

TO THE FARMERS

Farmers and others interested are invited to contribute to The Farm, The Dairy, The Turf, and Good Roads departments of The Guardian, either by question, correspondence or otherwise. Answers will be given by experts to all questions of general interest and space will be given to any articles that will in any way help to advance Prince Edward Island interests.

Contributors are asked to have their articles at this office early each week, as only a short emergency item can be handled as late as one p.m. Wednesday. All received after that hour cannot appear until the following week.

THE SCHOOL AND THE HOME

Contributions for this department should be addressed to President Teachers' Association, Guardian's School and Home, P. O. Box 198, Charlottetown.

SCHOOL EQUIPMENT.

(From Inspector Devereaux's Report.)  
The school houses are, as a rule, spacious and comfortable; but with few exceptions, their exteriors are unattractive. In my inspectorate, there are probably twenty houses, antiquated and dilapidated buildings, that should be condemned and replaced by modern structures. Light- ing and ventilation are not so carefully considered by trustees and teachers as their importance demands. In every school, save one, the windows are placed in opposite sides of the room, and too often in the wall in front of the children at work, with the result that the pupils are exposed to the injurious effects of cross lights and the walls are so cut up that often there is not sufficient room for placing black boards and hanging maps. The windows are not always arranged to lower from the top, and thus it is impossible to ventilate the room without exposing the children to direct draughts. If the teacher, in such cases, would draw the attention of the trustees to this defect, I am convinced it would be remedied. After all the preaching of "The Gospel of Fresh Air," it is remarkable how many teachers are content to work in unventilated rooms.

The outhouses outside on the view are unsightly, and, worst of all, insanitary. They are generally kept in a miserable state of repair, and during the winter months, the floors, and seats are covered with snow and ice, so that they become extremely filthy. This is a disgrace to both trustees and teacher. The trustees should have these buildings made perfectly water-tight, screened from public view by a closed fence, and provided with lock and key. It is the duty of the teacher to keep them locked, while the school is not in session, and to enforce such rules as will keep them in a cleanly condition.

The regulations of the Board of Education prescribe the following equipment for our schools: Sufficient black-board area; a map of the Maritime Provinces; a map of Canada; maps of the different continents; a map of the world; a nine inch globe, a clock, a thermometer, a ball frame, color charts, and reading cards.

Reading cards, color charts, ball frames and thermometers are things unknown in the rural schools. In one I found a clock in active service,

while five can boast of globes. Not a single school has a full set of continental maps, four have partial sets. Nearly all have maps of Canada but 15 per cent of those are out-of-date. All, except three have maps of the world, but 50 per cent of these are worn and faded and should be retired. Not more than 25 schools have sufficient black board area. From the foregoing, it may be seen that our schools are poorly equipped and just here is an opportunity for energetic teachers to make their influence felt, and help along a movement for better equipped and more attractive school rooms. A social or school concert, prepared by the teacher and pupils, would raise funds, and a black board, a teacher's desk and a map of Canada. By means of a pie-cream festival Miss Laura Simpson realized \$28.00 for the improvement of Covehead West School.

INTEREST IN SCHOOL WORK.

No one who is acquainted with modern developments in the teaching of Geography will fail to see in it a powerful aid in the work of giving to the country child an intelligent and practical interest in his surroundings. It is based largely on the observation of local conditions, climate, prevailing winds, rainfall, lowlands and hills, rivers and soils; and it traces the effect of such conditions on vegetables, on animal life, and on the occupations and activities of mankind. It needs no sketch of imagination to conceive how teaching on these lines can give interest even to the most monotonous country life. There is need for improvement too in the Arithmetic taught in country schools. It should include actual measurements in and out of school; weighing and calculations involving the weights and measures commonly used; the gathering of ideas about current prices from local newspapers, the market and elsewhere, such as the price of grain, butter, eggs; the cost of farming operations, such as ploughing, haying, mowing, draining, the wages of laborers; the cost of transport and haulage by post road and rail; the quick measurement of distances, heights and volumes; the preparation of statements, charts and statistics, concerning such things as the temperature of the school, the gallons of milk per cow and the number of eggs per score of fowls for different periods of the year; the cost of making common articles such as brooms, gates, doors and fences. An earnest effort should be made to give more living interest to all school work by bringing it more into touch with rural environment.

THE PUBLIC HEALTH CONSCIENCE.

Besides being the educator of the children under his charge, the teacher has also, to a great extent, to play the part of doctor and parent. And so he should, for he is the person who has charge of them for a great part of their early life—the period

when their whole bodies are most plastic. Education in its widest sense should include the bringing of the children's bodies to something like ideal proportions, and the instilling into their minds of a health-consciousness—a desire to live clean, wholesome, and active lives, and to possess vigorous and healthy bodies. For, after all what is more valuable to a human being than good health? It is worth all the wealth in the World.

Lessons should be given frequently on "The Care of the Teeth," "The Structure and Care of Eyes and Ears," "Care of Our Bodies," "Temperance etc." Physical exercises should form part of every day's work. The children should not only be taught to perform the various bodily movements correctly but they should also be taught how and why these exercises are beneficial. It is very important that great stress be laid on the necessity for fresh air and sunlight. Not only the teachers but also the scholars should keep a careful eye on the hygiene of the school room, and this should always be a model as regards purity of air, cleanliness, lighting and ventilation. The scholars should, in turn, take the duties of hygiene monitors, their work being to see that the room is washed with fresh air at playtimes and dinner times, that the air does not become stuffy, and that perfect cleanliness is maintained in every possible way. This work will naturally be again carried out when these hygiene monitors have homes of their own.

THE FARM

LET THE GRASS GET STARTED.

(Selected.)

As the days warm up and the growth of grass commences, there grows an anxiety to get rid of a lot of chores by turning the stock all at way to pasture an injury from which it will not be able to thoroughly recuperate during the entire summer than by pasturing closely too early in the season. The grass must be given a chance. Early pasture is very tender, is largely composed of water, has a pronounced loosening effect upon the action of the bowels of the cattle, and is very susceptible to the injury due to close cropping. The writer has seen pastures where the stock had been allowed out on them in the spring year after year, and just as surely as summer came each year those pastures remained extremely short and bare and produced very little feed during the entire season, while just across the fence in a field upon which cattle were not allowed until well on towards the first of June each year, an excellent pasture lasting throughout the summer resulted. One field grew practically no feed, while the other, produced abundantly, due almost entirely to management in pasturing. It is well, where such is possible, to save some of the pasture as long as convenient before turning upon it. When two or more fields are used for pasture, this may easily be done. Let the stock on one only at first, and allow them to eat it down fairly well, but not so close as to hinder its further rapid growth during the season, and then turn on the other field, letting field number one grow up. By altering the pasturing of the fields in this way, greater growth of grass is procured, and better feed throughout the summer results. Do not turn the cattle out too soon. A few days more mean a great deal to the grass.

THE DAIRY

DAIRY BREEDS.

By Mr. F. T. McRae.

(Continued.)

A bull to qualify for the Advanced

Registry must have at least four daughters that have qualified in the R. Q. F. test. In the last report we find there are seven Ayrshire bulls which have qualified with from four to eleven daughters each, in the advanced registry as compared with five Holstein bulls with from four to five heifers in the A.R.

There has been quite an adieu made about the Holstein grades performance at Amherst and also at Ottawa. That there has been splendid records made by these grades is quite undisputed, in fact they have the pure bred Holstein beaten in the short tests. "Singular, isn't it? There must be an infusion of good blood in their veins." One striking example of this has been demonstrated by the famous grade cow Cherry, which won the Sweepstakes at Guelph's Dairy test and which is said to have been sold for the highest price ever realized for a grade cow. Cherry was sired by a pure bred Holstein Bull and was from a red and white cow.

It has been claimed that her great capacity and ability as a producer, (though she only gave a small fraction of a per cent more than the sweepstakes cow at Amherst) is directly due to the Holstein blood. Will this stand analysis? Was this cow's sire the sire of any other cows? We will take it for granted he was the sire of at least a score of cows, some no doubt from pure bred Holstein cows, others from high grade cows; but what do we hear from them? If 50 per cent of Holstein blood could give this cow (Cherry) such power to perform why didn't the cows with 10 per cent to 100 per cent do better; but since they did not it looks as if the blood of the red and white cow played an important part. I cannot see much inducement for dairymen to spend a lifetime in grading up a Holstein herd if as good or better results can be obtained by having good (red and white cows) such as Cherry's dam; or \$28.00 scrubs, such as the one cited by Mr. Lea.

The summary of my reasons for thinking that Ayrshires are most suitable for the average farmer and dairymen in the Maritime Provinces are as follows:—

First—The Ayrshire is the hardiest of the dairy breeds, hence the healthiest.

Second—They will adapt themselves to any conditions, from adverse to favorable, better than any other herd, but will respond equally well to liberal feeding and good care.

Third—They are the most economical producers soon after calving.

Fourth—Ayrshire milk is more even in balance than any other, and will meet all requirements better than any other breed.

Fifth—When from accident or old age their usefulness as dairy cows is impaired they can be more profitably turned into good beef than any other dairy cow.

Sixth—Last, but by no means least, they are the most beautiful, the most pleasing to the eye, the most attractive of the entire bovine race, a feature which helps to make dairying a pleasant occupation.

Now, after giving these good reasons careful consideration, I trust Mr. Lea will stop worrying over "these boys, not being up behind a good string of Holsteins."

WINTER DAIRYING.

(By W. J. Reid, Live Stock Inspector)  
The problem of winter dairying is one which should receive more attention from the dairy farmer than it does at the present time. In the average dairy section the farmer depends upon the milk products of his cows in summer to give him a yearly revenue, and if pastures fall or unseasonable weather has been allowed the product falls short and a small income is the result. The effect of this is, too frequently, the reduction of the number of cows kept rather than an effort to adopt any other system of dairy farming.

By adopting the system of winter dairying, the result is the increase of the number of cows kept and this is one of the necessary changes in many sections where the soil would be in a better state of fertility if more live stock was fed.

For winter dairying we should have the cows fresh during the months of November and December. By that time they are in winter quarters and have become accustomed to the winter diet. The feeds should consist of as much roughage as the form of clover hay or mixed hay, turnips or mangels, and allowing a small feed of straw per day, as they will eat up clean. The meal ration will vary according to the market prices and the kinds available. A mixture will always give more economical returns than any simple grain. Examples of rations might be given as:

Timothy hay	14	Lbs.
Turnips	40	
Brans	3	
Middlings	3	
Oats	1	
Cotton Seed Meal	1	
or		
Timothy hay	14	
Turnips	40	
Brans	3	
Oats	2	
Barley	1	
Cotton Seed Meal	1	

Either of these rations would be sufficient for an average size cow, giving 30 to 35 lbs. of milk per day. If she is giving less than that amount, the grain could be increased accordingly.

In the spring the cows will increase in milk flow as soon as put on the grass, and will continue to do well if they are dry before freshening again. When allowed to dry off on the fall pastures, the common fault is that the pastures are poor and there is nothing on which the cows can gain flesh before the next lactation period.

This should receive the attention of the feeder and the cow should be fed on aftermath or on green crops until

they are in fleshing condition before entering the stable. The season's flow of milk is governed to a large extent by the fleshing of the cow before she freshens.

There are other questions to be considered in making a choice between winter and summer dairying. The modern dairymen has much careful and regular work to carry into effect before success is ensured. The stables and cows must be kept clean, the milking utensils must be washed and scalded regularly, and the milk must receive proper attention in handling. In the modern herd there must be time spent in keeping books and balancing accounts from which to estimate the value of the individual animals. These operations are becoming more necessary in the economic production of sanitary milk. During the summer months the outside work of soil cultivation, seeding and harvesting takes the greater part of the farmer's time and thus makes him dependent on the winter season when the most time can be devoted to the herd. Then by having the cows milked during the winter, the spring's work commences and the labor problem is solved. At the present time the great difficulty is to keep a competent hired man on the farm a full year on account of not having sufficient work to keep him busy during the winter. But if winter dairying is adopted he can be paid by the year, and will not only have more money saved at the end of the year, but will be worth more to his employer during the fall time.

When summer dairying is practised the cows freshen in the spring and during the time the pasture is at its best the cows will give a large flow of milk. Late in the season, however, the grass dries and the flies are troublesome, all of which tends to lower the milk flow and unless high feeding is adopted the result will be a low season's production. In the case of winter dairying, the cow produces the flow while in the stable, but responds to the stimulation of the spring pastures which lengthens the milking period and gives a greater profit per season.

The question of raising the fall-born calf must not be overlooked. By having the calves dropped in the fall they are at liberty to receive more attention from the feeder as well as the cows. Before the heat and flies of the following summer, they are matured well enough to stand the test and will keep growing, while the spring calves are not receiving proper attention, on account of the summer's work of the sufferer from the heat and flies unless kept in the stable. If we consider this still further, we will find that the development of the calf marks the development of the cow. While good calves can be, and are raised in the summer season, the feeder always feels that he is neglecting his other work and if they are raised during the winter this pressure of time is avoided. When the calf is fully developed at an earlier age by being allowed to start on a pasture when she is five or six months old than if she is fed during the summer and put on a rough winter diet at the same age.

An objection that is held against winter production of milk is that the cost of food is so high that it is not economical. While this is true to a certain limit, there are so many features that stand in favor of the largely overbalanced system, it is early months of the winter when an abundance of feed is to be had, the cost of production is lower than it is during the spring months when feeds are high in price and the cows are lowering the milk flow, but raises as the heat dries up the pasture or the flies become annoying.

The prices received for the winter products compensate largely for the high cost of production as does the extended milk flow and the ease with which we handle milk or its products in cold weather.

Taking the question in full we find that we have economy of labor and time, which is economical and educating; an extended milk flow, which gives greater profit; the best time to raise the calves which gives a better herd; also the highest prices and the best season in which to handle milk or its products.

RAISING THE DAIRY CALF

(Canadian Farm.)

At the Live Stock and Educational Exhibit held at the Wisconsin College of Agriculture this winter four groups of calves were shown. The first group was called "The Delicacy Age," which is the first four weeks of a calf's life. The instructions for feeding the calf were printed on a placard which was attached to exhibit, and they were:

Leave calf with dam first two to four days.  
Feed 2 to 4 lbs. of dam's milk three times daily.  
Offer grain and hay after feeding milk; when calf is two weeks old.  
It might have been said that care should be taken to keep all milking vessels clean and the milk to be fed at blood heat, and that calves should be fed regularly.  
The next group was designated "The Skim Milk Age," which is from one to six months, and the following instructions for feeding were given on a placard:

Gradually change to the skim milk; feed 7 to 10 lbs. twice daily, and begin to feed silage leaves after calf is 5 to 8 weeks old.  
Increase grain mixture.  
Keep fresh water and salt accessible.

It is also well to have a good quality of clover or alfalfa hay before the calf.  
The third group was called "The Old Neglected Age," which is from six to twelve months. The instructions were:

Continue feeding skim milk, if possible.  
Feed the calf in barn regularly.  
Supply 6 to 8 lbs. of silage daily

with other good roughage.  
Continue feeding grain ration.  
The fourth group was called "The Breeding Age."  
Breed to pure-bred sire at 15 to 20 months of age.  
Provide good pasture, shade, and water.

In winter feed 8 to 10 lbs. alfalfa or clover hay, 12 to 16 lbs. silage, and 2 to 3 lbs. of grain mixture daily. A good mixture for calves is 3 parts rolled oats, 3 parts wheat bran, 1 part corn meal and 1 part oil meal.  
The accompanying illustrations show as nearly as possible the four different ages mentioned.

THE TURF

HORSE NOTES.

Berka 2.14 full sister of Bottom 2.23 is entered in the \$3,000 2.15 trot in New York along with 43 others. Berka won ten races on ten different half-mile tracks in 1912.

Hilda S. 2.20 stepped a quarter mile on the speedway a few days ago in 32 1/2 seconds. Hilda is in great shape for the 2.13 class June 3rd.

Rexallite, owned by Duncan Robertson, is a most promising pacer. He showed some remarkable brushes of speed at the track while being worked out this week.

Halifax Stakes close in a few days. Don't forget your entry if you have an eligible. Stakes are Pace 2.19, 2.40, Trot 2 yr., 3 yr., 2.40 and 2.19 trots. Secretary is M. F. Hall, Halifax, N. S.

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Tom Trim, formerly owned by P.S. Brown, but now owned in Yarmouth, N.S., has the distinction of winning 11 out of 12 matinee races last season. The boys around Yarmouth couldn't dig up anything to beat Tom, even a Boston horse imported especially failed to do it.

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of Heatherdale has been sold to Mr. Graves of Sydney, C. B. Darby is full brother to Hilda S. 2.20; The sale was made by J. A. Henderson, the popular blacksmith.

Dr. J. M. Nicholson is getting Aquiri 2.27 ready for an extensive campaign on the turf this fall and will place him in quiet training after the stud season. Aquiri is one of our very best bred sires, being by a son of Blngen out of Butaka, the grandam of Baden 2.05; That he is a sire of speed too is demonstrated in his colts. We took Aquiri get a very low mark this season.

Jack Leonard, well known to Island horsemen will this year drive a string of horses on the "Grand Circuit." We wish him every success.

Every year furnishes one or more trotting or pacing sensations. Horses which stand head and shoulders above the ordinary run of race horses. Who will have the lucky one this year?

Develop your colt if he is well bred. Demand for speed is good. Almost every day some one comes from abroad looking for that commodity.

Do you notice that Sydney is one of the best marts for Island horses? The desire to have a fast one is keen in the Sydney man's breast and they are always ready to pay the price for the real article.

The program of stakes for Charlottetown races next fall is being prepared by the secretary and will be announced next week.

June 18th is the date for races at Johnston's River. The glasses will include a 2.19 pace.

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