

'Retedale' Is Model Dairy Farm

Clean cows and clean milk are the result of scientific experiments and tests, ingenious inventions and open minds of dairymen willing and anxious to accept this accumulated knowledge and improved equipment.

After a slump in dairy herds in Klamath county during the war, the dairy business here is being built up again and a modern dairy farm is the L. Lombard "Retedale" Guernsey ranch, off the Merrill highway.

Lombard, Klamath Falls automobile dealer, was brought up on a dairy ranch in Southern Michigan and when 11 years old milked 11 cows by hand. His father was one of the first dairymen in that section of the country to breed purebred Holsteins.

Modern Dairy
Lombard's dream had been to some day own a modern dairy and he purchased the property near Merrill last July, which he first called Green Acres. He changed the name to Retedale for his wife, Marguerite, when he found there were other ranches across the nation registered under the old name.

Lombard's son-in-law, Frank Ricker Jr., is foreman of the ranch and S. L. Mathews is the milker and assistant herdsman. Another son, Oscar Baker, does general work about the place such as clean-up, irrigation work and building and repairing fences.

There are 43 head of Guernsey cattle on the ranch including the seven new calves. With the registered calves there are 27 registered head on the ranch.

Everything is up to date on the ranch, the modern new milking "parlor," all concrete and steel, was finished in July, 1947, and is equipped with stations and stalls to milk 16 head at one time. This is such a far cry from the old three-legged milking stool in the open barn, with a family of cats standing by for a ration, as to have no resemblance to that fast-passing stage of dairy farming.

Measured Diet
Cows are fed according to butter-fat content and production of milk and their diet is measured out as carefully as that of a special patient in a hospital. Output is weighed twice each day following each milking, and a chart kept on each cow.

During milking, which is done electrically, the animals are fed a mash composed of soybean meal, linseed oil, cottonseed oil, corn, rolled barley, wheat bran, bone meal and molasses. Bee pulp is also on the diet and the modern loading barn, roofed and sided with aluminum, is open to the cows' desire with plenty of hay available at all times. It is let down from a loft into the mangers below. The animals wander in at will and spend the rest of the day between milkings out in the open field.

The milking parlor is painted a clean grey and white and in the same building is a modern milk house with walk-in electric cooler and freezing unit built of steel. A surge-type milker is used and there is a gasoline engine to provide power if the electricity fails. Milking is done at 5 a. m. and 5 p. m. daily. Each cow uses the same stall and goes to its place without direction at milking time.

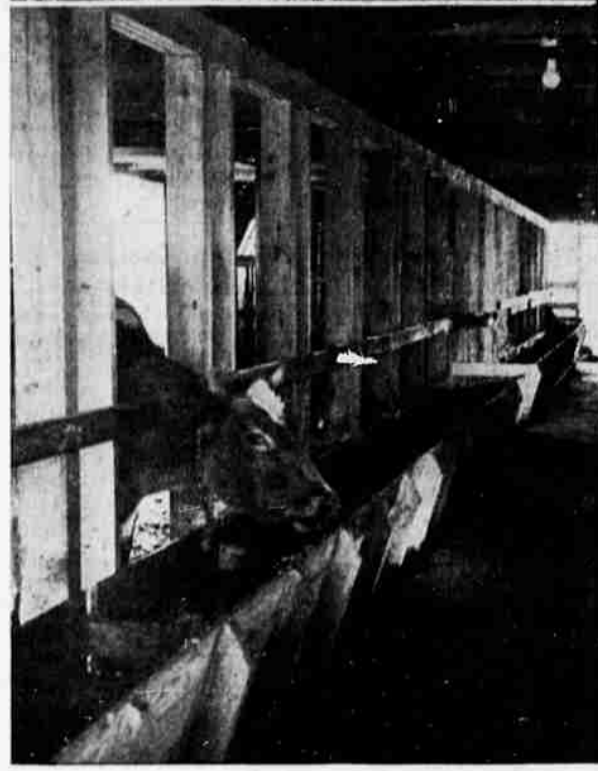
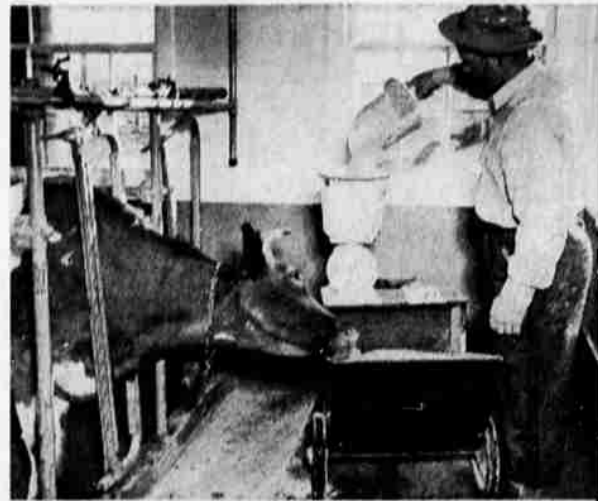
Clean Equipment
All the equipment is disinfected before each use and the cows are all washed off before milking.

The cattle on this modern ranch are all purebred and five of the cows are on the advanced register list of the American Registered Guernsey association.

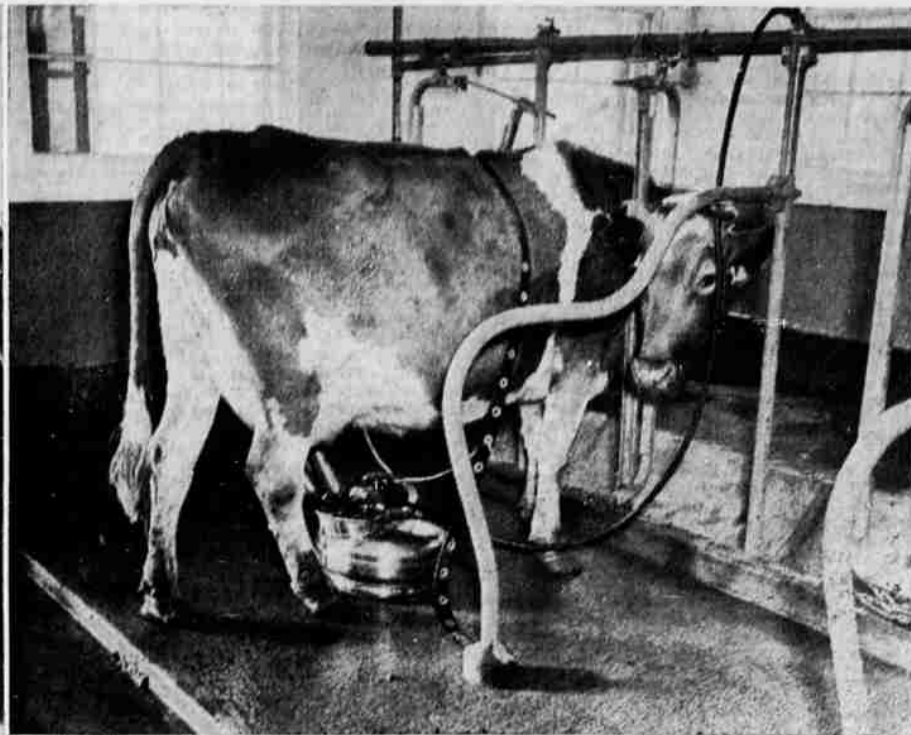
Lombard is a member of the Klamath Dairy Herd Improvement association also and a double test is given each cow each month with a tester coming from the KDHA and the ARCA. Each animal is tested for Bangs disease and tuberculosis as soon as it comes to the ranch.

Two Jap houses brought from Camp Newell are used on the ranch, one as a feed storehouse and one for a calf barn. All buildings are painted a pleasing shade of green.

Lombard plans to build two modern silos this year where vetch and oats will be made into ensilage for next winter's roughage for cattle feed. He also plans to increase his herd to 60 head this year.



Upper left: Cow swipes an extra ration of special feed as Foreman Frank Ricker Jr. measures out quantity according to specifications. Lower left: Loading barn where a mash composed of soybean meal, linseed oil, cottonseed oil, corn, rolled barley, wheat bran, bone meal and molasses. Bee pulp is also on the diet and the modern loading barn, roofed and sided with aluminum, is open to the cows' desire with plenty of hay available at all times. It is let down from a loft into the mangers below. The animals wander in at will and spend the rest of the day between milkings out in the open field.



Upper right: Modern milking "parlor," with electric attachments. Lower right: Output is weighed after each milking and a bi-daily chart kept of the results. S. L. Mathews, herdsman, grins as the scale's hands jump up.

Milking In The Modern Manner At Retedale

Basin Farmers Study Gypsum Application Plan

Considerable interest in gypsum application is evident among basin farmers. Most interested are those farming the heavier textured soils carrying considerable amounts of alkali salts and inclined to be rather tight.

Structure of soil is dependent largely on humus content and on whether or not sodium is the dominant alkali element. Soils which are slick when wet and which tend to run together and bake when dry are likely to be low in organic matter and high in sodium salts and base exchange sodium.

Soils in which calcium salts predominate are of better structure. Such soils are not likely to be as slick when wet, do not puddle as easily and do not become so hard and baked when dry. Calcium promotes a loose crumb-like soil structure while sodium induces puddling and baking. Both sulfur and gypsum benefit high sodium soils by resulting in soluble sodium salts that can be removed in drain water.

Formation of the desirable granular or crumb soil structure most favorable to development of crop plants is governed largely by the content of humus in soil. Humus goes out of alkali soils fast. It disappears rapidly in soils farmed heavily to crops which leave no residue to return to the soil.

If soil structure and humus content are to be maintained at desirable level there is a need for regular return of organic matter.

When pioneers came to the Oregon territory a century ago, it was covered with the greatest abundance of forests in the nation. This territorial centennial year finds Oregon with still about one-fourth of the merchantable timber in the nation, which it led last year with a harvest of more than six billion board feet.

Substitutes For Meat

In planning substitutes for meat in general, we should look for foods that are rich in protein, iron and phosphorus.

In general, meat substitutes consist of eggs, fish and other sea foods and cheese. Eggs are probably the best substitute for meat. Salmon has considerably less iron than beef and pork, but added iron can be secured by eating plenty of greens, whole grain products and dried fruits. Oysters are rich in iron. Cheese is a valuable substitute for meat, but it also contains less iron.

Dried legumes such as dried beans, peas and lentils are often substituted for meat, but it is recommended that this substitution be made no oftener than twice a week. This recommendation is made because the human body requires proteins of animal sources. The proteins of legumes are plentiful but are incomplete. The deficit of essential proteins can be greatly helped when serving beans in a meal by including plenty of milk in some form.

For further information on comparative food values of meat and meat substitutes call the home demonstration agent, telephone 8151, or write box 645 asking for mimeographs HE 1711 and 1751. These mimeos also contain recipes using meat extenders that you will find different and delicious.

With Farmers and Stockmen Around Klamath Basin

Bryant Williams, Spring Lake farmer, is going into the sheep business in a big way. Bryant recently purchased about 100 ewes and lambing operations are in full swing.

Mr. and Mrs. Willard Duncan, Merrill potato growers, plan to go to Oceanside to attend the seed tests. They will also visit Mrs. Duncan's brother, F. M. Glenn of Oceanside, and her sister, Margaret Barclay of Los Angeles. Orvie Kenyon will accompany the Duncans on the trip.

Also planning to attend the Oceanside tests are Mr. and Mrs. Ed Petrasek of Malin. They will stop in Santa Monica to visit with Mrs. Petrasek's brother, Dr. Edgar Storli.

Winter wheat, barley and rye crops are springing up all around the basin, some blades about three inches high this week making the countryside a pale green. Some of this is planted pastureland and some voluntary, springing from seeds lost in harvest, and will be plowed under.

Bill Kittredge, Ed Geary and Henry Gerber, Klamath basin cattlemen, have just returned from the National Livestock association meeting at Boise, Ida.

Midland Grange Home Economics club will sponsor a card party at the H. B. Largent home on Miller Island on Saturday, at 8:30 p. m. Mrs. Joe Milani and Mrs. August Andrieu will take care of the refreshments.

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Leafroll Spread Is Big Problem

By WALT JENDRZEJEWSKI

Leafroll spread reduced in proportion to reduction of aphid populations in dusted potato fields? That question remains unanswered according to a summary of 1946 and 1947 experimental work.

Experiments in 1946 and again in 1947 show startlingly less aphids in plots dusted or sprayed with DDT materials. Field observations in 1947 do not indicate corresponding reductions of leafroll spread.

Results of test planting of samples from dusted and undusted plots will not be available until spring. Test planting of samples from 1946 plots showed only a fraction of a per cent less leafroll spread in dusted plots than in plots not dusted.

Experiments in 1946 were carried in fields planted with seed quite low in disease. These certified fields were rogued. Disease counts were very low.

Experiments in 1947 were located in commercial fields carrying from 1 to 6 per cent leafroll in the hope that conclusive evidence of decreased spread because of aphid control could be obtained.

No conclusive evidence of reduced leafroll spread can yet be shown as a result of aphid control with DDT. Investigations carried in Maine with DDT materials indicates no success in reduction of leafroll spread.

Conclusions are that successful commercial production requires seed stocks carrying under 1 per cent leafroll. Some Klamath fields planted with seed carrying 1 per cent leafroll this year could not make U. S. No. 1 grade.

Even though results of test planting may show a lessening of leafroll spread in dusted plots it is unlikely that as many as four dustings during the season will save commercial fields planted with seed carrying as much as 3 or 4 per cent leafroll.

A poisonous snake normally loses and replaces its fangs at regular intervals, usually from three to six weeks.

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