkers,—color has very little to do with the lacteal function. To sum up, (a) milk your cows and heifers, do not allow the calves that privilege; keep at the milking as long as possible and when first a perceptible slackening in the flow is mentioned, endeavor by the use of the proper feeds to freshen the cows and improve the flow. This can be done naturally if the cows are bred to calve down in the fall, the spring pastures will aid in freshening the flow.

- (b) Keep milk records.
 - (c) Use bulls from dams with heavy milking records.
 - (d) Cull out and send to the block cows that do not come up to the mark indicated above.
- Comparative yields of cows in one herd (pounds of milk):—

	No.	Average
	in production	Herd in 12 mths.
Jerseys:—		
A.....	9	5944
B.....	38	6953.25
C.....	47	5676.74
Shorthorns:—		
A.....	54	6658
B.....	16	7656.37
C.....	20	3508.83
Red Polls:—		
A.....	40	6174
B.....	6	8584
C.....	24	3634.86

A cows are retained in the herd and have been for a full twelve months, B are new cows introduced during the twelve months, C are cows which have gone out of the herd in the twelve months. A yields are actual quantities, B and C are not but are averages based on their yields and the time spent in herd. C practically includes the cows being culled from the herd.

Sask. "HOMECROFT."
Sylvester Campbell, Kinellar, Scotland, who was selected to judge Shorthorns at Winnipeg last summer but who declined on account of sickness, died recently.

FARM

Letters Upon Farming Operations, Welcomed

A Tribute to Genius

We are forced to the conclusion that some of our readers are taking life too seriously. This conviction has been forced upon us by the receipt of quite a number of angry replies to an article contributed by "Uncle Jim," in our Feb. 10th issue. "Uncle Jim" intended his remarks to be taken humorously, but apparently he disguised his humor so well in the dress of philosophy and advice, that some of his readers infer he was speaking seriously on the subjects he undertook to discuss. This we take as the highest tribute to genius in a humorist. Lest others should be misled by "Uncle Jim's" philosophy, we take the liberty of remarking here that his advice is to be taken in the spirit given, not seriously, but as something to amuse.

When the Doctors Disagree

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

In spite of the fact that the "Trouble Departments" of the farm papers and the Saskatchewan government have been working overtime this winter, I am going to risk the wrath of the editor by re-opening the above subject, as it appears to me to be very nearly as vital to the interests of the farmers of Saskatchewan as whether the interior elevators shall be operated by the government or by the grain-trade; or whether a large sum of money shall be donated to a hospital by Mr. Millar or by Mr. Partridge.

This subject is not so vital to the wheat kings or to the farmers in the older settlements as the elevator question, but to settlers of the new districts where 99 per cent of them are not familiar with Saskatchewan conditions, it is one that may mean not only the success or failure of an individual farmer, but the branding of a district with a good or bad reputation and the consequent favorable or unfavorable story that is told every year by the departmental crop-report.

True, in a country the size of Saskatchewan, it is almost impossible to lay down hard and fast rules either for the cultivation of the land, or in many other matters pertaining to the business of farming, but it is possible to let no chance slip to impress upon the mind of every new settler a few of the fundamental principles which are applicable to each individual case in every district of the Province.

To see that there is trouble somewhere, it is only necessary to glance over the resume of the crop-report of the province for 1908; but if any further proof were necessary, a trip through almost any of the new settlements at any time between seeding and harvest last year would have convinced anyone that before the Saskatchewan crop average will ever again approach the figures we have been accustomed to seeing in the government reports, something must be done to show every man that files on a homestead or purchases new land, that by following one now well-defined trail and one only, can he hope to reach anything like the measure of success that the immigration reports, the land companies literature and his own imagination have led him to anticipate.

In an endeavor to see how the gospel can be brought home to the greatest number in a manner that will insure a large measure of acceptance and practice, we must consider, briefly, the routes by which information is at present supplied to the new settlers or more correctly, the routes by which they obtain it.

In the first place, there is the information that can be derived at first hand from the neighbor who may have acquired experience in the older parts of the province, and this influence is, usually, not hard to trace.

Then there are the Departmental reports and bulletins, which, among other things too numerous to mention, such as plans for hospitals and when the meadow-larks got back, contain information on the cultivation of the soil, treatment of seed for smut, weeds, etc.

The Dominion Experimental Farm is at the service of the settler and a yearly report of the results of the different experiments is published and distributed, from one to two years late.

The agricultural papers endeavor to supply to such of the new (and old) settlers as realize the indispensability of a good farm paper, the latest and best ideas in connection with farm work.

Seed fairs, stock fairs and agricultural fairs are

held at the older towns and every winter, Farmer's Institute meetings are held at hundreds of places throughout the province.

Occasionally a weed special makes a flying trip over the railway lines, and once a year excursions are run to the Experimental Farm at Indian Head.

For the present, let us assume that the Departmental reports and bulletins, the Experimental Farm and its report, the agricultural papers, the exhibitions, the seed fairs, the weed special and sundry other plans for the education of the farmer are working satisfactorily and that in so far as they are concerned, no effort is being spared to spread the gospel of better farming.

That leaves out the Farmer's Institute meetings, and designedly so.

The Institute meetings should be head and shoulders above all other plans for the dissemination of reliable information. They are attended by all classes of farmers and many who attend are unable, through illiteracy or not being able to read English, to secure information in any other way. They go to the meeting expecting to listen to men who have made a success of the business of farming in Saskatchewan and who are prepared to explain their methods and to give advice.

In some cases, their anticipations may be fully realized, but we regret to say that at a large number of meetings the settlers are forced to listen to men whose chief qualification for the work is their ability to talk.

The Department of Agriculture at Regina arranges for speakers for the Institute meetings and pays at least their expenses and, no doubt, does all in its power to get men who should be competent to tell the settlers what has been done, how it has been done and what can be done under certain conditions. The trouble is that as soon as some men are engaged to speak at Institute meetings, they become imbued with the impression that they are expected to advance some new theory or propound some new plan, instead of being satisfied to lead others in the way by which they have themselves found success.

To be more explicit, I refer to one speaker who is travelling around the country telling his audiences that by shallow cultivation, shallow seeding and a few other theories, Red Fife wheat may be ripened in from 10 to 20 days less time than it takes at present. He also declares that a hoe drill is no good and from his remarks one would gather that a drag harrow and a broad cast seeder are about the only implements required for the cultivation of a farm after it has been broken up.

All this is diametrically opposite to the teachings of the bulletins and reports of the Department, the Experimental Farms and the experience of 99 out of every hundred successful farmers in Saskatchewan. Yet this man is allowed to go into new districts and expound his theory unchallenged, unless someone who knows better happens to be in the audience.

This is merely one of many instances that might be given of the "new ideas" being sprung by Institute speakers throughout the country.

What I claim is that there is something wrong somewhere when the Department issues a report embodying what is, at least supposed to be, the most reliable information (for the benefit and guidance of new settlers), and then allows a man in their employ to go into the new districts and talk the very opposite. If the expounding of these theories were confined to the older districts, little or no harm would be done, as is shown by an incident at a C.P.R. main-line town at which the speaker above referred to, after demonstrating how it was possible by his method to ripen Red Fife in a most remarkably short time, was asked by a farmer in the audience "If you warmed the seed, in addition to using your method, wouldn't it be possible to cut the crop the same day it was sown?"

What we want to get at is this "How can the new settler be expected to make the most of his opportunities when he has to spend the first two or three years experimenting to find out which Departmental creed he should have accepted in the first place?"

I understand the difficulty the Department experiences in getting men for this work, but surely when they engage them to do Departmental work they should have some control over their utterances. If one of the speakers spent an hour in talking "Provincial Rights" at an Institute meeting, we are fairly certain that he would be enquiring the trail home before the next meeting; when as a matter of fact, he wouldn't be doing half as much harm as if he had spent his