

**Dairy Bull Most Important  
Writes County Agent Jenkins**

The following article from the office of County Agent Geo. Jenkins should be of great interest to all dairymen, and especially in Coos county where the dairy industry leads all others in value of returns and in the number of persons engaged in that industry:

An extremely important function of any cow testing association should be to determine the value of herd sires. We may talk pedigree and dams' records as much as we like but the real value of a bull is dependent upon the production of the offspring he sires and it is only in recent years that the proved sire has received a portion of the credit that is due him. Those who have owned bulls have doubtless been disappointed in the production of some sire that on paper looked very good. The only sire which is sure is the proved sire. The term "proved" sire has been very loosely applied by many people. It is often applied to a bull with no offspring over a year old and also to a bull as soon as he has some daughter milking. A good indication of the value of a sire is the comparison of the production of six of his daughters with the production of the dam. Investigational work has shown that this number is a minimum on which to base judgment of a bull's transmitting ability, according to George H. Jenkins, County Agent.

The selection of a bull which will increase the production of daughters over their dams in commercial dairy herds is probably the most important problem confronting Coos county dairymen at this time. There are several reasons why there are not more proved sires available so that more dairymen will not have to worry about whether the new bull is going to make or break them. The first reason is that it is only recently that the advantage of using proved sires has been emphasized. Another is that not enough dairy herds are doing testing work. As bulls get older they sometimes get ornery and hard to handle and many a good bull has gone to the butcher because he cannot be handled. One of the biggest handicaps to the proving of bulls is lack of adequate facilities to handle the vicious ones. Plans for the construction of a safety bull pen can be secured from the County Agent.

The use of a proven sire by dairymen in Coos county will be stressed through the agricultural Extension program during this next year. A series of community meetings is now being scheduled at which Roger Morse, extension dairyman, will illustrate the value of the proven sire through heredoscope boards which have been prepared for that purpose. This program to encourage the use of proven sires will include the filing of information on all registered sires in the county and a plan through which registered bull calves from high producing dams will be substituted for the scrub bull. In determining the value of sires in use in the county, comparisons will be made of the production of heifers with the production of their dam. The basis for all of this work will be the records provided through the cow testing association work and an attempt will be made to secure a large membership among dairymen in the county for this work during 1932.

There are approximately 23 million dairy cows in the United States. Of this number nearly eight million are losing money for their owners. Nearly as many more are merely paying for their keep and the remainder are carrying the dairy industry so far as profit is concerned.

About thirteen thousand of these 23 million dairy cows are in Coos county. While the average quality of cows in Coos county is far superior to the average for the United States, it is safe to say that between two and three thousand of the cows in Coos county are losing money for their owner and that probably that many more are just paying the cost of feed, labor and investment.

Some of the cows in this group that are losing money for their owners are cows that do not have the inherited ability to produce profitably. Others have the ability but their production is limited by improper feed and care, disease and other factors.

The necessity for eliminating these unprofitable cows is evident and the question arises as to which cows are the non-profit makers. Picking out this group of non-paying boarders is not as simple as it seems and culling by guess has resulted in many good cows going to the block. Selection by appearance of the cow alone is at best not accurate when done by dairymen of a great deal of experience and ability. Production records are necessary for proper culling and management of the dairy herd. The keeping of accurate records entails no little time and the dairy herd improvement association should in most cases be the dairyman's solution of the problems.

What are some of the possibilities indicated by a study of dairy herd im-

provement association records. First, they point out the unprofitable cows. No country has better cows than our good cows yet the production per cow in the United States is considerably below that of some other countries such as Holland, Denmark, Sweden and Germany. We have in this country more than 175 cows that have produced over one thousand pounds of butterfat in one year. There are few if any that have produced so much in Denmark, yet the average production there is approximately 50 per cent higher than ours. Our reason for the high average production there may be that 34 per cent of the total cow population is tested for production each year, while in this country we are testing only a little better than two per cent.

Association records also furnish information on which to base an economical feeding program. It is just as uneconomical to underfeed a good cow as it is to overfeed a poor cow and intelligent feeding is next to impossible unless production is known. Adjustment of feeding according to production has often resulted in a saving of total feed consumed and an increase in production. In most cases a study of the records emphasize the economy

of home grown feeds.

Another factor often brought out in association records is the length of milking periods. In the records we often remember that "Old Beauty" gave six gallons a day when she was fresh and forgot that she was giving only a gallon a day five months later.

A study of our association records will also bring out any loss incurred by disease in the herd. Abortion takes its toll not only in loss of calves but also in most cases lowered production and lowered resistance to disease, such as breeding and udder troubles. A better selection of heifer calves for replacement can be made if based on management study of records and heifers can be selected from cows in families that are uniformly good, persistent producers. We often find animals that did not make good records because they were off feed, had udder trouble, etc. Often the records reveal that such herd luck seems to run in the families which lends to the suspicion that there may be inherited weaknesses which predispose an animal to such troubles.

While the record of a cow may not always be an accurate basis on which to select heifer calves for replacement, it is certainly the most accurate way

we know of except to keep them until they prove themselves in production, and this is not practical for the commercial dairymen. Testing work continually brings out the economy of high production, and in practically every case records illustrate that as production increases so also does the return over feed cost.

A poem that deals appropriately with the above article is also furnished by Mr. Jenkins:

**TWO KINDS OF COWS**

There are two kinds of cows on our farms today,  
Just two kinds of cows and no more,  
I say,  
Not Jersey, or Guernsey, Ayrshire, or  
Holstein.

For it isn't the breed of cows that I mean.

Not the fat, or the lean, or the large,  
or the small,  
Nor the ones that stand in the up-to-date stalls.

No, the two kinds of cows on our farms that I mean  
Are the cows that lift and the cows that lean.

The lifter is one that brings large returns,

The leaner costs more for her keep than she earns.

Wherever you go you will find the breed's masses  
Are always divided into just these two classes.

And strangely enough, you will find, as I've seen,  
There are about ten lifters to twenty that lean.

And the dairyman finds by testing and weighing  
That these noble lifters do all of the paying.

—Frank E. Rounds.

Attorney General Van Winkle is back in Washington, D. C., trying to collect a claim of \$358,000 which the federal government owes to the state of Oregon for money advanced in equipping troops during the Civil War. Similar claims presented by the states of Nevada and New York, it is said, have been recognized by the government and paid and the state of California is pressing a claim at this time also.

Safety First! Use Cow Bell Dairy's Pasteurized Milk and protect your health.

**NOTICE**  
Notice is hereby given that the annual meeting of the shareholders of The First National Bank of Coquille, Oregon, for the election of Directors for the ensuing year and for the transaction of such other business as may properly come before the meeting, will be held at the office of said Bank in Coquille, Oregon, on Tuesday, January 12th, 1932, between the hours of 10:00 A. M. and 4:00 P. M.  
Dated at Coquille, Oregon, this 9th day of December, 1931.  
L. H. Hazard, President  
E. D. Webb, Cashier

**NOTICE OF STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING**  
Notice is hereby given that the regular annual stockholders' meeting of the Farmers & Merchants Bank will be held at its banking house in the city of Coquille, State of Oregon, at the hour of 4 p. m. o'clock on Thursday, January 14th, 1932.  
The purpose for which this meeting is called is to elect a Board of Directors for the ensuing year and for the transaction of any other business that may be properly presented.  
Lyman Carrier,  
President.

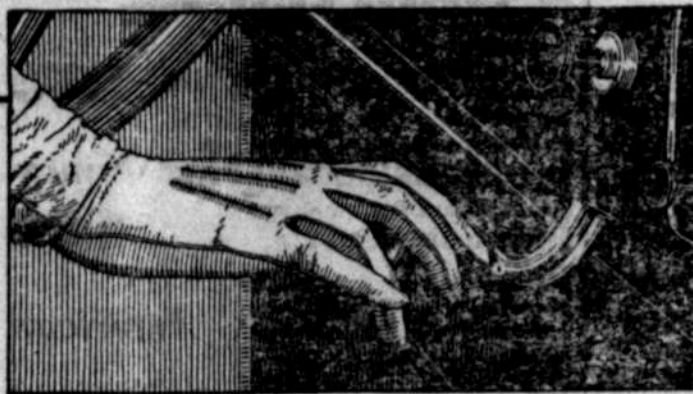
Attest: W. S. Sickels,  
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