

THE DAIRY.

The Outlook for Canadian Dairying.

BY J. A. RUDDICK, DAIRY COMMISSIONER, OTTAWA.

Dairy products are considered among the essential items in the world's food supply during the present shortage, and cheese especially is given priority in the matter of transportation as far as Canada is concerned. Canada is very favorably situated from a transportation standpoint as compared with Australia and New Zealand. New Zealand is practically our only competitor in the cheese market. On May 31 there were in store in that country, awaiting shipment, 770,000 boxes of cheese, being the bulk of the season's output, which had accumulated owing to the difficulty of finding vessels for transportation over such a great distance.

The herds in the dairying countries of Europe are being very much depleted, and the milk supply is further diminished by the shortage of feeding stuffs on which the European dairymen depend so largely. It will be some years after the war before the number of cows or the supply of feed is brought up to normal again. The shortage of ocean tonnage will not be relieved by the declaration of peace. A large amount of shipping will be required for many months to demobilize the armies now in France, and as long as the stringency in ocean space exists, Canada will have a preference over the Argentine and Australasia.

Before the war Russia had become a very important source of supply for dairy products, ranking next to Denmark in the export of butter. It would seem to be very doubtful, in the disorganized state of that country, if Russian butter will cut much figure in the market for some time to come. So much the better for Canada.

Of course it is impossible for anyone to predict how prices will rule after the war, but it seems quite certain that the price of dairy products will be relatively high compared with other farm products.

Oleomargarine Not Popular.

The quantity of oleomargarine imported since the prohibition was removed down to July 31 was only 4,068, 647 lbs. and the quantity manufactured in Canada

to the same date was approximately 6,000,000 pounds. These quantities are not large compared with 140,000,000 pounds of butter, which we consumed during the same period. The actual consumption of oleomargarine is even less than the figures given, because there are large quantities now held by importers who cannot dispose of it. The sale of oleomargarine has been decreasing since the first months after its introduction. A large number of people purchased it once out of curiosity and many others being disappointed in the quality have discontinued using it. In view of these facts it has been rather curious to find the daily press recently displaying such headlines as "An Amazing Increase in Oleomargarine Consumption," etc., etc. The introduction of oleomargarine has probably had some effect in discouraging the production of dairy products, though to what extent it is of course impossible to say.

During the early part of the season the receipts of cheese at Montreal were running behind those of 1917, but the shortage has been wiped out and receipts now exceed those of last year. Montreal receipts are a good index of cheese production in Canada and they now indicate that the season's make will be fully up to last year, and probably a little larger. It is claimed that the make of cheese was curtailed during April, May and June by the desire of the farmers to have skim-milk for feeding young animals. The fact that the stock of butter in Canada on August 1, 1918, exceeded last year's quantity on the same date by nearly 3,000,000 pounds gives some color to this view. No butter was exported in either year prior to August 1, so the figures are strictly comparable. The stock of cheese on hand on August 1 this year was much smaller than it was last year, but that is explained by the fact that the Dairy Produce Commission has been able to clear all receipts promptly this year, while last year there was a large accumulation on August 1 on account of the delay which occurred at the beginning of the season.

Two new milk condensing factories have been started this year, the supplies for which have been drawn from cheese factories. It is evident from the facts that the production of milk continues to increase. The total production of milk is the important thing. We should get away from the habit of drawing conclusions as to the state of the dairying industry in Canada from

what is happening in any one of its branches, or the tendency in any particular locality to make more or less of any one product.

Herd Improvement Rapid.

As I have pointed out elsewhere, even the number of cows is not a true guide as to progress, or the lack of progress, in dairy production. Owing to the improvement which has been made in dairy herds during the last 10 years, 3 cows are now producing as much as 4 did, or in other words it would have taken an increase of over 800,000 in the number of cows to give the increase in milk derived from the improvement in herds. This improvement will continue if the keen interest now being shown in the cow testing schemes carried on by the Dairy Branch is any criterion, and if so, it will be a very important factor in the future of the dairy industry.

Now it is easy to calculate the increased production but it is not so easy to arrive at the increased profits which have resulted from herd improvement, but it goes without saying that the increased profits from the increased yield of milk must be very considerable, and should have an important influence on the future growth of the dairying industry.

There will be some butter imported this year into Western Canada from New Zealand, not because of any scarcity but because it can be laid down in Vancouver at less than Canadian butter. The price is relatively low in New Zealand and they are taking advantage of some freight space which is available. It will not affect the price of butter in Eastern Canada, the net result being that we will have just that much more to export at a higher price.

Dairymen have an assurance of a stability of prices as long as the present plan of exporting through a Commission is continued. All speculation is eliminated, and it is not likely that prices will be lower than they are now while the war lasts. The Imperial Ministry of Food realizes that a good price is necessary to encourage production.

Since the production of milk has continued to increase under the handicap of the existing shortage of labor, it would seem more than probable that there will be a still larger increase after the war is over, and when the labor situation has again become normal.

What the Dairy Breeds Have Done in 1918.

If it is true, as some contend, that the success of the Dairy Industry in the past and the hope of the industry in the future lies in the use of pure-bred animals, then the various breed associations that are engaged in waging a relentless war against the scrub, wherever it may be found, are playing a most important part in the upbuilding of the live-stock industry in Canada, and are vitally concerned in the production of the most nourishing food known in the human diet. Breed associations as a rule are not credited with showing a great deal of interest in the problem of milk production on a commercial scale, but are thought to be interested almost solely in the dissemination of pure-bred animals. The connecting link between the work of the breeder and the milk producer is becoming stronger every day, and exists by virtue of the fact that great and increasing emphasis is being laid upon the milk and butter-fat records which breeders are able to secure from their pure-bred animals.

It is only natural, therefore, that the eyes of all dairymen should be turned in the direction of the breed associations, and that the progress made by these associations in the building up of creditable performances and the sale of stock for high prices should be watched closely by all concerned with the development of the industry. We have attempted to gather together here in a limited space a brief account of the progress of the four common breeds since the beginning of the present year. Much has happened in the domain of herd testing and in the auction ring that must be left untouched at this time; many individuals have broken records in their various classes whose praises we dare not take space to sing, and much also has happened since 1918 came to us that we have not been able to gather together. All that we can do is to note the outstanding records and prices which have accompanied the extraordinary progress of all the breeds, leaving the reader to ferret out, at his leisure, such of the remainder as will interest him.

Holstein-Friesians.

CANADA.—Probably the most notable Canadian record made since January first, 1918, is that of Lakeview Dutchland Artis, whose seven-day butter record of 43.05 lbs., from 564.5 lbs. milk, displaces May Echo Sylvia, former champion in the mature class for the seven-day test, by 2.05 lbs. Lakeview Dutchland Calamity Rose in the senior two-year-old class for seven days made a record of 31.71 lbs. butter from 496.9 lbs. milk and displaces Alta Posch, champion in this class for 16 years with a record of 27.06 lbs. butter from 586.15 lbs. milk. In the Record of Performance tests there are also two new champions; Posch Queen Wayne, milk 25,085 lbs. and butter 1,121.25 lbs. displaces Toitilla of Riverside, milk 24,094 lbs. and butter 1,057 lbs. in the mature class, while in the three-year-old class Calamity Show Mechthilde 2nd, with a record of 23,274 lbs. milk and 1,053.75 lbs. butter displaces Plus Pontiac Artis, whose record is 990 lbs. butter from 21,018 lbs. milk. Other very creditable records have been made, among them being that of Low Banks Queen Pontiac Korndyke, whose record of 553 lbs. milk in

seven days tied the world's record for a heifer freshening under 24 months of age.

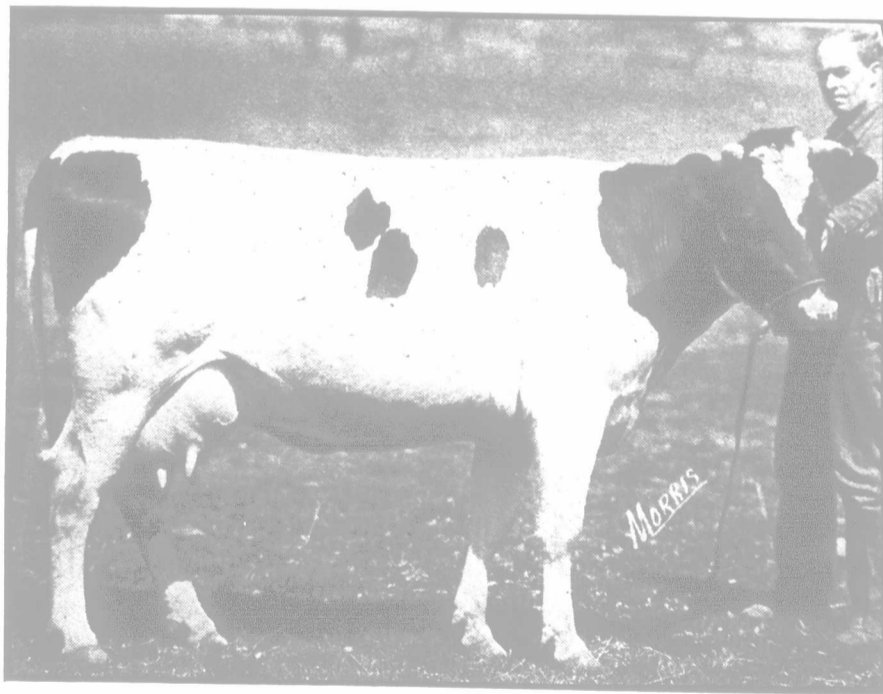
Several notable auction sales have been held so far this year in Canada, and a few animals have changed hands at handsome prices. The highest-priced bull so far this year at Canadian Holstein auctions was Riverside Johanna Pontiac sold at the Hamilton Consignment Sale for \$2,000, while the highest-priced female was Hill-Crest King Pontiac Rauwerd, sold at a previous sale for the tidy sum of \$4,400, buyers and breeders in both cases being Canadians. At the latter sale two other females, Hill-Crest May Echo Countess and Hill-Crest Echo Sylvia Rauwerd sold for \$3,000 and \$2,900, respectively. Canadian Holstein progress is also reflected in the remarkable prices paid for Canadian-

sales of Canadian-bred stuff point unmistakably to a high regard for Canadian Holsteins.

No importations have taken place from Holland, but several animals of high producing ability have been brought in from the United States. Among these are: Glen Alex Queen De Kol, a yearling heifer purchased at \$12,000; a bull calf, Sir Ormsby Maid Champion, bought for \$3,300; and the 39-lb. cow Riverview Pontiac Hopeful, purchased jointly from New York State by two Canadian breeders for \$3,550. It is worthy of note also that, pending ratification by the annual convention of the Association, the Board of Directors of the Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada have arrived at an amicable understanding with their sister association in the United States, looking to complete

reciprocity in the matter of registration between the two associations. This is a distinct step forward and will mean a saving of nearly \$100 in the registration of some animals whose ancestors are not already recorded in the herd book of the country to which they are being shipped. There have been no changes in the rules governing registration in the Canadian herd book, nor have there been any changes in the Record of Merit or the Record of Performance rules.

UNITED STATES.—World's records for butter-fat production in the seven-day, thirty-day and yearly divisions have been added to the already lengthy list which the American Holstein has compiled. Early in the year Lady Netherland Pontiac, a junior 4-year-old, captured the world's championship with a production of 43.59 lbs. butter (583 lbs. milk) during a 7-day official test. Then a California cow, Miss Valley Mead De Kol Walker, broke the world's record for



Rose DeKol Wayne Butter Boy.

World's record two-year-old yearly butter producer—1142.32 lbs. butter from 20,830i lbs. milk.

bred animals at the National Sale at Milwaukee, held at the time of the annual convention of the American Association. World's record prices for cattle of all breeds were reached by the sale of a Canadian-bred bull calf, Champion Sylvia Johanna, for the huge sum of \$106,000, while Het Loo Pietertje, world's record champion junior two-year-old butter producer for seven, thirty and sixty days, also consigned by a Canadian breeder, brought \$12,750. We understand that this heifer was really the highest-priced female in the big sale, owing to the fact that there was some dispute as to the terms of sale of another female knocked down at a higher figure, but later re-sold at \$10,000. Such

fat in the 8-months-after-calving division, as a junior 3-year-old; her butter amounting to 25.25 lbs. in 7 days. Another world's record was attached by Fairview Korndyke Mata, who displaced her stablemate, Ormsby Jane Segis Aaggie (since dead) for 30-day butter-fat production. Fairview Korndyke Mata's figures for 30 days are 148.253 lbs. fat, equal to 185.32 lbs. butter. The senior 3-year-old world's record has also gone to another stablemate, Rag Apple Korndyke, her 7-day official test crediting her with 42.45 lbs. butter (665.6 lbs. milk). Not all the records that have been made are for short-time production; Rose De Kol Wayne Butter Boy, an Iowa cow, making a world's record for butter produc-