



Thrifty, Rugged Young Dairy Females, Carrying the Blood of a Good Sire, photographed under Ordinary Pasture Field Conditions. Eighteen of the young daughters of Sir Korndyke Boon, on the farm of their owner, A. C. Hallman, Waterloo Co., Ont.

## What the Famous Bulls of History Have Done for Their Breeds

### The Power to Transmit Production Capacity to Both Sexes—the Final Test of a Dairy Sire

IN attempting to improve, or even to maintain, the standard of a herd of either dairy or beef cattle, the important influence exerted by the sire used forces itself upon the attention of the intelligent breeder. Examples of herds which have sprung into prominence and of others that have come to grief through the use of certain individual bulls are familiar to all stockmen who have taken more than a local interest in their breed. It is, however, only by the study of the history of a breed and of the records of its representatives in the show ring and as producers, down through the years to the present day, that the predominating importance of the truly great sires can be properly appreciated.

#### The Famous Bulls of History.

The early improvement of our beef breeds was effected in each case by a comparatively few men whose achievements have been carefully and accurately recorded. Naturally, therefore, some of the most outstanding illustrations of the far-reaching influence of prepotent bulls are found in Shorthorn, Hereford and Aberdeen Angus histories. To refer even briefly to the most important would require pages and would be outside the purpose of this article. It is, however, of interest to note that, in each of these three breeds, one or two bulls are practically the foundation sires. To all Shorthorn breeders, the name of Hubback, calved in 1777, is familiar. His use by Charles Colling made such an impression on the then existing class of Shorthorn cattle that Hubback has sometimes been referred to as the foundation sire of the Shorthorn breed. The intensely inbred, Favorite (252), calved 1793, a lineal descendant of Hubback, occupies an equally prominent place in Shorthorn history. His get were the most famous Shorthorns of their time, and his immediate descendants constitute a large percentage of the foundation stock of the breed.

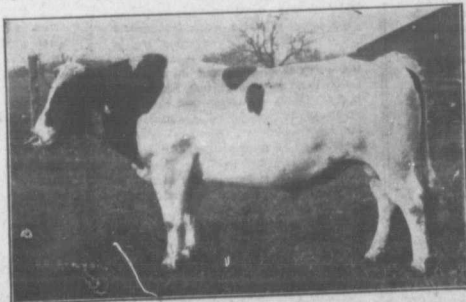
In the case of Aberdeen-Angus cattle, the bull Panmure (51), calved 1840, occupies a place similar to that of Hubback among Shorthorns, while the bull, Young Viscount (736), 381, calved 1875, is entitled to fame as one of the foundation sires of American Aberdeen-Angus cattle, owing to the fact that he and his sons sired hundreds of animals out of a total of some five thousand two hundred registered in Volume 1 of the American Angus herd book. Among Herefords, the John Hower bull, Sovereign (404), 221, calved 1820, and used in at least fourteen different and prominent herds, may perhaps be considered the foundation sire. The great show bull, Sir David (349), 68,

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calved 1845, one of the most prepotent sires of Hereford history, was a grandson of Sovereign. Some of the choicest blood lines of American Hereford stock trace directly to Sir David, and he has been referred to by his admirers as one of the most influential sires which has existed in any of our beef breeds. Lord Wilton (4740), 4057, long considered the greatest sire in Hereford history, traces back to Sir David through both his sire and his dam.

To Canadian Ayrshire breeders, the name of the Scotch Cock-a-Bendie will go down in history as the bull which contributed perhaps more than any other individual sire to the fixing of the present-day Ayrshire type, while to Holstein-Friesian breeders in America the names of Hengerveld DeKol, DeKol Int's Butter Day 3rd, Pieterje Hengerveld's Count DeKol, Paul Deete DeKol, Pontiac Korndyke, and a few others represent the foundation upon which the popularity of the breed has been built in United States and in Canada.

It is a noteworthy fact that all great breeders have made substantial progress only through the impetus given by the use of certain individual



Sir Korndyke Boon, the Herd Sire of A. C. Hallman, Waterloo Co., Ont. This grand Bull has never been shown. His owner is content to prove him through the merits of his progeny.

bulls whose blood seemed to nick to advantage with that already carried by their herds. For instance, Ames Cruikshanks, the greatest of Scotland's breeders of Shorthorns, worked conscientiously for twenty-five years on a big scale before his breeding operations were placed on a sure footing through the use of the famous Champion of England (17526), calved in 1869. The descendants of this bull, probably the greatest Shorthorn Scotland has ever known, firmly established Cruikshank's reputation and thousands of our

Scotch topped Shorthorns in Canada and in the United States to-day may be traced back to him. Similar instances are found in the work of practically all of the great improvers of the various breeds of cattle and the principle is being illustrated on a smaller scale each year in the herds of breeders of to-day.

#### The Influence of Famous Bulls.

In considering the influence of famous bulls of history, a principle which is of great significance to the practical breeder is illustrated time and again through the fact that, in many instances, they undoubtedly owed to their maternal ancestors, the qualities which they transmitted to their descendants, with resulting fairs to themselves. A somewhat extreme illustration of this is found in the bull Duke of Northumberland (1940), calved 1825. The sire of this bull, Belvedere (1706), being very closely inbred, traced back through several lines to the cow Princess, who was in no case more than four generations removed from him. The dam of Duke of Northumberland was the famous Duchess 34th, who carried not only straight Duchess blood on the maternal side, but was also sired by Belvedere (1706). Thomas Bates

considered Duke of Northumberland his crowning achievement as a show bull, and also as a breeder, and he and his sire Belvedere undoubtedly contributed very largely to the fame of the Bates' strain of Shorthorns, and particularly to the quality of his celebrated Duchesses. While back of the female ancestry of both of these bulls through practically all lines, is found the bull Favorite (252), the fact remains that their qualities have, with justice, been attributed to the outstanding cows whose blood they combined and represented in such concentrated form. Shorthorn breeders have always placed great emphasis on the maternal ancestry not only of their bulls, but of their females as well, as instanced by the long established tribes traced back through the female side in each case to some noted cow.

Naturally, however, it is through the male progeny that the good qualities of an outstanding cow will be most rapidly and widely disseminated with resulting benefit to the breed, provided the inheritance is strong enough to be transmitted. In recent years, dairy breeders have been giving an increasing amount of attention to the female ancestry of sires purchased and since the inauguration of official tests and advanced registration, they have had the advantage of guaranteed figures of production upon which to base their judgment.

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