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## WHAT ONE COW HAS DONE

G. A. Gilroy, Leeds Co., Ont.

**The Success of One Cow in Laying the Foundation of a Dairy Herd. Over \$5,000 Traces Directly to Her Credit. A Strong Argument in Favor of Starting Right.**

**I**N August, 1894, we secured the cow Carmen Sylvia as a foundation female for the Maple Glen Holstein herd. This cow was three years old and was due to freshen in a few days. To say that she proved a good investment is to put it mildly. She would have been cheap at 10 times what she cost us. Still many people said (like some would say nowadays) "what a fool to pay so much money for a cow. You will never get it back." The results, however, have been most flattering, in fact it was not until after we had lost her last Christmas, 1907, that we fully knew how to appreciate her value in our herd.

### \$5,000 WORTH OF STOCK

It was while admiring and appreciating her

offspring in our herd that we became curious to know just what she had done for us. As a matter of fact, we all like to know the value of things in dollars and cents. Having had her in the herd for 13 years, we decided to reckon up just what this one cow had done for us.

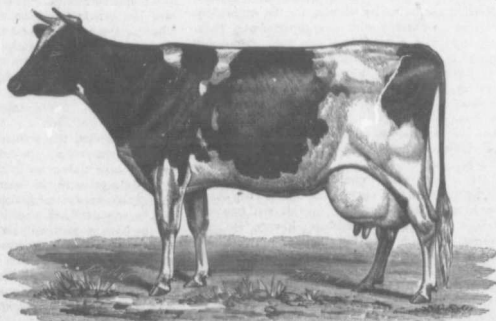
In reckoning up the amount received from the sales of her stock, we did not credit her with any sales of offspring by her sons which were held in service on other females. We simply reckoned on the sales of stock from her, or her daughter's progeny most of which were sold young and at small money. We found that during the time we owned her, we sold over \$3,000 worth of stock from her progeny. Aside from this, we still have on hand some valuable animals of her breeding. Placing a fair value on these, we found that we had over \$2,000 worth of her progeny in our herd.

### HER SUCCESSSES

As many will remember, this cow Carmen Sylvia, came to the front in the fall of 1895 by gaining a victory in a close contest over other breeds in the great milk test at the Toronto exhibition. She was then a four-year-old. She won the \$150 prize for competition in the test. She repeated this victory at the same exhibition two years later. Her first daughter, proved to be of even better quality than her dam. This heifer was a winner in the same test in later years. As a three-year-old, this heifer made a great reputa-

tion by producing 21.95 lbs. butter in a seven-day official test. This made the world's record for a two-year-old. We still have this cow in the herd, together with a daughter of hers that has proved her quality by giving 665½ lbs. milk and 26.04 lbs. butter in a seven-day official test. The latter has a daughter, now a two-year-old, that made 15.42 lbs. butter in seven days. This makes the fourth generation which we have tested, the average record of which is over 20 lbs. each in seven days for two cows, a three-year-old and a two-year-old heifer.

We have 10 head of Carmen's progeny in a herd close in quality to that just mentioned. In placing the value at \$2,000 for what I have on hand,



Carmen Sylvia, Founder of the Sylvia Family

This cow, as bred by G. A. Gilroy, of Leeds Co., Ont., had an A. E. O. butter test of 19.32 lbs.; a one year milk record of 17,327 lbs. See adjoining article.

it is apparent that I have not over-estimated them, considering the quality of the stock. It will, therefore, be seen that over \$5,000 traces to the credit of this foundation female.

### HER MILK PRODUCTION

A word about her milk production. The least amount of milk given in one season was 8,140 lbs. Her best year's production was 17,564 lbs. of milk. During the 13 years that this cow was in our herd, she produced an average of over 10,600 lbs. milk a year, making a grand total of milk produced of 139,797 lbs., or close to 70 tons of milk. Placing the value on this milk at an average of \$18 a ton, it would net over \$1,250, a creditable amount indeed. Had this milk been sold at five cents a quart, note that it would have made \$2,796.94, nearly \$3,000. Of course, this latter figure could not have been obtained unless it was sold to a city milk trade.

So far, I have made no account of her winnings in milk tests, which were over \$500. Nor have I mentioned prizes won on her in the show ring

when shown singly or in the herd. She has been a first prize animal at Kingston, Toronto, Montreal, Sherbrooke, Quebec and Ottawa fairs, as well as being a member of the first prize herd at each. She was in the herds that won four of the five gold medals, that we have won at the Ottawa fair.

### HELPED TO MAKE SALES

This cow has been of great value also from an advertising standpoint and helped to make many good sales of our stock. Many a good breeder today is proud of some Sylvia blood which they possess in their herd.

We hope in the near future to have some members of this family in the 30-pound class. Judging from the past, this is easily within the range of possibility as each generation is proving better than the one before it.

In conclusion, permit me to say that each and every one who reads this article will be made welcome if they will come and inspect the thrifty lot of Holsteins now in Maple Glen herd. I can assure all that that is not only profitable to own animals of similar or better merit to the foregoing but it is a great source of pleasure to see the pasture fields well dotted with large, productive, peaceful, black and white cattle.

It is with reluctance that I place before the readers of The Canadian Dairyman and Farming World this account of what one cow has done. Possibly, some of its readers have done better with their cows. I hope, however, that my testimony will encourage others who have had less experience to make a move in the right direction, namely to select better cows, to give better care and closer attention to their cattle and to prove for themselves and to others the old statement, "The best are none too good and are always cheapest."

### An Experiment in Rural Education

W. C. Good, Brant Co., Ont.

I have lately visited an agricultural community which, from an educational standpoint, certainly possesses some unique features. As educational ideals and methods are now being vigorously debated, and as our educational system is undergoing fairly rapid change, it may be of interest to your readers to know something of some unique features to which I have referred. I shall first describe one of their schools, and then give in substance an interview I had with the headmaster or principal.

The school building was a large, handsome and substantial one of four stories. It contained eight or ten ordinary class rooms, a museum, a library, a large hall for meetings, a manual training department with wood and metal working rooms, a domestic science department, laboratories for physics, chemistry and biology, and a large combined gymnasium and playroom in the basement. Besides these were some smaller rooms,—private offices, cloak rooms, etc.

The grounds were as elaborate and complete as the building. They comprised ten acres, bordered by a handsome double belt of maples and spruce. The ground immediately around and in front of the building was laid out in lawn, shrubbery and