

THE GOOD COW.

Truth Not Always at the Bottom of a Big Milk Well.

By W. F. SPARRAN, before Connecticut Dairymen's association.

The average dairyman is not as smart as he thinks he is and cannot tell a good cow or a bad one under all circumstances by looking at her, by pinching her hide, pulling her teats and with his hand following the tortuous course of her milk veins to their end in the milk well.

It is possible for a well bred cow to inherit a great many of the points that we have come to look for in a good dairy cow and still fail in her performance. I think I state a fact that experienced breeders of cows will concede as beyond controversy that into no breed of cows has man yet been able to so prepotently fix the habit of profitable milk giving that the tendency to the exercise of the habit may not be perverted or permanently arrested by the early injudicious care of the offspring as a calf and as a heifer and even on up into her cowhood—that is to say, a calf may be from an excellent dam and a great sire and be seriously spoiled in the making of her into a cow. Such a one might carry many marks which the judges of cows would look upon with favor and she still be a failure.

Mechanical Dairying.

Having got good cows, we need to keep them good and as far as possible make them better.

There are many so called dairymen who keep their cows just as we work with a gasoline engine. They think as the cow is a machine she needs to have the current on only when she is working. When the cow is fresh she is at her best, and one may save feed on her, as at that time she will do well any way. When this period of natural activity begins to wane and the flow of milk reduces itself to the level of its source, there isn't much use of feeding heavily then, for a cow that doesn't pay for generous feeding should not have it. In consequence of such mechanical dairying, when milk is high the cow is kept by surfeiting and mighty cheap feed against the coming of pasture.

The Cow Comfortable.

Why does this cow fill her udder and the milkers' pail when the sun shines and the breeze is soft and the clear waters run and the grass is green and plentiful in the pasture? Simply because the cow is comfortable, has sun and air to make her good red blood, has all the pure water she wants to drink and all the rich nutritious grass she can eat. Her nutrition is both balanced and abundant and her environment such that the wonderful functions of her organism are in perfect normal operation.

If my cows are to carry on through the fall the good work they inaugurated in the spring pasture there must be no diminution in feed or attention. If they are to keep at it all winter and spring and even do their best at early pasture there must be always the full and sufficient feed and unremitting care.

NEWS AND VIEWS.

The western live show show, which is intended to draw a good attendance from the Rocky mountain states, is scheduled for Jan. 20-25 at Denver. Awards will be made for forage, feed grains and feed products. Professor W. H. Olin, Fort Collins, Colo., will furnish full information.

Sweet Cream Butter.

From experience in making sweet cream butter Messrs. Shutt and Charon of Canada conclude that by the sweet cream process there is no greater loss of butter fat than in the ordinary method with ripened cream and that the keeping qualities of the sweet cream butter are distinctly superior to those of the ripened cream butter.

Pork Making in Carolina.

"The farmer who will avail himself of the natural conditions for swine raising in South Carolina can produce pork with less labor and at a lower cost of feed than is possible in the best sections of the corn belt," claims Professor John Michels.

Spelt For Steer Feeding.

A South Dakota test is reported as showing that a pound of corn is equal to 1.25 of spelt for steer feeding. Where the corn and spelt were mixed half and half by weight the relation is about the same, with a small increase in gain in favor of the mixture. It was found that there is very little feed for swine when following steers fed on ground spelt.

In Brief.

The Angora Goat Breeders' association has elected as president N. A. Gwin, Lawrence, Kan., and secretary-treasurer John W. Fulton, Helena, Mont.

In the production of winter lambs at the Wisconsin station the use of a Southdown ram with grade ewes has given compactness and excellent mutton quality to the lambs, and the cross is one which can be recommended.

Tuberculosis has been observed in hogs and poultry fed on skim milk products, and to estimate this source of disease H. L. Russell of Wisconsin believes that pasteurization of skim milk should be required by law.

The Utah State college now offers for the first time a course in veterinary science.

Milk Strainers.

Milk strainers should be kept exceedingly clean and scalded a second time just before using. If cloth strainers are used several of them should be provided in order that they may be frequently changed during the milking of the milk.

LIVE STOCK PROGRESS.

Genuine Shorthorn Farm With Great Milk Making.

Instances of the possibility of beef and milk production combined with real Shorthorn character are noted in the Breeder's Gazette, Chicago, by Sanders Spencer in connection with the London dairy show recently closed. He says:

One of the most remarkable instances of this combination won the first prize for Lord Rothschild in the class for Shorthorn cows entered or eligible for entry in Coates' herd book. This seven-year-old cow, Red Rose III, bred by William Bateman, has had four calves, her last on Aug. 5, yet she gave 63.4 pounds of milk on the first day of the show. As to her form and character, she was a first rate specimen of a pure bred Shorthorn, having a deep compact body, on short legs, well sprung ribs and unusually well developed hind quarters and thighs in addition to a lovely shaped udder. This is without doubt a dual purpose cow of the finest character.

It rested, however, with a Shorthorn cow whose pedigree could not be traced to furnish the most sensational results. This was Mr. Nelson's Daisy, seven years old. She has had four calves, her last about six weeks prior to the show. She was placed first in her class in the milk trials, her yield being 61.1 pounds of milk which produced four pounds and two ounces of butter, thus proving herself to be a first rate milk cow and a phenomenal butter cow.

The Hereford Advance.

The American Hereford Breeders' association is making an advance movement for the benefit of the "white face" fraternity by opening up a foreign demand for registered Herefords. Last year Secretary C. R. Thomas made a trip to South America, and as a result of the trip a nice line of export trade to Buenos Ayres has begun. Among recent shipments to one of the wealthy ranchmen of Buenos Ayres was the junior champion bull at the late American Royal show. So says the Kansas Farmer, from which it is also learned that the board of directors appointed Hon. C. A. Stannard of Emporia and Secretary C. R. Thomas of Kansas City to purchase a number of representative Herefords from the breeders, and seventeen head were sent to the City of Mexico in charge of Mr. Stannard. He sold seven of the bulls for \$2,650 in gold, and the sale of the balance was provided for. The prices realized in this export trade are very gratifying to the Hereford association and breeders generally and will no doubt result in the development of a large and lucrative trade hereafter for the breeders of Hereford cattle.

The Rise of the Lamb.

The handy weight lamb has succeeded the heavy wether in public favor, and the change suits the producer as well as the consumer. It is hard to buy the old time heavy mutton chops now in any meat market. There are some old fashioned consumers who regret this change. Recently there were secured three heavy chops at a cost of \$1.05 for the three, but they were chops to delight the old timers—big, thick and rich. But this kind of mutton is not in favor. It is expensive to produce, and it is gradually becoming scarcer in our markets. This is the day of the lamb, with its handy carcass, not too heavy nor too fat.

SHEEP AND HOGS.

If the sheep's fleece gets water soaked it takes it days to dry, and in the meantime the sheep is chilled, which results in all sorts of trouble—snuffles, consumption and bowel troubles.

Crossing For Fat Lambs.

The blending of blood in different races of ovines never appears to answer better than for the production of fat lambs. I speak not of creating a new race of sheep, which takes years to establish. It is only a matter of producing a carcass of size and quality, because the stock is not allowed to stay with us long and propagate its kind, all being finished in the slaughter house in a few short months. From considerable experience in my own flocks and from observations made among those of others in widely different parts of the country I have found that with shrewd judgment in blending the right varieties more profit may be made very often than in adhering to the pure breeds for fat lamb production, says W. R. Gilbert in National Stockman.

Why For Bacon Pigs.

Why is supposed to be worth about half as much pound for pound as skim milk. It has a very good effect upon the quality of bacon produced. The portion fed daily should be uniform in quantity, quality and temperature. Sour whey is quite as good as sweet whey, provided it has not been soured more than twenty-four hours and has been kept in a clean vat.

Feeding Points.

Where other roots have not been fed turnips will prove quite palatable and give very satisfactory returns. They do not seem at all to the liking of pigs that have been getting sugar beets or mangels.

Corn and cob meal has generally proved too coarse and harsh for young pigs, but may be used to some extent for mature or fairly large pigs.

While peas stand high as feed for young pigs and breeding stock, a Canadian swine grower says that pigs fed on pea meal alone do not thrive, do not get fat and produce a very inferior quality of meat, hard and dry.

In Europe barley is the ideal food for fattening and finishing bacon pigs.

Brown Swiss Of Today.

Brown Swiss cattle seem to have finally found a rock for their feet in this country. The Brown Swiss Breeders' association at the last annual meeting determined the standing of the breed as far as judging it goes by declaring that the Brown Swiss should be classed in the future as a dairy breed. Since this variety of cattle began to be known in the United States there has been a certain confusion about its true position. Generally it



PURE BRED BROWN SWISS.

[Kaiserin 850; best year's record, 10,235 pounds milk, 400 pounds butter fat, 3.59 per cent fat; weight, 1,450 pounds.] has been ranked as "dual purpose." The consensus of opinion at present appears to be that while Brown Swiss cattle will make good beef their milk production is the stronger point and capable of the greater development.

Although first brought to America for dairy purposes, the appearance of the Brown Swiss in comparison with the highest dairy type did not give them a popular standing as straight dairy cattle.

In Switzerland cows are kept for a treble purpose—milk, beef and labor. Until recent years high pressure feeding has been unknown there, and the methods used with cattle tended to develop coarseness of form. No such radical change of character there or here as will rank the Brown Swiss with the highly attenuated dairy type, such as the Jersey, appears either probable or desirable. But the coarseness of the Brown Swiss carries with it sturdy vigor and health; also, in spite of the popular impression that this coarse form means scant milking propensity, the Brown Swiss in this country have won out large by their performance at the milk pail. Breeders here and, as it appears, in Switzerland of late have been working for finer, smoother appearance and increased milk production and are getting it.

Three herds of Brown Swiss, one each from New York, Illinois and Indiana, were shown at the recent national dairy show. These included some fine specimens, and the display was of great value to the progress of the breed.

The Brown Swiss were introduced into the United States in 1869. They are of medium size and readily recognized by their color. This is a solid brown, varying in shade from light to dark and varying in intensity on different parts of the body, the head, neck, legs and quarters being usually the darker portions. The characteristic markings are a light, mealy ring around the muzzle, a light stripe across the lips and up the sides of the nostrils, a light colored tuft of hair on the poll and a light stripe down the back from shoulder to tail head, with black nose, tongue, switch and hoofs.

Professor Thomas Shaw, one of our leading cattle authorities, is credited with the following opinion: "Brown Swiss cattle are pretty uniformly good milkers. They have borne this character for generations. They are also good for beef production, but not quite so good relatively as for milk production. They are of good size and grow quickly. The steers attain to good weights, but the bone is a little strong for best results in beef making, and yet for this purpose they answer better than any of the straight dairy breeds. On the continent of Europe it would probably be correct to say that this breed of cows is more popular than any other."

Head of the Holsteins.

Few times in the history of ring contests has a calf been made grand champion, but the bull calf Johannes Bonheur's Sir Payne has the distinction of being grand champion, says Board's Dairyman in commenting upon the exhibit of Holsteins at the recent dairy show. This calf was bred by W. J. Gillett and is now owned by David Munroe of Manitoba. He has a wonderful line of ancestors back of him, and he himself is a splendid individual, but notwithstanding all this it is doubtful whether a calf so young should receive so high a recognition as to be placed at the head of the breed. Much can be said for and against a decision of this kind.



JOHANNES BONHEUR'S SIR PAYNE.

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To Cure a Pawing Horse.

To cure horses from pawing in the stall nail 1 by 3 inch cleats to the floor back of the manger and another one and a half to two feet. The idea is to place the cleats so that the horse's foot will be drawn over them in pawing.

SWINE INTERESTS.

A Point in Unraveling the Money Tied Up in "Cattle" Hogs.

During the winter months, and, in fact, during whichever months cattle feeders confine their fattening cattle to dry lots, many hogs are fattened upon the undigested grain which appears in the droppings from the cattle.

Since corn is the chief grain used for fattening cattle, it follows that the hogs which depend solely upon the undigested grain in the steers' droppings must be confined to a ration made up almost exclusively of corn.

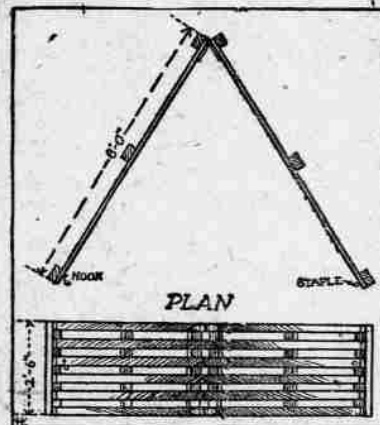
The Ohio experiment station has been endeavoring to determine whether or not the prevailing practice can be improved by supplying a feed comparatively rich in protein and ash to hogs that follow fattening cattle. The results of its work are striking. It seems certain from the tests that the gains made by tankage fed hogs are cheaper as well as larger. Comparing cases alone with corn and supplementary feeds rich in protein and ash, it is found that the hogs fed corn alone consumed less feed, made much lower gains and required a greater number of pounds of food to produce one pound gain than did the hogs which received the supplementary feed with the corn.

The gains made by hogs fed tankage were more than one-half greater than the gains made by the hogs that depended entirely upon the droppings from the steers, a decided increase from the use of a supplementary feed rich in protein and ash.

A decided advantage in feeding tankage is that fewer hogs would be required to consume the droppings from a given number of cattle and to produce a given amount of gain, and they would be ready for market much quicker, thus reducing the amount of money tied up in hogs and permitting a more frequent turning of the money.

Handy Hog Hurdle.

The hurdle shown in the diagram is very useful in catching hogs or driving them short distances. It is made of two and a half inch stuff eight feet long and the strips three inches apart, making the sections thirty inches high.



HOG HURDLE DIAGRAM.

Two sections of this size are hinged together. The hurdle is arranged with a hook and staple. A second hurdle may be made with hook and staple to correspond with this, and when hooked up the two make an inclosure eight feet square, which is convenient for confining hogs for exhibition or sale.

Salt and Wood Ashes.

Salt and wood ashes should be freely supplied to swine, especially young growing swine. Pigs have a great craving for these substances, and the want of them will react unfavorably upon the health of the animal, besides conducting to soft textured bone.

The Straw Stack That Pays.

The season of the year is fast approaching when bedding is an item of considerable importance. Its value is twofold. In the first place, it makes the stock comfortable and, in the second place, it increases the size of the manure pile. Both of these deserve consideration. I do not believe that bedding can be made to take the place of feeding, but it is plainly evident that the animal which is comfortable is most profitable, and in so far as you are able to increase profits, although you will not be able to reduce the feed bill, economy in bedding means using all the straw you can. Try to manage so that the stack will last from one thrashing time until another, but do not try to keep it year after year. The straw stack that does the most good on the farm is the straw stack that gets into the manure pile through the process of bedding and gets back on to the land before the fertility has leached out and drained away.—Kimball's Dairy Farmer.

Preparation of Coarse Feeds.

One of the implements or machines found in operation is the corn shredder. It is revolutionizing the use of corn fodder, as it saves labor and prepares the cornstalks for the use of stock. It removes the ears from the husks and tears the entire stalk into shreds at one operation as rapidly as the stalks can be fed into the machine. There are several kinds, but every farmer should have one, as it will enable him to use the leaves, husks and stalks as so much hay, which can be baled if necessary. When fodder is thus prepared the cattle will not reject so much as usual, and the shredded fodder uneaten is suitable for bedding or as an absorbent in the manure heap. The saving in feed by the shredding of the entire stalk will be an addition to the profit of the farm and will also enable the farmer to keep more stock.—Farmers Advocate.

Stable Notes.

It is not hard work, but poor care, which ruins the average farm horse. Always remove the harness at the noon hour, and use as little harness as possible when doing farm work.

Champions and Others.

At the Kansas City show the Galloways and Angus in about equal numbers monopolized half of the fifty-two pens of twenty-five animals each that constituted the carload class. The Galloway display at this show was probably the best the breed has made this season and a very good one. While the bull classes did not present anything of ultra good value, the cows, aged, yearlings and two-year-olds—and



A GALLOWAY CHAMPION.

also the heifer calves were in splendid form.

A common origin has been claimed by some for the Galloways and Angus because of their similar color, but if such there be its effect has long been lost owing to differences in climate, management and standards of breeding.

Galloways rank with the Angus in size. In form the beef rectangle presents itself—broad, deep and symmetrical. Possessed of ample bone, very hardy and an ideal hustler, the Galloway has endeared himself to cattle raisers in rigorous climates and high altitudes. His coat is specially characteristic, with a thick hide and a mossy coat of long, wavy hair—in fact, a sort of double coat, a close mat of short hair being found under the long one. Black tinged with brown is the prevailing color.

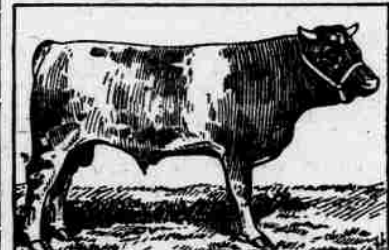
Like the Angus, Galloway bulls are good dehorners and strongly prepotent, from 75 per cent to 90 per cent of their calves from horned cows being without horns. On the range and in the feed lot Galloways are of great value, and their hides are made into robes of great beauty.

The Galloways, both the bulls and the females, met with a good demand and averaged very satisfactorily in prices at the public sales in connection with the show at Kansas City. The accompanying cut, original in the Breeder's Gazette, Chicago, shows a prize winning "shaggy coat."

Clinking Good Youngsters.

In the two-year-old Shorthorns at the American Royal one of the sensations of the year was uncovered in the clinker Lord Champion, according to the Breeder's Gazette, Chicago, which further says:

"Of beautiful conformation, thick and smooth in his flesh, remarkably short of leg, well arched in rib and clothed in a rich coat of red glossy hair, this is one of the most satisfac-



RUBERTA'S GOODS.

[Grand Champion bull at American Royal show.—Iowa Homestead.]

tory showyard propositions seen this year. It was hard luck that he missed the grand championship. Popular vote would have carried him to it. "In senior bull calves, numbering sixteen contestants, the grand champion of the show was discovered. Ruberta's Goods is his name. He came from a Nebraska farm and from noted ancestry. He resembles his grand sire more closely than his sire. He is a growthy chap, and more fat would give him a symmetry that would fill the eye. As he stood, he was not so smooth over the hips and about the tail head as more flesh would make him. Ruberta's Goods has made a big hit as a calf, but he looks like a stronger proposition for next year."

Good Care of the Saddle.

A manufacturer of saddles is credited with the statement that one of the best of polishes for riding saddles and bridles is new milk. This should not be rubbed in the leather, however, until the latter has been cleaned with slightly warm water and soap. Hard-working stock saddles can be kept in good condition by thoroughly rubbing with three parts of palm oil and one of neatfoot after first washing with soap and water. For the leather lining of saddles that comes next to the horse there is nothing so good as neatfoot oil. The salt which exudes from the animal's body is very hard on the leather. Vigorous and protracted rubbing of the leather is essential, whatever dressing is used.

Currying the Cows.

If you suggest currying the cows many farmers will laugh at you. Nevertheless cows need to be regularly brushed and curried. They need to be kept clean as much as horses, if not more so. It is impossible to get clean milk from dirty cows.

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