

Milk Production Consistent Success With Good Management

Nichols Place Shows Result

Cows Pay for Their Keep Or Leave; 81 Milked At Present Time

By C. GENEVIEVE MORGAN

Some years ago J. M. Nichols of the Bethel district (take the pen road and just keep going—you come to box 141 for the Nichols farm) decided his best bet for a paying farm was milk, or, if you prefer, a dairy herd.

And he's made it—on milk. And that in spite of the recent gloomy years. He's still on top, there are no plasters on the farm and his graded herd of slightly more than 100 cows is keeping four families in addition to paying its own and the farm upkeep. (More about that "graded" later.)

When the visit to the Nichols farm on which this account is based was made, 81 cows were being milked, six or seven were in the hospital, and the rest were dry.

Jerseys Predominate

The herd is mixed, though Jerseys predominate right now. And the reason for both the graded and mixed herd is this: Cows that don't produce aren't continued in the herd. It's a business proposition. There, in a nut shell, is the secret of why or how milk has been made to pay—every detail is handled on a business basis.

Nichols started to build a purebred Jersey herd when he came here from Texas in 1907, and though he has continued through the years to keep two purebred Jersey bulls as sires for his herd, he gave up the purebred idea when practical experience showed the purebred cow was no better than her Judy O'Grady sister when it came to furnishing milk—and milk, you recall, is the chief concern on this farm.

Boarders Don't Stay

When a cow begins to slack up on the production of milk, that cow's days are numbered at the Nichols dairy. She's sold just like that, and it doesn't bother Mr. Nichols a whole lot that such a cow (cows sold from the farm go only to the butcher) will bring on the market only a third or so of what it will take to buy a milkier to replace her.

At the butcher's right now, a cow will bring from \$25 to \$40; but try to buy one and she will cost from \$75 to \$100. But be that as it may, the milk production has got to keep up to the present average of from 260 to 265 gallons per day.

Of course really good milk producers are boarded over the calving period, but when they freshen, the calf is sold at one or two days old. Why? Because calves take milk—all the way from 12 to a later 14 to 16 pounds per day at 2 1/2 cents a pound. So the calves are sold—or given away—at a dollar for the bulls and \$2 for the heifers.

This herd produces between \$1500 and \$1600 worth of milk per month, but that's not all velvet by any means. Two of the largest items that eat into it are labor, with \$5000 paid out yearly for hired help, there being four men employed on the farm regularly and more in harvest time; and feed, another \$5000 being paid yearly for feed—in addition to hay and ensilage, all of which is produced on the farm. This year the farm will have about 100 tons of hay to the good, which will be carried over in view of the apparent shortage for 1937 due to winter frozes. He will have fed about 200 tons of hay which this feeding season is ended.

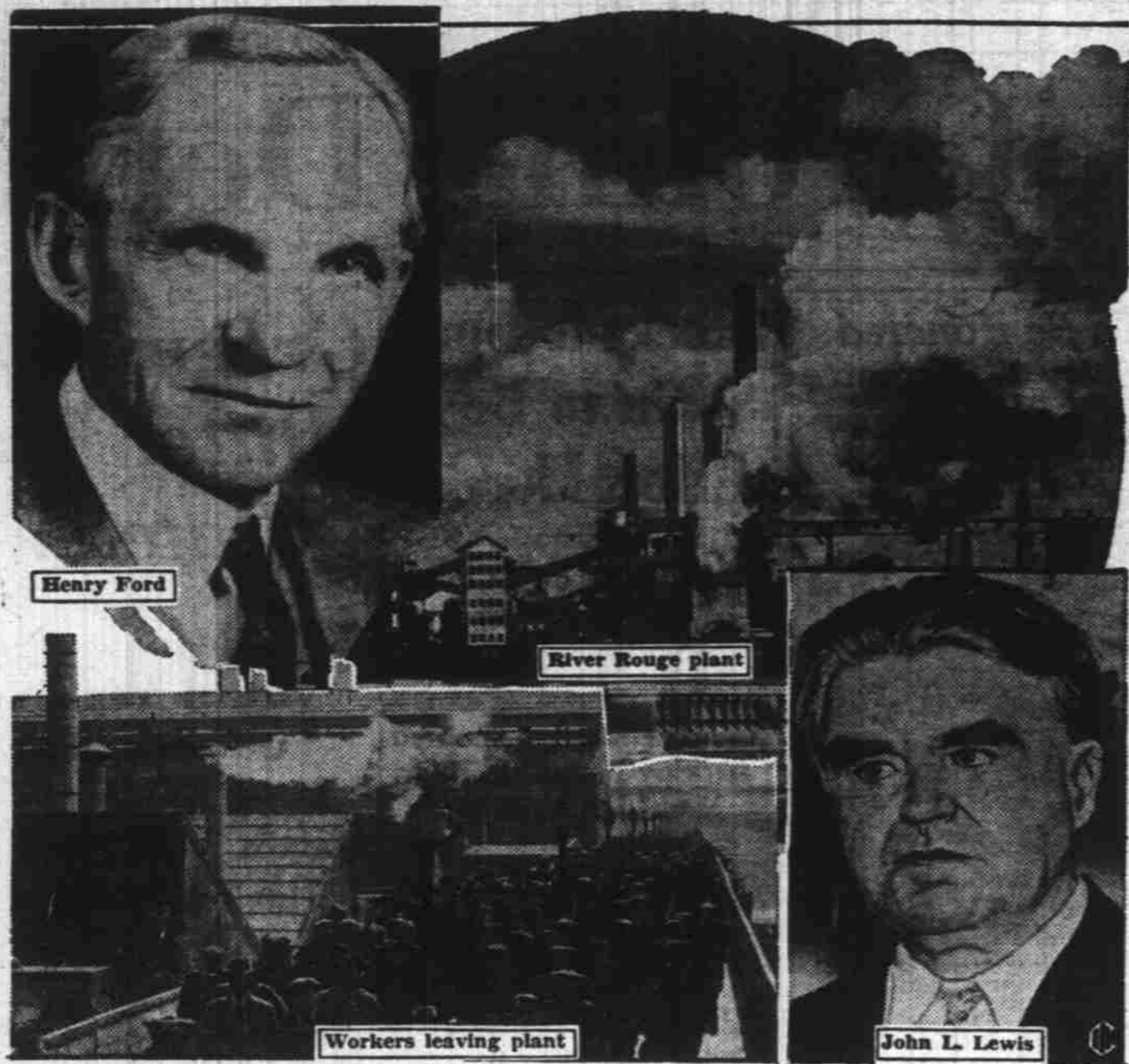
Believes in Co-ops

Nichols is a staunch believer in the cooperative method and belongs to the dairy cooperative association, and has served on the board of directors as the Salem milk district representative. His milk is sold directly on the Portland market, his basic being about 74 pounds a day and the balance of his shipment going on as surplus.

The man in town will groan aloud when he finds that the day's routine on the farm begins at 3 a. m.—day in and day out. "At that hour the chore boy comes out and cleans and carries the cows," Nichols recounted. A day later, with a merry wink in his eye, he revealed that he himself is that "chore boy."

At 4 o'clock the cows are milked—all this being done with machines. The farm has two

Will Ford Prove Stumbling Block to Auto Union?



Can the phenomenally growing Automobile Workers' Union of America organize the employes of Henry Ford despite his determined stand to have no dealings with the union? An answer to this vital question may be forthcoming in the near future. Ford has stated he "never will recognize" the union, but John L. Lewis, head of the C. I. O.,

has been equally emphatic in his declaration that the last of the automobile industry's "big three" will be "conquered". Indications are that the union will start its drive to organize Ford by unionizing "feeder" plants and gradually work toward the huge River Rouge plant employing nearly 100,000 men.

single and one double unit in the electric machines. Nichols has used milking machines since 1918. (And of course the barns are electric lighted. While talking about modern convenience, it may be just as well to mention that the two huge barns have running water, with a drinking cup placed between each two stanchions as Nichols believes a ready supply of water makes a difference in the milk production.)

But to get back to the day's routine. The cows are fed some grain before milking, hay is before them while they are being milked and after the milking they get ensilage. An earlier practice of feeding ensilage while milking was discarded because this food tainted the milk.

It's Long Process

The herd is fed ensilage again at 2 o'clock and then other rations prior to starting the second milking of the day at 4 o'clock. The day's work is finished about 7 p. m.

The herd is kept inside during the winter, and about the first of May or as soon as the mud dries, is turned outdoors at 8:30 each morning and then brought back in at 2 o'clock. This outdoor pasture is eight or 10 acres, just large enough for exercise. Early in June, alfalfa is hauled in for the cows to supply a green food, taking the place of ensilage, vetch and corn, fed in the fall. When ensilage runs out, usually about April 1, beet pulp is fed up until the early part of June. Beet pulp is about as expensive as shelled corn but is a succulent food and keeps the bowels regulated.

An average of nine tons of feed per month goes to the herd. Two or three tons of oats are ground on the farm and mill feed is purchased from the co-op association through which the milk is marketed.

"What do we have to contend with in the way of sickness or diseases?"

"Well, right now it's mastitis, which causes high bacteria count, and of course, we don't want that," Mr. Nichols said, explaining that this is often carried on the milking machine from one animal that has been bruised to another.

Still Likes Jerseys

This dairyman has some definite ideas as to value of breed of cattle as milk producers in the west.

"I think Jerseys are ahead of Guernseys, for of course they have been in Oregon the longest and have been improved, which means they are better stock from which to choose. So I think as a rule we find more good Jerseys here."

"Holsteins are all right, but they are high testers and subject to more udder trouble. A factor to me, of course, is that it costs more to ship butterfat from Holsteins than Jerseys."

Manure from the herd is used as fertilizer on the farm, though now Nichols believes the home farm has reached the saturation point from use of manure, and will put it on 90 acres of rented land. Instead of spreading manure in the spring, he piles it at a distance from the barns and applies it as fertilizer as soon as the season's crop is off the land.

Finds Alfalfa Pays

Nichols is a real convert to alfalfa growing, and this spring will start preparing about 20 acres for alfalfa by sowing lime at the rate of 1 1/2 tons to the acre. He believes the best to sow lime and grow corn one year before planting alfalfa, as he holds this sweetens the soil better before alfalfa is produced.

By the way, Nichols has never owned a tractor, though he does hire one for the power work on the farm. But horses do the plowing, work during the harvest and other chores. He does not hold that horses are much if any cheaper than a tractor, but says there is an advantage in that his six horses can be divided to carry on work in two or three different places at the same time—which

is one argument no tractor enthusiast can get around.

The two main dairy barns on the farm are 40 by 100 and 40 by 72 feet. Two silos are 16 by 40 feet and 12 by 32 feet, and a third could be utilized, Mr. Nichols says.

The milk house, of course with cement floors like the barns, is large and airy, with two 14-foot rooms and is located a short distance from the barns.

Water Supply Good

The water supply is from a 90-foot well sunk by Nichols many years ago and this gives an adequate supply (not even being phased by the severe drought of last fall) for all the stock and three houses. One of the houses is that of J. M. Nichols, another that of his son, Cass Nichols, who is widely known for his prize-winning swine, which are also a product of the Nichols farm.

All buildings on the farm, except the main house, have been constructed by Nichols. A fire in 1928 destroyed the original barn and since that time a \$3000 plaster slapped on the farm for construction of the larger barn now used, has been cleared off out of "milk money."

Since Mr. Nichols located on the place, he has cut timber off half the place, and long years ago, he recalls, had to plunk \$100 on the line to get electricity to the farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Nichols have two other children besides Cass, a son, Madison, who is a government civil engineer located at Hamilton, Mont., and Mrs. J. A. Hain of the Bethel district.

Mrs. E. J. Harding Is Honored at Dinner on Her 99th Anniversary

GERVAIS, April 17.—Miss Amy Harding gave a dinner Wednesday in honor of her mother, Mrs. E. J. Harding, who was 99 years old. A granddaughter, Mrs. Pearl Lanaden of Woodburn, brought Mrs. Harding a large birthday cake with 99 candles on it.

Those present for the dinner were Mrs. Eleanor Goar of The Dalles and Mrs. Mildred Palmer of Salem, granddaughters; Robert Palmer, a great grandson, Mrs. Moody and Florence Ross, all of Salem; Cleota Reese of Illinois, Mrs. C. A. Sawyer, a neighbor, called in the afternoon.

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Liberty Woman's Club Votes Funds for Girl Scout Uniform Badges

LIBERTY, April 17.—Mrs. Victor Hallantyne entertained the Liberty Woman's club Thursday afternoon. Funds were voted to assist the Girl Scout troop in the purchase of emblems for scout uniforms.

The hot lunch committee reported the close of the school hot lunch project and that the child welfare work is being continued by the serving of milk at school to a group of eight underweight children.

Mrs. V. M. Greer was guest speaker on the subject of construction of clothing. She gave a very instructive talk and showed samples of materials.

Mrs. Lon Shuttleworth read a paper on the life of Mabel H. Parsons and some of her poetry as one in a series of Oregon poets being studied by the club. Tea hour followed the afternoon's program.

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Pythian Sisters Slate Card Party

Volunteer Firemen Hosts For Wives at Dinner at Grimps Home

HUBBARD, April 17.—A benefit card party has been slated by Arion temple, Pythian Sisters, for Monday night, April 19, in the Pythian hall, with the public invited. The committees in charge are Mrs. Mose Garren, Mrs. Willis Berkey and Mrs. Elmer Stauffer, general arrangements; and Mrs. John Smolinsky, Mrs. Elton McLoughlin and Mrs. Anna Scholl, refreshments.

The Hubbard volunteer firemen entertained their wives with a dinner at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Grimps, with Mrs. Lem Miller assisting. Place cards were miniature fireman hats and toy fire engines. Covers were set for 22 firemen and their wives.

Levi Miller Elected

At the school election Levi Miller was elected school director to fill the vacancy left by the death of Waldo Brown.

Arion temple lodge of Hubbard attended a joint meeting with the Una temple of Aurora Wednesday night, when Mrs. Bernice Gromachy, district deputy grand chief, and Mrs. Nellie M. Morris, grand mistress of records and correspondence, were official guests.

The "buzmanship" demonstration held Tuesday by the Hubbard Women's club at the Rebebek hall, presented Miss Eileen Purdue, extension home demonstration from O.S.C., who gave demonstrations of hostery. Mrs. P. rdue spoke on the buying and care of hostery. The registration was in charge of Mrs. E. P. Rich. The luncheon talk was given by Mrs. Allerbach of Woodburn.

One of the highlights of the meeting was the presentation of a resolution signed by all the women present, asking the county court that Marion county be included with the other counties which now have the service of home demonstration agents.

McCullough Speaker for Chamber of Commerce

SILVERTON, April 17.—C. B. McCullough, assistant state highway engineer, will be guest speaker at the Silverton chamber of commerce meeting April 21.

McCullough will tell of his experiences in Central America where he recently served as consulting engineer on the proposed Inter-American highway from Alaska to South America.

Grangers' News

Award Certificates Given

MONMOUTH, April 17.—Award certificates were presented by J. V. Johnson, Monmouth, to 4-H club workers of this community at the April grange meeting held here Saturday, Johnson, who served 12 years as leader of the Elkins club, has been longest in the service of 4-H club leadership in this county.

C. F. Gillette of Monmouth welcomed the club members and their parents as guests of the grange for the day. Speakers were Josiah Willis and W. C. Leth. Following luncheon, Leth showed a four-reel motion picture depicting phases of farm life.

At the morning session, the first and second degrees were exemplified for George Dickinson and Morris Powell.

Talk Garden Club

RICKREALL, April 17.—Mrs. Hugh Rodgers of Oak Point spoke to the home economic club Thursday on prospects of organizing a Rickreall Garden club. A meeting is to be held Thursday, April 22, at the grange hall for the purpose of organizing such a club and all women interested are asked to be present.

Teachers Are Speakers

MONMOUTH, April 17.—President J. A. Churchill, Dr. A. S. Jensen and Miss Clara Trotter of Oregon Normal school, will appear on the program of the annual northwest section conference of the Progressive Educational association to be held April 20 and 21 at the University of Oregon.

Officers Renamed By Woman's Club

VICTOR POINT, April 17.—Mrs. E. W. Garver was home hostess to members of the Silver Cliff Woman's club Thursday afternoon. All officers were re-elected as follows: President, Mrs. Garver; vice-president, Mrs. Carrie Townsend; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Floyd Fox.

Committees appointed for the year include: Relief, Mrs. Carrie Townsend, Mrs. H. E. Hubbard; membership, Mrs. Arthur Heater; program, Mrs. W. F. Krenz; Mrs. E. W. Garver; place, Mrs. Alice Charpillos; Mrs. Elmer Reede.

Delegates to the county federated club meeting selected were: Mrs. Heater, Mrs. Reede, Mrs. Garver, Mrs. Krenz and Mrs. Charpillos. Mrs. Hubbard was selected alternate. Mrs. Floyd Fox, chairman of the county education committee, will also attend the session. Lunch was served by the hostess.

Damage Negligible From High Water in Santiam

LYONS, April 17.—The Santiam river reached high water mark for the season late Wednesday afternoon. No particular damage was caused here. All the small creeks were overflowing the banks and fields were sheets of water for a time. The river receded two feet during the night and creeks were normal early today.

man, Dellis Westenhous, hardly expected to be able to reach Albany with the milk from this section Thursday as small bridges were reported out and water over the highway between Albany and Jefferson.

School Will Get Willard Picture

TURNER, April 17.—The W.C.T.U. met at the home of Mrs. C. A. Baser Wednesday afternoon for its April meeting. A large framed picture of Frances E. Willard which had been given the local union by Mrs. A. D. Hale, will be presented to the high school.

The committee receiving contributions for the million dollar national educational fund reported good response.

A program on current events along reform lines was found to be of much interest. The next meeting will be held May 12 at the home of Mrs. E. J. Harrison.

Condition Is Critical

BETHEL, April 17.—Mrs. J. M. Nichols has been called to Salem to be with her mother, Mrs. Harriet Montgomery, who is seriously ill.

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Demo Official



New director of the women's division of the Democratic national committee, Mrs. Thomas F. McAllister of Grand Rapids, Mich., for years has been a prominent political personality in the state.