# ...th Holstein Fanciers in Western Canada

**...W. A. Clemens, Sec'ty H. F. Association of Canada, St. George, Ont.**

...R. F. Hicks, President of the ...olstein-Friesian Association of ...anada, and myself have just ...ched home after spending a ...e in the West, and I am sending ...e notes regarding our trip, with ...pe that they may prove of inter... ...o our readers who are breeders of ...ck and Whites. We left Toronto ...19th and went straight through ...Vancouver via the C.P.R. enjoying ...e weather all the way. I will ...empt to describe the glorious ...ery of the Rockies and the Selkirk... ...t right with...

breeders on Vancouver Island, as the guests of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Henry Rive, Provincial Dairy Instructor, Mr. Hopkins, Assistant Live Stock Commissioner and Mr. Wiancko, Dairy Inspector, were our companions and a most enjoyable day was spent. We saw the herds of Messrs. W. N. Paterson, Koksilah, G. T. Corfield, Corfield, H. Bonsall, Chemainus, and that belonging to Mr. Bishop himself. Mr. Paterson is a young breeder who is doing excellent work in the Record of Performance. He has one of the finest show cows seen any-where on our trip, a champion at V...ria Exhibition. Mr. Corfie.. has large herds of both Holsteins and Jerseys, and many excellent cows headed by a capital bull bred in California, Westport Lad. Mr. Bonsall is one of the veterans, and has a large herd of big strong cows. Of-ficial testing would doubtless reveal many great producers here. Mr. Bishop's herd is headed by B. C. Choice Goods, a grand son of Pontiac Korndyke. One of his three year old heifers was winner of the silver cup given at Victoria for the championship of the province, and an-other three-year-old just fresh was giv-ing at the time of our visit nearly 85 lbs. a day.

**An Experimental Farm Herd.**

Returning to the mainland we spent a few hours very pleasantly with Mr. P. H. Moore at the Agassiz Experimental Farm. He has a nice start in pure breds from Mr. Steves' herd and a profitable herd of Holstein grades. Although picked up in the East and not yet thoroughly cull-ed the whole herd averaged a profit last year of nearly $110 a head over cost of feed. Conditions in the British Colum-bia valleys, especially the Fraser delta, are ideal for Holsteins, probably better than in Holland, and Eastern breeders will need to bestir themselves if they wish to prevent all the championship records falling into the hands of the men on the Pacific Coast. As entertainers the latter are certainly great. The luncheon given in our honor at Westminster after the meeting of the branch was most enjoy-able, and everywhere we went we were met with a hospitality that we hope some day to be able ..o return.

We met Hon. Price Ellison, Minister of Finance and Agriculture and Prof. W T. McDonald, Live Stock Commissioner, and were promised the hearty co-opera-tion of the Department in the efforts of the Association to check the traffic in culls and to enable buyers to procure good stock without unreasonable expense. Prof. McDonald we found to be thorough-ly capable, enthusiastic in the cause of better stock and a princely entertainer. British Columbia is fortunate in having such a man at the head of its live stock interests. In the Dairy Branch, which supervises our official testing we found another highly capable official in Mr. Rive, to whom our thanks are due for much information and hospitality.

**Holsteins in Alberta.**

Crossing the mountains again into Al-berta, we attended the Calgary fair and found a large exhibit of Holsteins, prob-ably 125 head. No other breed has so large a number, but although many good animals were present the fitting was hardly up to what we would expect at an Eastern fair. We had an excellent meeting of the Alberta breeders and started an Alberta Branch of the Asso-ciation under the able presidency of Mr. Norman Michener of Red Deer, with vice-president of the parent body. All through the West and particu.arly in the prairie province one hears bitter complaints regarding the trade, both in pure bred and grade, that has been shipped in by un-scrupulous Eastern dealers and sold at big prices to farmers who were not fam-iliar with the characteristics and value of good stock. The loss and disappoint-ment caused by the operations of these hucksters has done incalculable injury to the live stock industry, and especially to the Holstein breed, which has been in great demand, and consequently offered a profitable field for the dealer. A reso-lution was passed by the new Alberta Branch, requesting the Dominion Minis-ter of Agriculture to enact regulations requiring that all cattle entering Alber-ta be subjected to the tuberculine test, as in the case of British Columbia. At present Eastern shipments are being tested before entering B. C. and the re-sult of this method is sure to react ag-ainst the Alberta breeders that a Do-minion regulation of this sort would greatly hamper the trade of the huck-sters who ship West tubercu.ous and oth-er diseased cattle.

**The C.P.R. Herd.**

At Strathmore we visited the big C.P.R Supply Farm and were shown over the place by Superintendent Smith. About 75 cows are mil.ed, largely Holsteins. Dr. Rutherford is planning to make this a first class herd of block and white, which will become a distributing centre for breeding stock of the best quality,

particularly in the line of young bulls. After a visit to the grand new dairy plant of Mr. P. Pallesen at Calgary, where butter is being manufactured that can win even in Toronto, we started up the Edmonton line, along which we found a stock country which greatly appealed to us. Here is a district 250 miles long and 100 miles wide with an abundant rain-fall and an abundance of grass It should in a few years be supporting thou-sands of Holsteins to the profit and satis-faction of their owners.

At Olds we visited the Provincial De-monstration Farm and Agricultural School in company with Prof. H. A. Craig, Supt. of Farms, and Mr. S. G. Carlyle, Special Dairy Instructor and an old Ontario breeder. The Agricultural School gives a very practical two year course in live stock, soils and crops, farm mechanics, cooking, sewing, English, arithmetic, etc., that cannot fail to be of immense value to the boys and girls who intend to farm in Alberta. Similar schools are located at Claresholm and Vermilion, with a demonstration farm in connection in each case. At Olds a choice little herd of pure bred Holsteins is kept and a splendid herd of grades. Vrouka Queen had just finished an official test of 25.96 lbs. butter, the best yet reported from Alberta. The farms are run at a profit and the whole scheme, which owes its origin to Hon Duncan Marshall, Min-ister of Agriculture, seems to be working out very effectively. Prof. Elliott, princi-pal of the School, kindly gave us a motor trip through the fine district surrounding Olds, where the farms of such notable citizens as Hon. Duncan Marshall and Dr. Michael Clark, M.P., are located.

**At Red Deer.**

Travelling northwards we were met at Red Deer by Mr. Norman Michener and taken out to his fine farm. He has a good herd of Holsteins, and will do much for the breed in his province in years to come. He is also an extensive breed-er of horses of the Percheron type. Mr Edward Michener, M.P.P., Conservative leader in Alberta, gave us a very enjoy-able motor trip through the city of Red Deer and the surrounding country, call-ing at the farm of Mr. Julian Sharman to see the famous Jersey cow, Rosalind of Old Basing, claimed to be the cham-pion long distance Jersey of the British Empire. She is a cow of great scale and substance, as large as many Holsteins and showing evidence of being an extra-ordinary producer. We also called on Mr. A. H. Trimble, the well known Ayrshire breeder. Mr. J. J. Richards had his fine herd of Ayrshires down at Calgary for the Exhibition.

At Lacombe we were shown over the Dominion Experimental Farm by the capable Superintendent, Mr. G. H. Hutton. An excellent young herd of Holsteins of uniform type is kept and also a profit-able herd of grades. The stock bull was purchased from the well known herd of Laidlaw Bros. and is of the Royalton family. This is a good farm and the man-agement seems first class. Mr. Hutton was kind enough to drive us out to the farm of Mr. Glenn E. White, who is do-ing excellent work in the official teste. He is an Ohio man and brought a strong foundation with him for a Holstein herd. At Edmonton Mr. Mellmoyle, private se-cretary to Hon. Duncan Marshall, and Mr. John Blue, Provincial Librarian, treated us to a very pleasant motor trip covering the greater part of the growing city. Owing to the absence of Mr. Mar-shall in Europe, we were unable to meet him, but we arranged with the officials of the Department to handle orders for Holsteins. Orders may be placed through the Alberta Branch and the Department will undertake the selection and shipping of the stock at cost.

**Good Dairying in Saskatchewan.**

At Moose Jaw Mr. B. H. Thomson of Bobarm, arranged for a visit to the breeders in that district. This is a thriv-ing dairy country where all kinds of cow feeds can be grown, including alf-alfa and corn, and there is practically nothing in the way of cattle to be seen except Holsteins and Holstein grades. Mr. Thomson has a grand herd, well fed and cared for, and as he is doing both official and yearly testing he is bound to occupy a large place in Saskatchewan. We expect at an early date to see Mr. Thomson acting as secretary of a pro-vincial branch. He is young, capable and energetic, and no better selection could be made. We had a nice meeting on short notice at Moose Jaw and were welcomed as the apostles of more and better stock by Mayor Pascoe and other prominent officials of the city and district. Among the herds visited were those of Messrs. John A. Thomson, a large dairyman, Mr. J. A. Maharg, President of the Grain Growers Association and Mr. Johnson, a neighbor of Mr. B. H. Thomson, who kindly took us around in his car.

At Regina we met the Minister of Agri-culture, Hon. W. R. Motherwell, the Dep-uty Minister, Mr. A. F. Mantle, the Live Stock Commissioner, Mr. J. C. Smith and the Dairy Commissioner, Mr. W. A. Wil-son. Mr. Smith, who supervises our of-ficial test work for Saskatchewan, is un-dertaking to buy in the East and ship

out at cost pure bred or grade Holsteins ordered by farmers in his province. Many cattle are being brought in in this manner and Holsteins are most frequent-ly asked for. The greater part of Sas-katchewan is adapted to dairying and wherever there is a market for milk Hol-steins are immediately in demand.

**Herds in Manitoba**

At Winnipeg Exhibition we got in touch with the leading breeders of Manitoba, and found that there was a good de-mand for Holsteins in that province, and that only the financial stringency prevented many sales. Several new breeders are taking hold including Mr. J. D. McGregor, of Brandon, famous for his Angus doddies, but an enthusiastic Holstein dairyman as well. With 1200 tons of alfalfa hay already harvested he is amply provided for next winter's feeding. Mr. Write, manager of the Grain Growers' Supply Co., has a good farm at Tauton and is starting in with a Hol-stein herd. We expect him to do well, as he is a young, active and capable. An-other new breeder is Mr. H. D. Mewhir-tel, M.P.P., an active business man. The Ontario veteran, Mr. Geo. Rice, is now set-tled at Stonewall, and he will be an ac-quisition to the ranks of the Manitoba men.

The Black and Whites outnumbered all other breeds at the Exhibition and the quality was excellent. In the dairy test, here as at Calgary, Holsteins were al-ways first in company with Mr. W. J. Cummings we interviewed Hon. George Lawrence, Minister of Agriculture, and were assured of his co-operation with the Association in providing Manitoba farm-ers with good Holsteins. Mr. Cummings, who is the most extensive breeder of Hol-steins in Manitoba at present and a very enthusiastic one, spared no efforts to make our stay in Winnipeg a pleasant and profitable one. Mr. Hicks declares that if our Western hosts ever come down to visit us in Ontario we shall feel like going into hiding, realising our lack of ability to provide the generous hospital-ty we met with everywhere in the West.