

EFFICIENCY MOST VITAL NEED OF DAIRY INDUSTRY

Efficiency—more production per cow and more economy in production to match the high land values and cost of labor and equipment and cost of feed—is the most vital need of the dairy industry today.

The average production of the average cow expressed in terms of milk and butter fat cannot be called good. In fact it is poor—and what man likes to conduct a poor business?

Dairymen may be divided into three classes—those who fail and eventually go out of the business, those who eke out a bare existence, and those who succeed.

Invariably the success of the progressive dairyman is dependent on the quality of his cows. He climbs to freedom from financial worry over the backs of high producing cows. He knows that high milk producing ability is an inherited character and that he must carefully select his breeding stock to the end that all animals born in his herd possess that ability.

The greatest aid in creating efficiency in the dairy herd is the dairy sire with a strong milk producing inheritance. Such a sire adds to the milk producing ability of the future herd.

A poor sire gets his own kind and decreased production. An increase in milk production decreases costs while a decrease in production increases costs.

Since the milk producing ability of the future herd is dependent upon the sire, great care should be used in his selection. He may be selected by one of two methods:

1. Select a sire that has already demonstrated his value through the milking quality of his heifers. Such a sire will transmit the same good qualities as long as he lives. Proven sires unfortunately are not plentiful for the majority are slaughtered while still young.

2. Select by pedigree or ancestry. A bull inherits the milking qualities of the cows that contributed to his inheritance and passes these same qualities on to his heifers. His heifers resemble his ancestors, which makes a careful examination of these ancestors and their milk record necessary to the improvement of the future herd.

Galton's law in breeding shows that an animal receives 50 per cent of its characteristics from its immediate parents, 25 per cent from its grandparents and the remaining 25 per cent from the earlier generation.

This makes it necessary that a bull be selected from closely related animals of proven high milk producing and transmitting qualities.

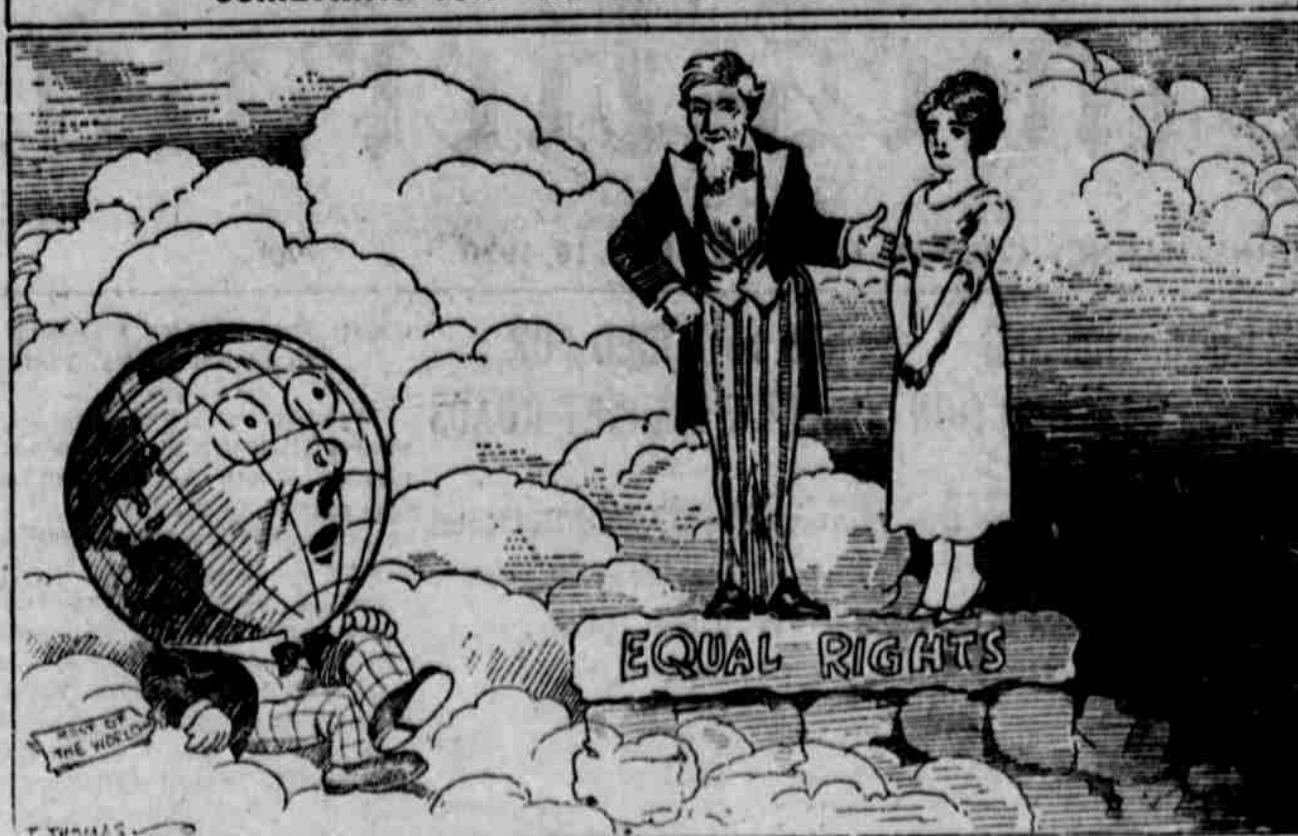
Select from an ancestry that is uniformly good producers rather than from one that has one sensational animal with the others of ordinary quality.

A good sire will often increase butter fat production in his heifers 100 pounds of fat above that of their dams. In a herd of 20 cows giving 10 heifer calves the butter fat yield would thus be increased 1000 pounds above that of their class when these heifers come into milk. This 50 cents per pound gives \$500 additional income the first year.

This would be duplicated the next and succeeding years and there would also be other heifers coming into milk making possible the replacing of the entire original herd with better cows. Many Oregon bulls are now demonstrating their value in the herds of their owners, but there is room for many, many more in the herds of the 20,000 dairymen of our state. The average yearly production of the Oregon cow is probably not far from 200 pounds of fat. By following a good breeding practice this average yield could be doubled within a few years.

The cost of a good sire should deter no dairyman from securing the

SOMETHING FOR THE OLD BOY TO THINK ABOUT



GENERAL EDWARDS FINDS PEACE ON OWN FARM



use of one in his herd. Only the rich man can afford to use a poor sire.

If the price seems high one can purchase in partnership with a neighbor or organize a bull association with a group of neighbors. There are a number of these associations in operation which provide the service of a first class sire at a nominal price.

There is promise of a splendid future herd for the dairyman if he follows up-to-date methods in breeding and handling his herd.

If he would progress, however, he must always keep in mind the fact that the milking ability of his future herd is dependent upon the good judgment he is showing at the present time in his breeding operations.

Select a good sire now and ever be on the lookout for a better one to replace him when the time arrives.

Chopping Alfalfa Increases Value

Oregon Agricultural College, Corvallis, April 5.—Chopping alfalfa hay

for fattening steers increased its value 23 per cent in 10 feeding tests conducted at the Eastern Oregon branch experiment station, as reported by E. L. Potter, head of animal husbandry at the agricultural college.

"Part of the increase was due to the saving in waste and part to the better gains made by the cattle," Professor said. "The hay was of good quality and the cattle were encouraged to eat as much as possible."

"The waste was reduced from five to one and a seventh pounds per animal per day."

This report and others dealing with cattle feeding were presented at the first annual meeting of the Eastern Oregon Livestock Feeders' convention at LaGrande, March 25-26. It was voted to make the convention an annual affair, and leave the time and place of the next meeting to the animal husbandry department of the college.

The convention went on record as commending the work of Robert Withycombe, superintendent of the E. O. branch station, and Professor

Potter.

A resolution in favor of the college university and normal school millage measure was adopted by a unanimous vote.

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Preaching at 11 A. M. Subject: B. S. HUGHES, Pastor

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE SOCIETY
Services at 11:00 o'clock.
The reading room in the church Edifice, is open on Tuesday and Friday from 2:30 to 4:30 p. m.
Sunday School meets on Sunday at

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