

ORGANIZING COOPERATIVE CATTLE BREEDING ASSOCIATIONS IN DENMARK

(By J. J. Dunne, Denmark)

From Hoard's Dairyman:

One of the great difficulties that bars the progress of the improvement of small herds of cattle is the expense attending the purchase of well bred bulls. When this expense has to be borne by the owner of a herd of 10 or 12 cows, the cost of the bull makes the entire enterprise too expensive and to this circumstance may be ascribed the indifferent attitude of the owners of small herds to the benefits gained by using good bulls. Danish farmers found a way out of this difficulty in 1874, although the plan did not seem to be successful at first. The plan was simply the cooperative purchase of a good bull, or bulls, by a group of owners of small herds of cattle and the formation of a cooperative cattle breeding association. The lack of success that attended the movement at first was chiefly due to the fact that there were too many members in the association and the lived too far from each other. The result was that they gradually lost interest in the work. The smaller associations started since then had fewer members and living nearer each other, they kept better in touch; these circumstances enable them to take an active part in the work of the association, such as the responsibility of management and the selection of suitable cows for breeding purposes, two very important factors in bringing about the best results.

Organization.

The local organizations generally have a membership of from 4 to 60, the average being about 24. The object of the association is to rapidly improve and develop the best milkers within the association by the purchase of one or more bulls of a recognized good milking strain. As the members of the association generally own more cows than the bull or bulls can serve, a local judging committee is appointed by the association, which in conjunction with the expert adviser employed by the district or county central committee composed of delegates from all the local associations in the district, visits each member and selects a number of cows worthy to be bred to the association bull or bulls, due consideration being given to the proportional size of his herd and the total number of cows in the association.

The bull is, as a rule, stationed with the member who submits the lowest bid for keeping him, the price varying from \$80 to \$90 per annum.

Periodical inspection of the herds by the committee, who advise members with regard to the care of young stock, is also a contributing cause to the general improvement of the herds within the association. Exhibition at the local shows, the county shows, and the government or state shows, which is compulsory, also serves a useful purpose.

The by-laws of the association are generally as follows:

1 The aim of the association shall be to develop a sound, well built, good paying breed of milk cows, by the purchase of bulls of a good milking strain, by selecting the best dams (the selection being based on reliable information as to milk yield, milk fat, appearance, build and pedigree), by a rational treatment of the offspring, and by the holding of local shows.

2 The association shall be formed and carried on for a period of 3 or 5 years, and no member may resign or withdraw before the expiration of that period except as a change of residence renders further active membership impossible.

3 The members of the association shall elect a managing committee of three members, one of whom shall go out of office by term of every three years—during the first two years of the association's existence by drawing lots; thereafter in turn. Re-election is permitted. The managing committee shall elect a chairman who shall also act as business manager, secretary and cashier of the association.

4 The managing committee shall select, purchase, offer for service, exclude, and sell the herd bulls of the association, select the cows of the members, act as judges at the local shows and advise members regarding the keeping of their private herd book.

5 The chairman shall call the meetings of the committee, decide when and where they shall be held, preside at the same, and keep the minutes. He shall represent the association, keep its accounts, discharge its correspondence, and act as its treasurer. Meetings of the committee shall be held whenever the chairman or the other two members desire.

6 The annual meeting of all the members of the association shall be held during the month of June. The fiscal year of the association shall run from the 1st of April to the 31st of March; on the latter date the chairman shall hand over his accounts to the revisor elected at the annual meeting the preceding year; the accounts shall be audited and returned to the chairman within eight days. Any member who wishes to bring forward any matter for

discussion at the annual general meeting must submit the matter in writing to the chairman not later than the 1st of June. At the annual meeting all questions should be decided by the votes of the majority; the audited accounts shall be produced and the chairman shall submit a short report of the work of the association during the past year.

7 The association bull shall be sound, well built, of a recognized good milking strain, and of good pedigree. He shall be insured, and shall be examined twice a year by a veterinary surgeon. He shall not be utilized for breeding purposes until he reaches the age of 12 years. The fee for service shall be determined every year by the managing committee. The bull shall be exhibited every year at the local show, and when three years old at the state show.

8 Every member shall keep the record in a proper herd book as directed by the committee, and is bound to exhibit at the local shows all selected cows and their offspring by the association bull, until the heifers become pregnant for the first time and the bulls reach the age of two years. Calves less than 3 months old need not be exhibited. Each calf shall be earmarked with the number of its dam according to a system adopted by the association. The selected cows shall be divided into two classes, A and B, the former comprising animals especially suited for breeding and the latter comprising animals that may be utilized for breeding purposes. Every animal shall have its number branded on the back of its left horn. Cows of class A have an A branded on the back of the left horn. Branding may be dispensed with when the cows are otherwise properly marked.

9 Each member is entitled to one vote, which he may register in person or through a legal proxy.

10 Extraordinary general meetings may be called by the committee and must be called when one-third of the members so desire. The annual general meeting is only empowered to make fundamental changes within the association when at least half of the members are present. If less than half of the members are present, a new meeting must be called fourteen days later and such meeting is empowered to make fundamental changes without regard to the number of members present.

11 The members of the association are jointly responsible for all debts contracted in conformity with the decision of the majority at the annual meeting or in settling the financial affairs of the association, when such settlement has to be made owing to the death or sale of bulls, or for any other reason; each member's liability being proportioned to the greatest number of cows registered as his property at any time during the fiscal year, regardless whether some of them were sold, killed, or stricken out. In order to be relieved of his liability a withdrawing member must pay his just proportion of the debt of the association, as furnished by the committee and approved by the members at the annual meeting. The withdrawing member shall not be entitled to any portion of a possible surplus.

12 The dissolution of the association may take place at the end of 3 or 5 years, but only as a result of a resolution to this effect passed by the majority of the members at the annual meeting.

How the Association Bulls are Bought and Paid for.

Since bulls must be recognized and approved at the show's receiving government support, in order to obtain government aid, it is a common practice in Denmark to buy bulls for a certain sum of money payable on delivery and an additional sum payable in conformity with the recognition the bull receives in the show ring. A further sum may be paid to the seller by the association if the bull gets over a certain per cent of the cows he serves with calf or, in case he is exhibited for the first time with offspring, if he receives a premium of not less than a certain rank. As it may take two years before some of the terms can be decided upon, the buyer is naturally responsible and liable to the seller for the treatment the animal receives up to that time. The seller must furnish a guaranteed pedigree, a health certificate, including test for tuberculosis, and also a guarantee that the animal is in possession of its breeding power.

The fact that the greater part of the purchase money depends upon conditions, as stated above, shows how the people value and are willing to pay for those qualities in the bull that cannot be judged from his outward appearance but which largely determine his value as a herd improver.

Difficulties Encountered in the Work of the Associations.

1 The association does not as a rule keep their bulls long enough. Many of the associations keep their bulls only one, two, or at the most three years. This period is altogether too short to ascertain the real breeding value of the bull as shown by the offspring. The principal reasons for the frequent change of bulls are: that many

farmers fear evil effects from in-and-in breeding, and that the bulls become either vicious or impotent. That they become vicious is often ascribed to the practice of changing the boarding place of the bull from year to year in order to save a few shillings on his keep. Sometimes the bulls become impotent through overfattening, lack of exercise, or too heavy service when young. The result of the frequent change of bulls, even of the same breed, is that in many instances it hinders the development of the cattle industry in the locality, as the offspring from year to year are lacking in uniformity.

2 Some associations have too large a membership. It is obvious, that if an association has too many members and too many cows in proportion to the number of bulls, the benefit of the individual member becomes smaller. Associations consisting of 40 or 50 members, possessing from 300 to 400 cows and only one bull, will not be by any means so important as associations consisting of 16 to 20 members, possessing from 120 to 150 cows and one bull. Danish farmers hold the opinion that the best association is the one that has not more than 50 cows and one bull.

3 Frequency of abortion. Abortion in a herd not only causes an immediate loss due to diminished production, but may check the improvement of the herd for several years. All associations have strict rules prohibiting cows that have aborted from being served by the association bull, but in spite of this abortion has been spread by the bull from herd to herd. To prevent the spread of the disease not only is great care taken in disinfecting the bull after each service, but in some associations a frequent veterinary inspection and examination of all cows in the herd is carried out.

4 Members do not always use the association bull. Some members of an association have to lead their cows a considerable distance in order to reach the bull and this fact, combined with a high service fee, often causes members, who are not fully alive to the importance of a well bred bull for the improvement of their stock, to neglect to take their cows to the association bull.

Method of Financing an Association.

The principal items of expense in starting an association are the cost of the bull and the necessary books and blanks for keeping records. To cover these expenses a loan is obtained, for which each member is responsible in proportion to the number of cows he has registered in the association. In this way the individual members do not have to furnish the necessary funds for starting the enterprise, and thus it is possible for farmers with small means to participate. To secure the association against losses that might be incurred by sickness, accident or death, valuable bulls are insured in special cooperative insurance companies.

The revenue for the payment of the current expenses of the association is derived from membership fees, service fees of the bull, the government aid (which averages 8 pounds for each bull), and the income from premiums at fairs and shows.

In 1912 it was estimated by Danish statistical experts that 10 per cent of all the cows over 2 years of age were registered in cattle breeding associations. The following survey of the number of associations, together with the number of bulls recorded, between 1902-1911 will serve to show how the cooperative purchase of good bulls has extended in that period:

Table with 3 columns: Year, Associations, Bulls. Rows from 1902 to 1911.

The influence of the associations is especially marked along the following: 1 By organization and cooperation it became possible for the smaller farmers to obtain a rapid improvement in the quality of their herds, an increase in their size, and an augmentation of their value that otherwise would practically have been impossible.

2 They have constantly and forcibly demonstrated to the farmer the value of a well bred, healthy bull of a good milking strain as a herd improver.

4 By cooperating with cattle testing associations and agricultural societies it has become possible for the farmers to employ many cattle experts, who not only have acted as educators and advisers but to whom is due the credit for the uniform and systematic way in which the work of improving the quality of the dairy stock is carried on throughout the country.

5 The keeping of the herd books and records required by the associations have taught the farmers the value of pedigree, milk yield and butter yield in the selection of animals for breeding purposes.

The important part played by the associations in the improvement of the cattle is quite noticeable at fairs and shows. A few years ago the greater number of the animals exhibited, especially bull, belonged to individual farmers owning large herds. To-day not only do a large number of the bulls exhibited at shows belong to co-operative breed-

ing associations, but these most frequently carry off the highest prizes. These associations have given a large number of small farmers, who could not afford to buy or keep a high priced bull for a few cows, an opportunity of improving their herds. In this way they have been enabled to compete with the large farmers at the shows and to increase not only the competition for the prizes but also the general interest in the work of breeding. Each member of an association takes an active personal interest and pride in having his association bull compete at the dairy shows, and the competition is usually keen.

Garibaldi-Wheeler County Road Notice to Contractors.

Sealed bids addressed to the County Court at Tillamook County, Oregon, for the proposed construction of Section "C" of Garibaldi-Wheeler County Road in Tillamook County, Oregon, from Station 177 plus 65 to Station 212 plus 6, will be received by the County Clerk of Tillamook County, at its office in Tillamook City on or before the 20th day of March, 1914, at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M. and at such time opened and read.

Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check made payable to Tillamook County, for an amount equal to at least 5 per cent of the amount of such bid, which shall be forfeited to the County in case award is made and the bidder shall refuse, neglect or fail for a period of five days after which the award is made, to enter into a contract and file a bond satisfactory to the Court as required by law.

The bids are to cover the clearing of the right-of-way and grading and placing all culverts from Station 177 plus 65 to Station 212 plus 6 of the Garibaldi-Wheeler County Road. All work to be completed by June 15th, 1914.

Plans and specifications are on file at the office of the County Clerk of Tillamook County, Oregon, in Tillamook City. The County Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Dated this 4th day of March, 1914.

J. C. HOLDEN, County Clerk.

County Road at Jenkins' Place Notice to Contractors.

Sealed bids addressed to the County Court of Tillamook County, Oregon, for the proposed improvement of the County Road at Jenkins' Place on Wilson River, in Tillamook County, Oregon, will be received by the County Court of Tillamook County, Oregon, on or before the 20th day of March, 1914, at 10 A. M., and at that time opened and read. Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check made payable to Tillamook County, for an amount equal to at least 5 per cent of the amount of such bid, which shall be forfeited to the County in case an award is made and the bidder shall fail, neglect or refuse for a period of five days after which the award is made to enter into a contract and file a bond satisfactory to the Court as required by law.

The bids are to cover the clearing of the right of way and excavating and grading about 1219 cubic yards of earth and installing necessary culverts. Work to be completed in 60 days.

Plans and specifications are on file at the office of the County Clerk of Tillamook County, Oregon, in Tillamook City.

The County Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Dated, this 4th day of March 1914.

J. C. Holden, County Clerk.

Loerpel County Road Notice to Contractors.

Sealed bids addressed to the County Court of Tillamook County, Oregon, for the proposed construction of the Loerpel County Road in Tillamook County, Oregon, will be received by the County Court of Tillamook County, Oregon, at its office in Tillamook City, Oregon, on or before the 20th day of March, 1914, at 10 o'clock A. M., and at that time opened and read. Each bid shall be accompanied by a certified check made payable to Tillamook County, for an amount equal to at least 5 per cent of the amount of such bid, which shall be forfeited to the County in case an award is made and the bidder shall fail, neglect or refuse for a period of five days after which the award is made to enter into a contract and file a bond satisfactory to the Court as required by law.

The bids are to cover the clearing of the right of way and grading from a point 45.8 feet North 25 degrees, 16 minutes East of angle 21 to the line between S. A. Himpel and William Tohl, in at angle 38 of the Loerpel County Road. Work to be completed in 60 days.

Plans and specifications are on file at the office of the County Clerk of Tillamook County, Oregon, in Tillamook City.

The County Court reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Dated this 4th day of March, 1914.

J. C. Holden, County Clerk.

Garibaldi-Wheeler County Road Notice to Contractors.

Sealed bids addressed to the County Court at Tillamook County, Oregon, for the proposed plank and regrading of Section "A" of the Garibaldi-Wheeler County Road in Tillamook County, Oregon from Station 79 plus 50, to Station 177 plus 65, will be received by the County Court of Tillamook County at its office in Tillamook City, Oregon, on or before the 20th day of March, 1914 at the hour of 10 o'clock A. M., and at such time shall be opened and read.

Each bid shall be accompanied by certified check made payable to Tillamook County, for an amount equal to at least 5 per cent of the amount of such bid, which shall be forfeited to the County in case award is made and the bidder shall fail, neglect or refuse for

OREGON WOMEN FORM FIRST POLITICAL CLUB; WILL VOTE FOR MAN, NOT PARTY



Officers of the Dr. Smith for Governor club, recently organized by women at Halfway, Ore. Left to right—Mrs. Lucia B. Clemens, secretary; Mrs. Maud Brown, president.

The first woman's club ever organized in Oregon in behalf of a candidate for office, so far as known, was put on foot in Baker County recently, when the "Dr. Smith for Governor Club" became a reality. More than fifty women of Pine Valley, enrolled as charter members, and it was expected that as many more would add their names to the roll within a few days. Pine Valley is ten miles from Copperfield, the scene of Governor West's celebrated raid.

The Baker County women have adopted as their slogan, a continuation of Governor West's policies of law enforcement, and they have espoused the cause of Dr. C. J. Smith of Portland, candidate for the Democratic nomination for Governor, because of his public endorsement of the Governor's work along that line.

At the initial meeting of the Club, Mrs. Maud Brown was elected President, and Mrs. Lucia B. Clemens was elected Secretary. Resolutions were adopted declaring that the women believed in law enforcement, and in continuing the good work so well begun for better social conditions. They declared that they felt certain Dr. Smith

would, if elected, enforce the criminal laws of Oregon to the letter, and referred in proof of that to his previous excellent public record.

The object of the organization was briefly declared to be to promote the candidacy of Dr. C. J. Smith for the next Governor of Oregon.

Much interest is attached to the organization of this club, for the reason that it is the first purely political organization of women known to have been gotten together in the State, outside of the organizations, which were bound together two years ago in support of the suffrage movement.

The politicians have for some time been nonplussed as to how best to approach the new voter, and this initial organization seems to confirm the prevailing idea that women will refuse to be bound by purely partisan lines, and will insist on voting for issues and for men, rather than for party.

The women in the new Dr. Smith Club are of every political faith, and regardless of party lines, say they propose to back the man for Governor who they think stands most firmly for better moral conditions.

Summary of the Annual Statement of the Springfield Fire and Marine Insurance Co.

Table with 2 columns: Description, Amount. Rows for Capital, Income, Disbursements, Assets, and Liabilities.

Value of real estate owned (less debt) \$200,000.00. Value of stocks and bonds owned (market value) 6,070,403.60. Loans on mortgages and collateral, etc. 1,864,870.00. Cash in banks and on hand 820,377.36. Premiums in course of collection (written above) 1,001,050.80. Interest and rents due and accrued 61,012.32. Total assets admitted in Oregon \$10,943,907.98.

Total liabilities exclusive of capital stock of \$1,112,320.00. Total premium in force for 1913 \$10,970,731.32. Business in Oregon for the year. Total risks written during the year 2,942,731.88. Gross premium received during the year 81,030.78. Premiums returned during the year 18,771.28. Losses paid during the year 25,105.33. Losses incurred during the year 25,583.07.

Total amount of risks outstanding in Oregon Dec. 31, 1913 \$3,888,201.90. Springfield Fire and Marine Insurance Co. By W. J. MAUCKAY, Sec'y, Attorney General Agent and Attorney for Oregon. Portland, Oregon. WHITTEB-BREXLAVER COMPANY, PORTLAND, OREGON.

CITATION. In the County Court of the State of Oregon of Tillamook County. In the matter of the estate of William Curtis, deceased, To Julia A. Curtis, David Curtis, Jennie McGhee, Annie Billings, Charles Curtis and Nellie Murphy, GREETING: In the name of the State of Oregon, you are hereby cited and required to appear in the County Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Tillamook, at the Court room thereof, at Tillamook City in the County of Tillamook on the 14th day of March, 1914, at 10 o'clock in the forenoon of that day, then and there to show cause if any there be, why an order should not be made authorizing and licensing the administrator of said estate, to sell all the following described real property to-wit:

The South-west quarter of the South-east quarter and the South-east quarter of the South-west quarter of Section thirty, T. S. R. S. West, W11 Mer. (Less three tracts sold) containing 71.35 acres. Witness, the Hon. Homer Mason Judge of the County Court of the State of Oregon, for the County of Tillamook with the seal of said Court affixed, this 24th day of January A. D. 1914. Attest: J. C. Holden, Clerk.

Very Serious. It is a very serious matter to ask for one medicine and have the wrong one given you. For this reason we urge you in buying to be careful to get the genuine—

THE FORD'S BLACK-DRAUGHT Liver Medicine

The reputation of this old, reliable medicine, for constipation, indigestion and liver trouble, is firmly established. It does not irritate other medicines. It is better than others, or it would not be the favorite liver powder, with a larger sale than all others combined. SOLD IN TOWN.

