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Evergreen March, a Great Canadian Cow

The Feeding that Produced her Great Record of over 26,000 pounds of Milk in 365 days described by her Feeder, Mr. Percy F. Clemons.

AMONG the laity of the breeding world, if I may so refer to those farmers who keep ordinary cows, give them ordinary care and get only ordinary records, there is a tendency to believe that all great records are made under conditions commercially unprofitable. A common belief is that all great records are preceded by a long period of rest and followed by a still longer period of "unemployment." Great cows are supposed to enter on their record making year hog fat and to finish it looking like rakes. None of these conditions apply to our Evergreen March.

Evergreen March received no litting before making her yearly record except that she had been given lactation during her two previous lactation per-

was reversed. The first month of the yearly test her daily ration was approximately 40 lbs. silage, 60 lbs., and 15 lbs. of grain, consisting of two parts bran, two parts oat chop, and one part oil cake by weight. As the feeding capacity increased the ration was increased, her maximum for 84 hours being 45 lbs. silage, 60 lbs. mangels, 25 lbs. of grain, and all the alfalfa she would clean up. I think her grain ration averaged about 30 lbs. during her official test.

She was milked four times a day until April 1, then three times the balance of the year.

When pasture came the grain was decreased and the silage was discontinued till July 1. The summer of



Evergreen March: She Can Hold Her Own in Production with an Average Herd of Eight

iods. Calving October 15, 1908, she was milked ten and one half months, as she freshened again on Oct. 28, 1909, and was dry six months; before freshening. From Oct. 15, 1908, to Oct. 15, 1910, she gave over 34,000 lbs. of milk. She was then dried off, ten weeks rest before freshening. This longer period of rest enabled her to put on a lot of flesh, and apparently that was just what she needed as the event proved.

She freshened on Dec. 13, 1911, but succumbed to milk fever the same day. However, she recovered rapidly, and was feeding well the next day. She was entered in the Record of Performance, and was milked at least three times daily from the first. Her gain in milk was slow but steady, reaching 69 lbs. about Jan. 30. As I intended to officially test her, I started milking four times daily about this time. As she was feeding better through loss of flesh and the stimulus of the extra milking, she gained steadily in her milk yield, reaching the highest point, 119.8 lbs., before the middle of February, this being then a Canadian record for 84 hours. Her best seven days production of milk was 720.8 lbs., 30 days, 2,988 lbs.; butter in seven days, 29.45 lbs.; 30 days, 122.55 lbs. These were all records for cows bred in Canada.

Evergreen March has the strongest constitution of any cow I ever handled and has always consumed large quantities of roughage. I found after her work when fed heavily on roughage with a moderate grain ration that she did when the system of feeding

1911 was the hottest and driest on record and as the pastures were burned up by July 1st, I depended on silage, green alfalfa and clover, and alfalfa hay, the grain being increased to winter proportions.

I am confident that under ordinary summer conditions she would have increased her production 1,000 lbs.

She dropped below 50 lbs. only on one day during the year due to a mild attack of foul-in-the-foot, and finished the 365 days with a production of 84 lbs. Her year's work still stands as the Canadian record for both milk and butter, but she unfortunately did not calve in time to qualify under the R. O. F. rules.

Our great cow was in better flesh at the finish than she was at the beginning of the test, and after recovering from milk fever never missed a feed. As evidence of her constitutional vigor, I may say that from Oct. 15, 1908, to Dec. 15, 1911, during which time she was dry 16 weeks, she produced over 60,000 lbs. of milk, and was stronger and more vigorous at the finish than at the beginning.

A Difference in "Lickin's"

Visitor (comforting Tommy, who has upset a bottle of ink on the new carpet)—Never mind, my boy; no use to cry or ever spilled.

Tommy (indignantly)—Any dunce would know that. If it's milk that's spilled, all you have to do is to call the cat 'an' she'll lick it up cleaner'n anything. But this ain't milk, an' mother'll do the lickin', is what ails me.