

The Feeders' Corner

The Feeders' Corner is for the use of our subscribers. Any interested are invited to ask questions, or send items of interest. All questions will receive prompt attention.

Does Feed Effect Dairy Tendencies?

Will the feeding of the dairy heifer before her first freshening affect the strength of her inborn dairy tendencies? Mr. Malcolm H. Gardiner, sept. of Advanced Registry for the Holstein interests, of the United States, says it won't. The editor of the Prairie Farmer takes exception to Mr. Gardiner's published statement of his belief as follows:

I judge you are of the opinion that it is impossible to change the natural tendencies of an animal. In other words, if an animal inherits a dairy habit, it will develop no other any effort to develop it, the dairyman to develop it. Do I understand that you believe that a heifer that inherited the dairy habit, whether she may be represented by a cow at two or three years of age, regardless of whether she grew up on pasture or in addition to pasture was fed abundantly on skim milk and course feed that would have a tendency to develop a dairy habit, that she would? To what do you think the highest average production of Holstein-Friesian cows is due; an inherent tendency in the breed for milk production or the feeding of the men by breeding and feeding to increase the tendency for milk production?"

MR. GARDINER'S REPLY

Mr. Gardiner replied to his critic as follows:

"The natural tendencies of any anj-

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The First Entry

Mr. Christopher Howson, of Keene, Ont., whose farm secured third place in district No. 3 of the Interprovincial Prize Farms Competition conducted by Farm and Dairy last year, is the first one to enter his farm in the final Interprovincial Contest of this year.

Mr. Howson is making important improvements on his farm that will make him a much more formidable competitor in this year's competition than he was in the competition of last year. Two points in which Mr. Howson was severely scored by the judges in the last competition were the small acreage that he had in hoe crop and the lack of a silo on his farm. Mr. Howson has this spring planted five acres of corn and will erect a silo this summer. He will also plant more roots. Mr. Howson shows commendable enterprise and the improvements that he has made show that he has already been benefited by his experience in Farm and Dairy's Prize Farms Competition.

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