

## APICULTURE

### More about Bee Keepers

Editor, Farm and Dairy.—The postmistress letter of brother Holtermann in your paper about the 11th of May suited most old-time bee men well. As a set we would naturally like to smudge all the small fry out and also raise our price, but I think that the Government in giving us aid should encourage rather than discourage all who are at all disposed to embark in bee-keeping. What if some do fail? Shall their failure make the truth of none effect?

I like our Ilderton lady's (Miss Ethel Robson) address and wish her God speed if she can induce a hundred farmers' wives or daughters to try bee-keeping.—R. F. Whiteside, Victoria Co., Ont.

### Secrets About Getting Honey

"Bees require to be kept from swarming else they will not produce a maximum flow of honey. It is an easy matter to prevent swarming. I only had two swarms from my whole year's last year." This is the substance of these remarks Mr. J. W. Clark, of Brant Co., Ont., told the secret of how to do it to one of the editors of Farm and Dairy recently when he was at his place for a few hours. The secret is give them lots of room.

Mr. Clark last year made over 5000 out of honey from about 65 colonies. There are several things worth knowing about how Mr. Clark manages his bees. These we shall here record.

"With the strong colonies, allow in May, I raise the brood and allow the queen to work below in the brood chamber and the super above. When the white clover flow commences I shake the bees down to the lower super or brood chamber. The queen then has lots of room to work in the upper chamber, as well as that below, hatches out and there are lots of bees. The main secret of a good honey flow is to have lots of bees to gather it. This practice of raising the brood materially increases the number of bees."

When the honey flow comes on in real earnest Mr. Clark raises up the hive from the bottom board and places long wedges under the sides so as to leave an open entrance space about an inch and a quarter or an inch and a half, providing lots of ventilation. Give the bees lots of room and lots of ventilation" said Mr. Clark, "and you will have no swarms. I prefer a long wedge running the length of the hive rather than the short blocks, which leave the hives open all round. When the hive is open only in front there is not the same danger of robbing as when open all round and one can leave the wedges in for a longer time without danger."

### Holstein or Ayrshire?—Mr. Carlyle Again

(Continued from page 2.)

of only two or three cents a 100 lbs. on their milk. Mr. Bollert was very particular to add in the value of the whey while neglecting the butter fat content of the milk, although down in this country our factories sometimes have to force their patrons to draw away their whey.

**COST OF MILKING**  
Mr. Bollert ignores also the point I made that the Holstein cow was milked three times a day, while the Ayrshire heifer was milked but twice. He allowed what was fair for the trouble and cost involved in this extra milking, together with the difference in butter fat already mentioned, I am inclined to think, it would mean that instead of there being a profit of

\$3.40 for the month in favor of their champion Holstein cow, the profit would be on the side of this ordinary Ayrshire heifer.

Mr. Bollert contends that my estimate of 10c. as the cost of milking a cow is excessive. I possibly know as well as Mr. Bollert what is involved in the cost of milking. If he is willing to milk cows on that basis, including the bringing of the cows from pasture and returning them afterwards and the feeding of the milk, then he is willing to work for less than I am. Some of us find it hard, especially when stock is milked three times a day, to procure the help to do it.

#### THE FEED CONSUMED

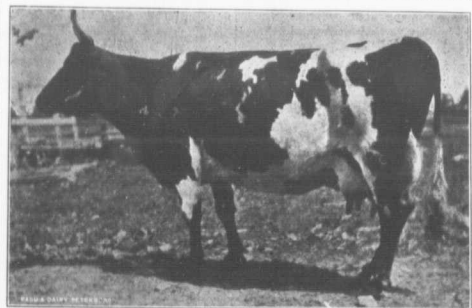
Mr. Bollert doubts the difference I stated in the feed consumed by the two animals, and states that in the dairy tests in the winter fair the results have shown him that the

Farmers in this section who have Holsteins tell me that their Holsteins will not continue to do well for any length of time unless they are given the commercial feeds extra.

As regards the small-teated Ayrshires, to which Mr. Bollert referred in his answer to my letter, I might state that this defect of some Ayrshires is worked for all it is worth by Holstein breeders like Mr. Bollert, although this defect is now the exception and not the rule. I know Holsteins that have the same defect.

#### ANOTHER SWALLOW

In his letter in the June 8th issue, in answer to Mr. Turner's letter, Mr. Bollert admits that Snowflake, Mr. Turner's Ayrshire, is a grand cow and that she has fine teats, and he does not attempt to disprove Mr. Turner's figures showing the relative profits of Snowflake and the champion Holstein Evergreen March. Instead, he dodges



An Ayrshire Cow that is an Economical Producer

In the adjoining article, Mr. W. J. Carlyle, Dundas Co., Ont., gives the production and cost of feed of his Ayrshire cow, Buttercup, here illustrated, and compares her as a profit maker with Evergreen March, the champion Canadian Holstein performer. Notice the splendid dairy type of this cow. She would be a credit to any breed.

Ayrshires consume as much as the Holsteins. Few will believe this, as it is a demonstrated fact that large animals like the Holsteins must of necessity consume more feed than the smaller Ayrshires or Jerseys. Mr. Bollert himself, in a little further on in his letter, draws attention with pride to the fact that Holsteins have "the capacity and the constitution to consume a large quantity of the food" "ders produced on the farm." I might add also that I have been informed by a well-known Canadian authority on dairy tests that some at the head of the Holstein breeders during the three days of the test cut down on the feed of their cows to increase the butter fat test of their milk, although they feed heavily for a month or so before the test. I cannot, however, of course, very well prove this to be the case. I have Mr. John McKee, of Norwich, however, as authority for the statement that in his experience in these tests, which is even greater than that of Mr. Bollert, he has never seen the Ayrshires fed nearly as much as the Holsteins.

#### THE YEARLY RECORDS

Mr. Bollert seems to wonder why I did not give the yearly records of the two animals in question, since both were entered in the Record of Performance. I am perfectly willing to give the yearly record of my Ayrshire heifer and the cost of her feed, but I have never heard the yearly record of this cow or the cost of her feed.

In his last letter published in the June 8th issue of Farm and Dairy, Mr. Bollert endeavors to prove that Holsteins can make records without much grain and mill feeds. I have yet to hear of any of the large records we read so much about having been made in that way—the record of Evergreen March being a case in point.

the issue by saying that "one swallow does not make summer." The Ayrshire heifer I have mentioned might, I presume, be considered another swallow. In addition, however, I will give the record of another of my cows, Buttercup, which in 9 days during April, in the yearly test, gave 630 lbs. of milk, or an average of 70 lbs. a day, her best day's record being 76 lbs. In 30 days she gave 1,894 lbs. of milk testing 3.5, or a total of 71.97 lbs. of butter fat. Her average daily production of milk for the month was 63.2-15 lbs. of milk.

(Concluded on page 13.)

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