



We Welcome Practical Progressive Ideas

FARM AND DAIRY

& RURAL HOME

The Recognized Exposition of Dairying in Canada



Trade increases the wealth and glory of a country; but its real strength and stamina are to be looked for among the cultivators of the land.—Lord Chatham

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The Breeder's Ideal--Why So Necessary?

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THE person with no ideal is much like the wanderer of the highway; he has no destination other than wandering; therefore, he never achieves much. The breeder who will win success in his business must have an ideal ever before him.

Let a person start to erect a building of any kind with no fixed idea of what he wants, and he will not only make very slow progress in building, but when he has it completed he will have something entirely different from what he wants. Therefore, as a warning to the young breeder

just starting to lay the foundation of his herd, as well as to some older ones who have made very little progress as breeders, let me say that if you are to make a success of your business (which I think is the desire of everyone so engaged) you must get right down to the very root of matters. Before starting out, make sure of what you want. You will no doubt meet with adversity, but that is just the time a strong ideal will carry you over the rocky places. If one with an ideal makes a mistake they will then be able to discover it and at once rectify the same.

One of the great dangers that a breeder without an ideal encounters is that he is liable to start with a certain breed and his animals probably do not come up to his expectations. He will then drop that breed and make a try at something else, with the result that he will not stick to any one breed long enough to make a success of it.

BE STEADFAST

The man whose achievements pronounce success, must from the start be steadfast, with a definite object in view. If he is going to be a successful breeder of live stock he must choose his breed, study it, study what constitutes

a true type, and get firmly fixed in his mind the true type of the breed he has chosen. To win the greatest success a breeder must have his ideal stamped on his mind's eye so distinctly that he can almost see the animal in front of him. That which we think we can reach we will reach, but without something definite in view we will certainly accomplish little.

The reason why some judges fail to give satisfaction in the show ring is because they have

efforts (if he puts forth any) to luck. There is no such thing as "luck" in either success or failure in breeding and developing live stock.

A point which I wish to emphasize is in the selecting of the sire. This is where we need a very high ideal. The sire stamps his characteristics on every offspring in the herd, while the dam is only influencing her own progeny. Personally speaking, I give the selecting of our sires credit for the greater part of our own success.

TWO BREEDERS START EVEN

Let me give an illustration of two breeders who

started with a certain breed of cattle at practically the same time, that being about nine or 10 years ago.

Both purchased some good cows. When it came to selecting the sire of the herds, one breeder had an ideal, while judging from what transpired, the other had none. He has always tried to buy his sires cheap, and as a result he has secured inferior animals. The writer had the opportunity this fall of attending the fair where these two breeders were in competition. I need scarcely mention the results.

I have never in my experience seen a better demonstration of the weakness that goes with lack of an ideal. The only prizes secured by

the man with no ideal when selecting his sire were in the classes that the other man did not have enough animals to fill the class.

To the beginner, I would say: If you expect your environment to be filled with an atmosphere of success, you must have an ideal first, last, and all the time. Not only is it necessary to have an ideal, but it is just as necessary to seek to attain to that ideal. Do not let the matter of a few dollars side track you, especially in selecting the herd sire. It is not what we buy,

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What will be the Future of this Oxford County Herd of Holsteins?

Will it improve or go back? That depends on whether or not its owner has an ideal toward which he is working.

no ideal. When such is the case one will see animals of all types being awarded highest honors.

MUST BE EXPERT JUDGES

To become a most successful breeder, one must be an expert judge of the breed he is aiming to develop. The man starting in live stock breeding with the idea in his mind that he can do as well as his successful predecessors, and that with no study of the breed he has chosen, will certainly reap very unsatisfactory results. He is then liable to pronounce the result of his



Dairy Heifers such as These are Found Only Where the Breeder has a Fixed Ideal—A Bunch of Two-year-olds on the Farm of Hector Gordon, Chateauguay Co., Que.

(Photo by an Editor of Farm and Dairy)