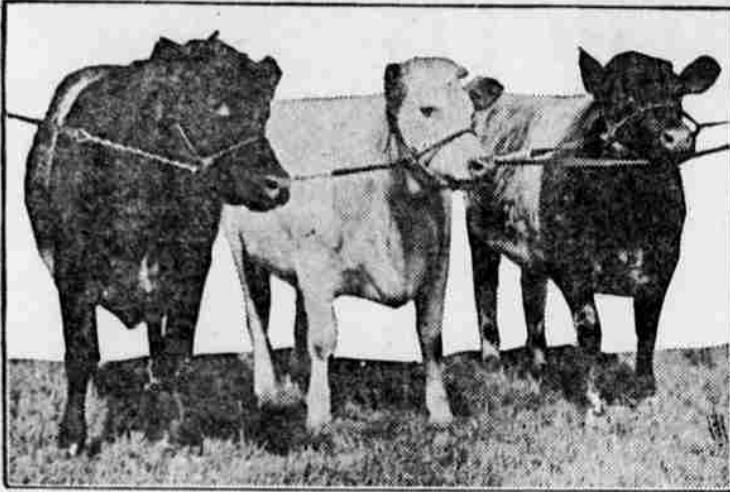


AVERAGE COST OF RAISING DAIRY HEIFERS



Reliable Sources of National Prosperity.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

According to investigators in the department of agriculture the average net cost of raising a dairy heifer one year old on a Wisconsin farm is \$39.52 and of a two year heifer \$61.41. These figures are applicable to other dairy districts in the North and East where land and feed values are similar to those in Wisconsin. They are based on data obtained from raising 117 calves from birth to the time they enter the dairy herd. The details, with a complete summary of the investigation, have recently been published by the department of agriculture in Bulletin No. 49, under the title of "The Cost of Raising a Dairy Cow."

There are in the United States over 21,000,000 dairy cows. These figures give some idea of the importance of this economic problem to the country as a whole, for these cows must be replaced every few years. The cost of the production of these heifers is a large item in keeping down the profits of the dairymen.

The new bulletin contains numerous tables and several illustrations of the Jersey calves from which the items of cost were obtained.

The most important item was the cost of the food, which was estimated at market value and amounted to nearly two-thirds of the total net cost of the heifer, while labor formed 12 1/2 per cent of the cost.

Figures for the average net cost of the one-year-old heifer are as follows:

Feed	\$24.67
Labor	4.45
Other costs	6.36
Total	\$35.48

To this should be added the initial value of the calf, which was estimated to be \$7.04, making a total cost at the end of one year of \$42.52. This charge is justified in view of the fact that dairy cows are credited with this item in determining the cost of milk production. By allowing \$3 credit for manure, it leaves a net cost of \$39.52 at the end of the first year.

Figures for the average net cost of the two-year-old heifer are as follows:

Initial value	\$ 7.04
Feed	40.83
Labor	7.81
Other costs	13.73
Total	\$69.41

Credit for manure	8.00
Total	\$61.41

One-half of the feed cost the first year and one-third for the full two years is for whole and skim milk.

By far the most expensive period in the life of the calf is the first four weeks, the cost being nearly double that for any other four-week period. This high cost is occasioned by its being dependent almost entirely upon whole milk.

The man labor required in raising a heifer is about 40 hours during the first year and 23 hours the second year. The total cost of man and horse labor for the two years is close to \$8. The manure produced during the two years has been valued at \$8; consequently, the cost of labor is practically offset by the value of the manure.

The item "Other costs" consists of expenses usually overlooked in estimating costs. These are interest, charge for the use of buildings and equipment, expense for bedding, miscellaneous expenses, a share of the general expenses for the entire farm business, and a charge to cover losses by death and discarding. The total for these forms nearly one-fifth of the total cost of the two-year-old heifer.

The foregoing figures show that it costs more to raise calves to maturity than is commonly supposed, and they support the advice which the department is continually trying to impress upon dairy farmers, that it does not pay to raise any but the best heifers. Raising scrub heifers and selling them at \$25 to \$40 apiece, as many do, is unprofitable except on cheap land or under other very favorable conditions. But it does pay to raise the best heifers, for in good dairy sections well-bred heifers are worth considerably more than \$60 when two years of age. Furthermore, dairy farmers as a rule are obliged to raise their own stock as it is difficult to buy productive cows at a reasonable price. In some sections of the West where alfalfa is worth only \$4 or \$5 a ton, or in the Southwest where pastures furnish feed the greater part of the year, this cost may be greatly reduced. Even where

It costs \$60 to raise a heifer, two-thirds of this amount is charged for feeds at market prices, a large part of which can be grown on the farm at a profit. Thus by raising the heifers the dairy farmer finds a home market for feeds grown on the farm at remunerative prices, and at the same time aids in maintaining the fertility of the farm.

GOOD PROFITS FROM STEERS

Most Remarkable Results Secured at Iowa Station With Five Different Lots of Animals.

At the Iowa station, during the last season, most remarkable results were secured with five different lots of experimental steers. The best paying lot made a profit of \$23.46 per head. This lot received 14.6 pounds per head daily of shelled corn, three pounds cottonseed meal and 28.6 pounds silage. Other lots were fed in comparison, receiving varying amounts of the same feeds, and some were fed clover hay in addition, but the lot which received a ration in which the bulky part was silage and the concentrates consisted of shelled corn and cottonseed meal, was the lot that turned off the most clean money.

No station has done as much experimental feeding with silage ration as the Indiana station at Purdue. Many years of continuous records are available at this station, and in no instance, from the standpoints of gains and profits, does any ration compare with those in which silage constitutes an important feature. Last year 70 head were fed in lots of ten each. The lot receiving silage, oats straw and cottonseed meal during the first 60 days, and corn, cottonseed meal, silage and clover hay during the remainder of the period, made the cheapest gains, but not the greatest. Disregarding the pork produced incidentally, the lot fed on corn, cottonseed meal and silage made a profit of \$20.96 per head.

The Illinois station has several years of experimental data which correspond closely to that already given, and it is generally entirely favorable to the use of silage in the beef ration. Illinois also found that for a maintenance ration for breeding beef cows, silage is a most desirable and economical feed. It cost 4.9 cents per day per head to maintain 140 days a lot of cows fed on silage, clover hay and oats straw; 4.6 cents per day to maintain a lot fed on shock corn, clover hay and oats straw and 3.1 cents a day to maintain a lot fed on corn stover, clover hay and oats straw.

JAPANESE PLUM IS POPULAR

Many of These Varieties Are Earliest on Market and Sell Readily at Good Prices.

(By C. M. SHULTZ.)
Plums of the Japanese variety are popular with most growers, particularly in the East, because they are hardy and come on early. Many of these varieties are the earliest in the market, and as they are always of good color, either cherry-reds or light yellows, they sell readily and bring good prices.

They will grow well on almost any kind of decent soil, and do not need to be particularly coddled, although they should have all the care that any good fruit tree deserves.

The Japanese plum differs from the domestic varieties in that its leaves are longer, thinner and smoother, and it has a greater tendency to produce lateral fruit buds on the annual growth. Its fruit is mostly short, round and plump.

The Japanese plum is liable to injury from curculio and black-knot than the domestic varieties.

Early Spring Pigs.
After being weaned, early spring pigs may be run on alfalfa, rape, clover or grain pastures with a supplemental feed of grain until some crop is ready to hog off. During the summer, mature crops of barley, wheat and peas, with alfalfa or rape pasture, will carry them until the main crops are harvested.

They then glean the stubble fields and feed on standing corn in the field, roots, pumpkins, etc., until late in the fall. They may be sold directly from the cornfield, or may be fed for a few weeks before being marketed.

Isolate Setting Hens.
It is never advisable to set hens in the hen house where other hens are around to disturb them.

WHY ONE MAN DIDN'T TANGO

He Would Like to Dance, But the Music Put Him Out and the Girl Got in His Way.

Ramsay Peugnet, secretary of the American Silk Manufacturers' association, pointed out recently in New York that the tango had enlarged the silk business by 250,000 new looms and spindles.

"The tango, the one-step, the hesitation and the other new dances," Mr. Peugnet said, "have caused the average woman, who bought only one dinner gown a year in the past, to buy two, three and four new gowns now. Hence the silk trade's expansion."

"It's a good thing for silk," Mr. Peugnet went on, "that all men aren't like Blanc."

"Blanc sat disconsolately in the smoking room while all the other guests at a ball were tangoing like mad."

"Why, Blanc, what are you doing here? Why aren't you out on the floor tangoing, man?" his host asked.

"I don't tango," Blanc answered.

"You don't tango? Incredible! How on earth is it that you don't tango?"

"Well," Blanc said, sadly, "I'd like to tango, and I would tango, only the music put me out and the girl gets in my way."

Fatal Orthographic Influence.
"Why in the world," asked the impatient judge, "are you two people always fighting? You seem intelligent enough and well enough mated."

"I think," said the battered groom, as he looked sadly at the battered bride, "it is because, when the report of our wedding appeared in the paper, the I and the t were transposed in the word marital."

And So They Were Married.
Curate (forte)—... To have and to hold.

Bridegroom (deaf)—Eh? Curate (fortissimo)—To—have—and to—hold.

Bridegroom—To 'ave and to 'old. Curate—From—this—day—forward. Bridegroom—Till this day fortnight! —London Punch.

What She Wanted.
Library Attendant—A foreign-looking woman came in today and asked for "Cottage cheese."

Friend—Ha! Did she think the library was a grocery store?

L. A.—No; after some questioning I found out that she wanted "Scottish Chiefs." —Boston Transcript.

Shrewd Love.
"When I marry it will be for love only."

"Is that so?"
"Positively."
"And if some poor man proposes to you?"

"But he won't. I shall take good care not to fall in love with any man who isn't able to provide me with what luxuries I require."

Strange, isn't it?
"I've always wondered."
"At what?" asked her husband, anxious to have it over so he could go on reading.

"That when a man, no matter what he looked like, became president, he began to look, in all his pictures, just like a president."

Unfortunate Introduction.
A pastor in introducing a visiting minister said:
"Brethren, I take pleasure in introducing to you Brother Blank, who will address us on the subject of 'The Devil.' I can assure you the brother is full of his subject."

STICKLER FOR ETIQUETTE.



"What's your name, little girl?"
"Oh! dear me, don't you s'pose you could find somebody that would introduce us properly?"

Different Callings.
She—Lizzie's bloke calls 'er 'is peach and the happle of 'is eye. Why can't you call me things like that?
He—Yes, that's very well; but 'e's in the vegetable business. I'm in the fish trade, remember.—London Tit-Bits.

Peace Definition.
"What is your idea of peace?"
"Peace," said Mr. Dustin Stax, "is a state of affairs in which everything is going my way so strong that there is no use of anybody's making a kick about it."

His Idea.
"I know what the cart horse's idea of life is."
"What's his idea?"
"That it is nothing but a thing of wheel and whoa."

Women Folk in Persia



A PERSIAN REST HOUSE

IN the traditional days of Zoroaster, before Islam conquered Persia, the women folk must have enjoyed a much higher and more honorable and happier position than at the present time, for today they are esteemed greatly inferior to men.

It is really no wonder that one frequently hears from the lips of some of these poor creatures the pathetic exclamation, "Oh, God, why was I not born a boy—life would then have been so much easier to bear!"

When a boy is born there is great rejoicing, but when the hopes of a male child are disappointed, one often hears the sad saying "Only a girl!"

Unfortunate little creature, she is unwelcome! The ayah or nurse, is in a bad temper and the unhappy mother has to suffer for the unfulfilled desire. In all probability she will lose the favor of her lord and master, and this is almost certain to be the case when she is so unlucky as to present him with a second daughter. In his rage and chagrin he will introduce a new bride into his "anderoon," or woman's quarters; that is to say if he can afford to add to his household.

Female Children Unwelcome.

As for the poor little girl-child—little attention and care, to say nothing of parental affection, is bestowed upon her. If she is strong and healthy she will live, if not, she will die and will not be much lamented. A common cradle is good enough for her, in place of the costly and luxurious cot that would have been thought none too fine for a boy. The poor nurse, frightened, trembles when she announces the sex of the child to the Agah, for the disappointed and angry man in his rage is not unlikely to give the order that she is "to eat sticks" the Persian euphemism for punishment with the bastinado, or whipping the soles of the feet with thin rods. This wrathful feeling towards his wife may even go so far as divorce for her omission to provide him with an heir.

Girls seldom are sent to school, and it is a rare thing to find a Persian woman who can so much as read or write. There are no such institutions as girls' schools.

The features are concealed behind the rouband, a long, narrow white veil which is fastened at the back of the head over the chadaf by two hooks, or in some cases by an elaborate clasp of silver or gold filigree, either plain or studded with gems. This veil is pierced just in front of the eyes, the opening being covered with lace, to form a window from which the wearer can look out without being herself visible. Not even her hands may be seen, so they are always carefully wrapped in the chadaf.

The lifting of the veil (zetaf) is the most important event in the life of the Persian girl, and until this moment arrives her sole duty is to look pretty, making herself attractive by the use of innumerable cosmetics, paints and hairwashes which are found in every "anderoon," so that her good looks may be the subject of conversation and find her a husband while she is young. Parents are always anxious to get their daughters married as early as possible, and many girls, especially among the well-to-do classes, are betrothed while still mere children.

Unless the husband-to-be can bribe the go-between, who arranges the marriage, he rarely sees the face of his bride until the ceremony takes place—and then it is only by hiding him behind a curtain, where he can observe without betraying his presence. When the preliminaries have been settled to the satisfaction of the two

families the bridegroom is expected to make some handsome present, such as a shawl or a diamond ring to the girl. The details of the dowry, the most important part of the negotiations, must then be decided upon. As in most cases there is no immediate hurry, the bride and groom being still infants, this mercenary haggling is often carried on for months, or even years, before the parties come to terms.

Ready cash forms the most desired contribution, and jewelry, dresses, land, houses, cattle, even slaves, and, last of all, a copy of the Koran beautifully bound in velvet or brocade, are included in the inventory of the dowry provided by a wealthy bridegroom.

Persians Are Very Superstitious.
All Persians are very superstitious, and the day for the wedding cannot be fixed without the dictum of the mullah, or priest, who consults the Koran for a propitious time.

Marriage during the two mourning months of Moharram and Safar would be considered sacrilege, neither may it take place when an eclipse of the sun or the moon is looked for or in the fasting month of Ramadan.

A rich wedding is a sight well worth seeing. Usually all the male attendants are mounted, a number of servants carry trays of sweets, cakes, fruits and bottles of rose-water, with which they sprinkle the hands and faces of the onlookers.

When the party arrives at the house, musicians play and dancers receive them. The women, with the bride in their midst, watch the performance from the flat roof of the "anderoon" or women's quarters, and welcome the bridegroom and his followers with piercing, shrill and high-pitched cries.

All the guests crowd into the reception room, where the principal visitors take their places round the walls. The room is partitioned by a curtain, behind which the women sit, all deeply veiled. The mullah addressing the bride, through the curtain, asks her if she is willing to accept the young man whom her parents have selected, as her husband. This question is repeated three times, but no reply is expected, silence being taken as the sign of acquiescence. The man is next interrogated in like manner and also remains silent.

The young bride is taken to her new home just before sunset, her progress being the occasion of another great display.

The bride, aged perhaps barely twelve years, rides a richly-caparisoned horse, whose saddle is hidden under fine cashmere shawls which hang right down to the ground.

Repressed Desire.

Now whenever I hear "desire" called "weakness," and its suppression called "mastery," I confess that I wince. It is a singular but ponderable fact that the patients who fill the waiting-rooms of our psychiatrists in increasing numbers are largely persons "who have mastered their desires." It is usually for this very reason that they are become "patients." If psychology be right about it, true self-control is not suppression, but sublimation or transformation. The desire, natural and normal enough of itself, must be allowed expression, if not in one way then in another. To "master" it merely, namely to repress it, is absolutely dangerous. Some day the repressed desire will come to its own.—E. P. Frost, in Atlantic.

Tests of Wisdom.

"Of course, you rely on the wisdom of the plain people?"
"Yes," replied the statesman. "But there are times when I expect them to be wise enough to recognize the fact that my wisdom is superior to theirs."

GERDA HOLMES



Miss Gerda Holmes, pictured above, has reconsidered her determination to retire from the photo-plays, and will remain the star of a leading company.

SHOW COUNTRY IN INFANCY

Films of Patriotic Order Depict Scenes of Interest to the Youngsters.

A photo play depicting the strife between the early colonists and the Indians, and conflicts of the Revolution, the story of which centers about the famous Revolutionary leader, Francis Marion, will be presented in motion picture theaters. This drama, entitled, "Francis Marion; the Swamp Fox," is in three parts, and presents exciting battle scenes between the colonials and the British soldiers, as well as hand-to-hand conflicts engaged in by the settlers and the Indians. In these scenes hundreds of men participate.

A secret love affair between the hero and the daughter of a settler, which has its inception, when the former rescues the girl from the Indians, is interwoven in this story, culminating happily after the surrender of Cornwallis.

The opening scene of the play shows Cherokee Indians attack the cabin of Jacques Videau, setting the cabin on fire and killing all the occupants, as they flee from the flames, save the daughter, Mary, whom they make a prisoner. Francis Marion, at the head of a band of settlers, defeats and routs the savages, rescuing Mary and placing the orphaned girl in the care of his sister. Marion falls in love with Mary, but because indications point to a romance between her and Gabriel, his nephew, Marion conceals his affection.

When war is declared between the colonies and Great Britain Francis Marion organizes a body of troops and offers the services of his regiment to Gen. Gates, but that officer declines to enlist them. They adopt the first American flag, the rattlesnake design, with the inscription underneath, "Don't Tread on Me." Marion and his men create terror in the British lines by appearing and attacking when and where they are least expected and doing much damage.

Lord Cornwallis who has become worried because of the American commander's activity sends Col. Tarleton, known as "The Butcher," to capture "The Swamp Fox," but the latter is warned of the red coats' approach and escapes with his men. Tarleton finding his quarry gone raids the home of Marion's sister, driving the inmates from the house, with the exception of Mary. The British officers then occupy the house.

Marion's men attack the British camp and set fire to Marion's house with burning arrows, driving out the redcoat officers and defeating the English force. Mary is rescued from the blaze and learns that Gabriel was killed in the fray.

Two months later, after the surrender of Cornwallis, Marion returns to his home. Believing that Mary was in love with his nephew, he offers her his sympathy for her bereavement, but to his surprise Mary embraces him and, knowing that he is too diffident to propose, she "pops the question" herself. For a moment Marion is bewildered, but he soon recovers from the happy shock and takes her in his arms.

Classic in "Movies."

Within the last year there has been much activity in the producing of famous books and modern stage successes as motion pictures, but so far few attempts have been made to put the classic English dramas on the screen. There is therefore considerable interest in the production of "She Stoops to Conquer" as a motion picture. To put a play in which there is such a constant succession of brilliant dialogue into the silent drama seems rather startling at first, but, judging by reports, the scheme has proved a success.

The film was first shown in London a few nights ago, and dispatches state that several of the most conservative London papers reviewed the work favorably. It will probably be imported and shown in this country at an early date, although definite information on this point is not available at present.