

Talk with the Owner of a Record Cow

Until this year no cow in Canada had record of having produced 90 lbs. of butter in seven days. Last spring, however, this record was established by a Holstein cow, Nanuet Topsy Clothilde, a six-year-old cow owned by Gordon Manhard, of Leeds County, Ont., near Brockville. This cow produced 586.35 lbs. of milk and 90.21 lbs. of butter in seven days. In 30 days she produced 2,572 lbs. of milk and 117.96 lbs. of butter. The latter fat test was the highest on record. For seven days the test averaged 4.35 and for the 30 days 3.98.

A representative of The Dairyman and Farming World visited Mr. Manhard's well kept farm recently and was much interested in what he saw and heard. "I started breeding Holsteins seven years ago," said Mr. Manhard, "with one cow that I purchased from Mr. W. G. Ellis of York County. A son of hers was the first bull in Canada admitted to the advanced registry. I still have this old cow. She is 15 years old and this year gave 45 to 50 lbs. of milk a day after freshening. I next purchased three head from Mr. H. Bollert, of Oxford County, and one from Mr. A. Hallman, of Wainwright County. These animals formed the foundation of my herd."

"Two years ago I was sick and sold out my herd to take a rest. Taking the rest, however, did not agree with me, as I found that I was not contented, so later I went to the States and purchased five cows paying \$150 to \$275 each for them. I now have a herd of 47 head including 20 milkers, 11 yearlings and 15 calves under a year. Nothing but cream is sold from the farm. It is shipped to Brockville and I receive 80c a gal. for it."

A GRAND ANIMAL

The Holstein cow that made the record was one of a number of splendid animals noticed in Mr. Manhard's stable. She was an exceptionally large animal having a nice head, clean cut neck and showing a splendid wedge shape any way she was taken. Her barrel was very large and showed true dairy type. At the time of our visit she was rather rough looking but this was due to the tremendous amount of milk she had been giving. Mr. Manhard informed us that when dry she put on flesh rapidly. We had never seen an animal showing such evidence of a great capacity to consume large quantities of feed and thereby produce enormous quantities of milk.

An interesting incident concerning this cow, while she was in the test, was related by Mr. Manhard. "She freshened," said Mr. Manhard, "in the spring. It was the worst season possible as the cows were bawling to get out on grass. I kept her in the stable until the grass got good. When I let her out the grass was up to her eyes. I fed her all the grain she would eat but still she used to come to the stable and bawl for something. I could not make out what she wanted. Mr. Jones, the official inspector, who was conducting the test told me that he thought that she wanted something else to eat. Acting on his suggestion I fed her a good fork-full of hay. She ate it up clean. This showed that the grass was not sufficient for her and that there was something in the hay that she needed. As soon as I commenced feeding her hay in addition to grass her milk production increased as did also her butter fat test. From June 10 to July 10, which was sometime after the test was over, she averaged 71 lbs. of milk a day on grass alone."

SOME FARMERS SKEPTICAL

Many farmers find it difficult to believe that a cow can give such an immense quantity of milk as this animal has. Mr. Manhard stated that he told a Mr. Sheffield, of Lyndhurst, in Leeds County, an old man 70 years of age, about this cow. Mr. Sheffield stated that he found it hard to believe that she could give so much milk and that he intended to visit Mr. Manhard's place to see the cow. He said that he had relatives that he wanted to see. A little later he walked

from Lyndhurst to Mr. Manhard's place, a distance of 35 miles, where he saw the cow. "He reached our place just at milking time," said Mr. Manhard, "and watched us milk her. She gave 75 lbs. of milk that day on grass alone. He stayed with us all day and watched each milking and went away satisfied that the cow was capable of producing as much milk as I had told him. People have come considerable distances to see this cow and have been greatly interested in the large quantities of milk that she gives."

THE FARM CROPS

Mr. Manhard's farm comprises 196 acres of which 125 acres are under cultivation, the remainder being in pasture, bush and swamp. The farm crop this year included 16 acres of corn, 2 of sugar beets, and $\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre of turnips. The turnips are grown as feed for the young cattle. "I find that turnips are a splendid feed for young bull calves and for stock that is to be fattened," said Mr. Manhard. "It is no use for farmers to claim that it is impossible to detect the flavor of turnips in milk even if the turnips are fed immediately after milking. If milk from cows that have been fed on turnips is kept in a can for a little while it is an easy matter to detect the turnip flavor when you lift the cover from the can and smell the milk."

"In winter I like to feed my milk cows sugar beets. They make a cheap ration, keep the cows healthy and produce a sweet milk. I always slice my sugar beets with a slicer. I am inclined to think that it is better for cattle when sugar beets are fed to them whole. Ensilage is fed with the beets."

HOW THE COWS ARE FED

"A cow giving 50 lbs. of milk is generally fed 10 lbs. of grain a day. Cows that give 60 to 70 lbs. of milk a day are given more grain. Sometimes they are fed 15 lbs. of grain a day. With this grain I feed ensilage, sugar beets and clover

"Last fall I seeded an acre of alfalfa. It came through the winter in good shape and this year I secured two tons of hay at the first cutting and a ton at the second cutting on the 27th of July. To be successful in growing alfalfa, I believe that it is necessary that the crop shall be sowed carefully. Everywhere I go I find that alfalfa is recognized as being one of the greatest and best feeds for dairy cattle. In New York State breeders of cattle tell me that no matter how good clover hay they feed, together with grain, as soon as they substitute alfalfa for the clover the cows give increased quantities of milk. Colorado is a great alfalfa country. Where lands are worn out the farmers can nearly always catch a crop of alfalfa. They grow it for four or five years and then are able to get as high as 50 bushels of wheat to the acre. A brother-in-law of mine in Colorado succeeded in doing this. This fall I propose seeding five acres more of alfalfa and will continue to seed more as fast as I can get it caught."

HIGH TESTERS

Mr. Manhard is making somewhat of a specialty of Holstein cattle that give high testing milk. As already stated his champion cow holds a record for the highest test of any Holstein cow in Canada for 30 days. Another of his cows, Rachel Schillard Clothilde, produced 1,136 lbs. of milk in 14 days with an average test of 3.6. Another cow, Coral De Kols Pet, gave 865 lbs. of milk in 14 days with an average test of 4.1. This cow has been sold. Mr. Manhard has one of her daughters. Last year Mr. Manhard sold three cows, the milk from which in official tests averaged over 4 per cent.

At the time of our visit everything about the house and stables was neat and clean. The cow



A Remarkably Fine Yield of Corn in York Co., Ont.

The illustration shows corn 14 feet high, on a farm at Weston, Ont., owned by Mr. W. G. Thretheway, of Toronto, who recently made a fortune in Cobalt mines. Mr. Thretheway's farm, which was fully described in our issue of July 22, comprises 125 acres, 16 of which were devoted to corn this year.

hay, and once a week a feed of straw which they seem to appreciate.

"When I have cows that are being tested I feed a mixture of bran, ground oats, gluten meal and oil cake meal, and all the ensilage they will eat clean, as well as roots. The cows are always fed carefully. I never give them more than they will eat clean."

stables had been white washed and the animals were well bedded. Near the stable was a nice milkhouse in which the milk was separated. Mr. Manhard has a nice farm and an exceptionally fine herd of Holsteins. He is in a section that is becoming noted as a Holstein center and he is already recognized as one of Canada's leading Holstein breeders.