

Our Folks in British Columbia.

Our British Columbia Letter (From Farm and Dairy's Special Correspondent)

Colony Farm at Essondale, B.C., has won many laurels in its day, but an achievement which, to at least one member of the staff, C. W. Holmes, herdsman, gave the greatest satisfaction of all, was made only a few days ago in a seven-day official test, in which cows all over Canada could compete. Madame Posh Pauline, who has been in milk some three months, produced 754.2 lbs. of milk testing approximately 3.2 butter fat. The second cow in Canada tested at the same time was Rauswer Count De Kol Pauline, owned by G. A. Brethen, of Norwood, Ontario, which produced 720.2 lbs. The official testers of the two cows were in telegraphic communication throughout the week, and the excitement reigning in the rival camps in the closing hours may well be imagined. This was the Colony Farm cow's record:

First day	107.4
Second day	104.4
Third day	106.5
Fourth day	111.7
Fifth day	105.3
Sixth day	112.8
Seventh day	106.4

Total for seven days . . . 754.2

For two weeks preceding the test, Madame Posh Pauline had been producing over 100 lbs. of milk daily. There are well over 100 pedigreed Holstein cows at the Colony Farm, among which are many prize-winners and recordholders. They are one of the chief attractions, and farmers come for miles to see them. The thousands of visitors to the fairs at Vancouver, Victoria, and New Westminster last fall will remember with what admiration they viewed the superb Colony Farm cows exhibited there. Pure bred Clydesdales and Hackneys are also specialized in. Several of the former were sent to the Chicago Show in late November, and against all comers from all over the continent won prizes.

An adjunct of the provincial mental hospital, and established in accordance with the belief that outdoor labor is one of the best treatments for insanity, the Colony Farm covers 1,700 acres, 600 of which are level and alluvial, at the junction of the Fraser and Coquitlam Rivers. Dr. C. E. Doherty is superintendent, and Dr. J. G. McKay his capable assistant. The officials directly connected with the agricultural department are Bursar Gowan McGowan, who has introduced an efficient system of farm accounting; Duncan Montgomery, farm foreman; C. W. Holmes, herdsman; and Malcolm Stewart, who has charge of the Clydesdales and Hackneys.

THE DUAL-PURPOSE COW

The story of a visit to the British Isles to purchase a herd of Short-horn milkers for James J. Hill, the Great Northern railroad magnate, was narrated by Prof. Thomas Shaw at the annual convention of the British Columbia Stockbreeders' Association,

held at Victoria. Mr. Shaw's subject was "The Dual-Purpose Cow," upon which he has very pronounced views. After referring to the hostility of many agricultural colleges and the popular conception that the cow answering this description is a myth, the speaker said that this antagonism had cost the United States and Canada millions of dollars. He rebutted the arguments of critics of the dual-purpose breeds by describing what he had found on his recent visit to England. Eighty per cent. of the milk produced there came from dual-purpose cows. He found in Paington a herd of South Devons, as large as the Shorthorns but a bit coarser in limb, of even color and type, and the standard for the herd was 8,000 lbs. of milk a year, while the bull weighing 3,000 lbs. Four South Devon bullocks were being prepared for the Smithfield Show, and at 30 months weighed 1,800 lbs. easily.

On the famous John Evans farm he found a herd of Red Lincolns, which had been milked for over 30 years, and the average for that period exceeded 8,000 lbs.

In a Red Poll dairy similar facts came to light. The celebrated Dorothy of Tring, weighing 1,500 lbs., had averaged 10,500 lbs. of milk for ten years.

Professor Shaw stated that prices were advancing rapidly in the Old Country, and that there was much competition between Argentine, South African, and Australian buyers. The herd he brought back for Jim's Hill cost up to \$500 apiece, but there were better animals than he secured, the prices running to \$5,000. According to the wish of the convention, Hon. Price Ellison, Minister of Agriculture, promised to attempt to secure the Hill Shorthorn herd as one of the attractions at this year's exhibition.

The British Columbia Stockbreeders' Association passed a resolution approving of further enforcement of the compulsory tuberculosis test. The Minister of Agriculture stated he had recommended to the Government that the compensation for condemned animals be increased.

PRICES OF BEEF

Is there money in cattle-raising in British Columbia? Everyone knows that in the past the number of head produced has been comparatively small, but the Kamloops, Ashcroft, and other districts are undoubtedly very well adapted to the occupation. At present the question is very much to the fore, because of proposed grazing fees of 25 cents per head on all cattle turned out on forest reserve land. The larger cattle ranchers, some of whom own considerably over 100 head, are up in arms at the suggestion, crying out that if the Government wishes to keep down the price of beef such a fee must not be charged. They threaten to sell off their herds for beef and leave the business.

Considerable has been said on the subject in the Legislature at Victoria. J. P. Shaw, member for Kamloops, strongly opposes the fee. One of the delegation of cattlemen was

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