A Great Canadian Holstein Herd

The Results of Systematic Selection and Careful Breeding, as seen by an Editor of Farm and Dairy on a recent visit to the Het Loo Farm of Dr. L. De L. Harwood, as managed by that Veteran Holstein Expert, Gordon H. Manhard.

HAVE you ever visited Het Loo? Then there is a rare treat in store for you as a breeder of Holsteins or as a lover of good dairy cattle, when you are fortunate enough to spend a day at the big Het Loo stock farm at Vaudreuil. There Dr. L. de L. Harwood, one of Montreal's prominent medical men and leading surgeons, has built up one of the finest Holstein herds in the Dominion. In selecting the name "Het Loo" Dr. Harwood went back to the land where the Holstein has reigned supreme for a thousand years or more. Het Loo Castle is where Queen Wilhelmina of Holland does her fancy farming with pure-bred Holsteins. Hence Dr. Harwood has appropriated the name for his big 350-acre farm on the banks of the Ottawa, 34 miles from Montreal, and has indeed made it worthy of its well-known prototype. So many unusually good individuals of correct Holstein type, weight, size and capacity, and quite the richest of breeding, are possibly not to be found in any one breed in Ontario, Quebec, or in fact any place in the Dominion. Three years ago an editor of Farm and Dairy visited Vaudreuil to glean the facts and impression of this big herd for Farm and Dairy readers. Knowing that since that time, very careful and systematic work was being done in this great herd, it was with peculiar pleasure that the writer dropped off at Vaudreuil one day last week after the Ottawa fair to again acquaint Farm and Dairy readers with the wonderful progress in records, in uniformity of type—in short in developing a herd that makes every the true lover of Holsteins proud that he is a breeder of the "Black and Whites." Such is but an indication of what has been going on at Het Loo.

A Great Combination.

It requires only a passing glance into the Het Loo stables to know that this herd is in the hands of an expert breeder and feeder. It is mutually fortunate for both Dr. Harwood and that veteran Holstein expert, Gordon H. Manhard, that they are associated together at Het Loo in developing a truly great herd of Holsteins. He is a born cattleman and a past master at the art of feeding and handling the best in dairy cattle. The cattle love him. Even his little lad of four or five years is growing up in his father's footsteps and knows the names of many of the cows, and was quick to tell the writer the dams of each of the calves in the pens. Dr. Harwood is fortunate in having such a herdsman and particularly so in that their views coincide to a nicety when it comes to type and breeding. Busy and prominent a man as he is, Dr. Harwood himself is an expert on Holsteins and has at his finger tips the breeding, records, and details of practically every animal in his herd. With two such experts doing "team work" it is not too much to expect that Het Loo herd will hold one of the premier positions in the Dominion.

Character in Faces.

THE dairy buildings at Het Loo are not elaborate. But they are good. They are practical. They are such as are easily within the range of very ambitious dairy farmer. They are the kind in which can be produced strong, healthy, vigorous animals. They are well lighted by rows of windows on either side. The air is clean and sweet. The ventilation is good. You can step from the dairy stables into your home or into the city and not have to apologize for any odors on your clothes. Such is the atmosphere in which Mr. Manhard is keeping this herd. The writer will never forget his impressions as he stepped into the dairy stables that Thursday morning. The cement floors were neatly sprinkled with sawdust except for a margin just behind the gutter where slaked lime is used to absorb odors and take up the liquid manure. And then as I stood at the end of the long feed passage, and at a word from Mr. Manhard, had those two opposite rows of seventeen Holsteins faces turned in our direction—clear-cut faces—breedy faces—faces that showed character and the breeding behind them—placid, prominent eyes—clean muzzles—heads that showed the animals were in the pink of condition and ready for hard work. It was just before feeding time and every animal showed that keenness of appetite that tells you that they are not overfed and that they are in the hands of an expert. The mature animals were ranged on one side, the younger stock on the other.

A Record Making Row.

Perhaps in no other Holstein herd in Canada can a line of 17 mature animals show such records as are to be found in the stables at Het Loo. When I stepped to the rear of the mature cows, I understood how it was possible. The picture of those straight, strong backs, deep, strong hearts, and big full udders showing the capacity to produce,—is one seldom found in Canada or elsewhere. The 17 head of Holsteins in that row are of the type and breed that makes the Holstein breeder say, "I'm proud of my breed and I will always be a lover of the Black and Whites." It was a row of dairy forms,—a credit, indeed, to the Holstein breed, and worth a long trip to Het Loo to see.

In the entire row, the lowest record of any mature cow was 22 lbs. It contained two 30 lb. cows, one being in the three-year-old form. Three of them had produced over 100 lbs. milk a day—102 lbs.; 107 lbs. as a 3-yr.-old, and one 110.5 lbs. as mature. There were five producing from 91 to 97 lbs., and no mature cow in the row had less than 80 lbs. milk a day to her credit.

A Remarkable Cow, Big in Size and of Superior Type.

Alberta Maid is the kind most breeders are aiming to produce. Study her closely. She is built for both beauty and utility. Her home is at "Het Loo."

Over 18,000 lbs. at 2 Years.

SPACE at our disposal does not permit us to do justice to each individual, but to touch upon one here and there just to enable each of our readers to appreciate what Dr. Harwood is accomplishing at Het Loo. Heading the row is Het Loo Boon, almost a duplicate of her 875,000 sire, Rag Apple Korndyke 8th. Big growthy, deep and breedy, with a fine mellow skin and the udder of a producer, she shows the richness of her breeding in every way. At 2 yrs. old she made 18.58 lbs. butter, while her dam has a 4 yr. old record of 26.31, and whose dam again made 32.16 at the same age. Her sire, Rag Apple Korndyke 8th, is of the famous E. H. Dollar breeding. His dam, Lady Pontiac Korndyke, has a butter record of 33.607, and is a gd.-daughter of Pontiac Rag Apple. This heifer is one of the sweetest ones in the stable and although a little later in maturing, she cannot help but be heard from in the years to come. It will be interesting to watch her as she develops.

The third cow, Pietje Korndyke Queen, at once reminds you of Ormsby Jane Segis Aaggie, the new world champion, which she resembles in color, make-up and general appearance. She is a beautiful animal, hard to improve in any way. From the chine to the tip of the tail, she is the ideal, with a deep body, long quarter and a large, perfect udder. At 3 years she made 25.55 lbs., increasing it to 26.31 lbs. at 4 yrs. Her dam is a 24-lb. gr.-daughter of Belle Korndyke (25.77) also of Aaggie Grace 2nd's Pietertje. From our illustration our readers will get a fair impression of the excellent type and size not only of this wonderful cow but of "Het Loo" Holsteins in general. These two outstanding features, uniformity, type and size strike you most forcibly and backed as the great majority of them are with excellent records and the most popular breeding. Her sire was one of the best sons of Pietje 22nd Woodcrest Lad, 28 A.R.O. daughters, one of them with 35 lbs. at 4 yrs.

DeVries Sylvia, who stood fifth in the row, is a great individual. She has the same uniformly strong outline and an udder built for work. Just at present she is in the seven day record work. In breeding she traces to old Carmen Sylvia, one of the famous show cows. She traces also direct to May Echo and on both sides to Inka Sylvia and the big producers of that strain. She has the head of a feeder and a clear, prominent eye.

Sir Johanna Burnside is one of the Doctor's long distance producers, with 20,125 lbs. in nine months and 26 days, and 27.51 lbs. butter in seven days. Her best day's record is 110.5 lbs. She has the regular triangle with tremendous developed udder both forward and back and with outstanding veins. She is bred right into the true line of producers of the Johanna strain. Her sire, Sir Johanna Bessie, is a brother to Johanna De Kol VanBeers, 40.75 lbs. butter, and gd.-son of Sir Johanna, sire of Colantha 4th's Johanna, with 35.22.

Het Loo Clothilde is another individual that promises great things in long distance records. She is a sweet, breedy heifer and will make a large cow when mature. As a 2-yr.-old she made 23.21 lbs in seven days and 90.80 in 30 days. During the past season she made over 19,000 lbs. in the dairy test with 4 per cent. fat on 30-day work. As a 3-yr.-old she will easily make a record several thousands of pounds greater. She is one of the best daughters of Sir Aaggie Beets Segis, 10 A.R.O. daughters, a son of King Segis, the great transmitting sire, with 84 A.R.O. daughters, 7 above 30 lbs. The dam of Het Loo Clothilde was the first cow in Canada to cross the 30 lb. mark. It is a credit to Mr. Manhard as a breeder that he has the honor of producing this first record. Although to-day old Topsy is fifteen years old she still has the vitality to be kept for breeding purposes in the herd of a neighbor.

Mildred Pietertje Abbekerk, a 3-yr.-old, is a big factory for her age. She is built for work and on her first day she gave 60 lbs., and gained every day until she reached the 100 mark. She has a clean cut and square udder that will always keep its shape. At 2 yrs. she made 16.75, at 3 yrs. 30.21. Her dam is a 25 lb. cow, and her sire, Mildred De Kol Mutual King, is a gd.-son of De Kol 2nd Butter Boy 3rd, with 116 A.R.O. daughters and 92 proven sons.

One of the beauty pictures of the Het Loo herd is Alberta Maid, a cow of wonderful make-up, and with barrel heart, udder and veining in accordance. Note her illustration on this page. Did you ever see a cow in type that you liked much better? She is big and roomy and yet has a fine, loose silky skin. Seldom is it that one can find so much health, vigor and capacity indicated in the handling of an animal. As for records, she has made 30.32 lbs. butter in 7 days, with 2,907 lbs. milk in 30 days, and 125.7 lbs. butter. A son of this great cow heads the Macdonald College herd. She is strong in the blood of the Pietertje, Netherland and Clothilde families.

The running mate of Alberta Maid is the Canadian champion for 30 days, Francy Belle Wayne. At 3 yrs. she made 29.30 lbs. She is hard to fault, straight as an arrow, and a very sweet clean-cut head—a head that shows her breeding. She is the daughter of Francy 4th that stands next to her with 28.92 lbs., and who is sired by Sir Admiral Ormsby, whose daughter Jennie Bonerges Ormsby has over 35 lbs., and whose sire is by Duchess Ormsby Butter King, a son of Duchess Ormsby, whose five daughters average nearly 5 per cent. fat. Probably no other cow has the ability to transmit her high per cent. fat as has the Duchess.

The opposite row in the stable contained 17 of the younger animals. One of these is an 18.34 lb. daughter of Francy Queen Ormsby, a daughter of Francy 4th. Another is a 20 lb. 3 yr. old, Francy Sylvia, that traces to the Sylvia's on the dam's side. This row ends up with five 2-yr.-olds that are pictures of dairy form and which promise big records for the future.

The Herd Sires at "Het Loo"

Few big herds are favored with such wonderful sires as lead the Het Loo Holsteins. Pontiac Korndyke Het Loo, the senior sire, is admitted by Holstein experts as without doubt one of the finest sires in Canada. To-day at 3 yrs. and 7 mos. he weighs 2530 lbs. He is massive yet smooth and clean cut with all kinds of quality. He has a typical masculine head with character and intelligence outstanding. At his crest he stands the height of a man, and blends smoothly into the shoulder and back. He girths 8 ft. 8 in. at the heart. He is a lengthy bull yet strong in the back and long, wide and level in the quarters. The photo herewith does him justice. We hope to have a better one in the near future to show to our readers. Every one of his offspring are stamped with his influence and a duplicate of his long, thick quarters can be plainly recognized in his calves at Het Loo. Of the 13 born since last October, 11 have been heifers. In breeding he is a son of old Pontiac Korndyke with 123 A. R. O. daughters, 11 over 30 lbs., and 55 proven sons. In the conformation of his dam, Jewel Prize 4th, one can trace where he gets a large part of his quality. Jewel Prize 4th, as a 3-yr.-old, made 25.01 lbs. butter and tested exceptionally high in fat. She is by a gd.-son of De Kol 2nd Butter-boy.

Avondale Pontiac Echo.

The Jr. herd sire at Het Loo is well known to Holstein breeders both through-

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Females Such as This are a Credit to Any Herd.

In type, style and markings of veins, Pietje Korndyke Queen, here shown, could be taken for a half-sister to the world record cow, Ormsby Jane Segis Aaggie, a wonderful 4-yr.-old in Dr. Harwood's herd.