

THIS FARMING INDUSTRY

Bull Meat Story Reaction Is Colorful, Controversial

By NEIL A. MATHESON
I really started something when I used a story in this column two weeks ago, which said a Montserrat cattleman, S.B. Cobb, had said there's more money in feeding bulls for beef than feeding steers.

Which had invited a group of city people with discerning taste, and all of them liked it. They remarked particularly on the flavor, Cobb said.

I used the story just for fun and expected every good beef cattleman would blast the idea. Right here let me say the "bull beef" idea, apparently, is completely impractical for men who feed and pasture their beef animals through two to two and one-half years. But there is evidence the idea of raising bulls as baby beefers — up to 18 months of age — is practical.

A few hours after the Guardian with that column was on the street, I was travelling in Leo McIsaac's car to Windsor, N.S. where he was judging Angus cattle next day at the Hants County Fair.

I was surprised when Leo told me he is thinking of trying the idea of raising one-half of his feeders as bulls, on a feed lot operation he has in mind if certain developments work out satisfactorily.

But I received an even bigger surprise — it was almost a shock when I met J.C. (Bill) Bennett at Kingside. Bill who was judging Scotch Short-horns at Windsor, is a veteran observer of livestock. Only a year ago he retired as the province of New Brunswick.

"I expect a blast Bill," I said, as I told him of the column I had written on the bull beef idea. "But don't blame me," I added quickly. "I'm only quoting somebody else."

But Bill told me "No I'm not going to blast the idea. I've been eating bull beef myself, in my home."

He buys the beef carcass, or side, from Howard Clark, a beef producer at Keswick, N.B.

He buys the bull when it's killed at not more than 15 months of age and "it's got more flavor than a yearling steer," Bill told me.

If I was a bit shocked, you can understand. Here was solid agreement on the bull beef idea from a prominent Angus beef cattle breeder, and from a veteran observer of Agricultural development, with special emphasis on beef.

THE IDEA "IS ALL WET"
But my friend, Dannie Gass, Cornwall told me the idea was all wet, so far as animals of two to two and one-half years are

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concerned. And that is the age at which most beef animals are marketed, though a few top beef producers finish their steers as baby beef, when they are 15 months or less.

Mr. Gass — he's the man who sparked the Beef Cattle Producers Association until his health forced him to quit — knows about this kind of beef animal. When he was a young man, he ran a grocery store at Webster's Corner and handled meat, in addition to groceries and other items sold in a country store.

Dannie believes there's no good argument for raising beef bulls of any age. Certainly the idea of bulls at two to two and one-half years is completely haywire, he emphasizes.

This fellow Cobb, from Montserrat, said bulls are 50 pounds heavier at weaning age, than a steer. But Mr. Gass suggests there would still be a loss in value even at that, for "the bull beef would bring perhaps one grade lower, at least, so the value of the bull carcass would be less."

Mr. Gass was talking of cross-bred animals for the most part, though he is far from convinced there would be any different result with pure bred beef bulls.

The Cornwall man is afraid that somebody is going to get hurt if feed lot producers start raising bulls in any quantity. I pass the warning

as it comes from my friend, and he voices it strongly.

As I've said, I started this argument merely to rouse some argument. The effort has succeeded. It has brought out two strongly opposing lines of argument. So far as I personally am concerned, I agree with Mr. Gass. I can see so many reasons why feeding bulls to two years or more is not desirable. It's difficult to muster an argument in favor of it.

But my talk with Dannie Gass had additional points of interest:

WHEN CALVES
Knowing that Dannie is just a few years younger than I am, I asked if he remembered the days when bull calves were knocked on the head, instead of raised.

In his case there was a fox ranch nearby, at Webster's Corner, and the farmers disposed of their calves at 50 cents per head in my area, and in many other areas, the calf was simply disposed of. The calves were sold to Zip Colwill who owned the fox ranch and sold some to other ranches.

I asked Dannie when bull calves were first kept and fed for meat, he said "I killed some and sold them for fox meat, at three cents per pound, back in the early Thirties."

Asked if people raised bulls for beef then, he said "not in the Johnston's River area; at least they were few, if anybody did raise them."

I wondered when Island farmers started to raise steers for beef and Mr. Gass suggested it would be "in the late Twenties, or possibly during the Twenties" and that was only "in the better farming areas."

Incidentally "a steer is harder to finish than a heifer," even a good beef steer is, Dannie tells me. "A steer that will handle seemingly the same as a heifer, will not kill out with near as much cover," he told me. "A steer is more inclined to be fleshy, to have more muscle, and he hasn't got that much of coating of fat," Mr. Gass explains.

Some of you won't agree with Mr. Gass, but don't take him on in an argument unless you know your subject well, and are unusually capable of expressing your opinion. This man still pastures and sells upwards of 100 steers per year. He keeps in touch with the beef situation as few other men do. He's loaded with information with statistics and with the kind of ammunition that is valuable in any argument.



STAMPS COMMEMORATE POPE'S PILGRIMAGE

Four new stamps were issued Monday by the Vatican City Post Office to commemorate the visit of Pope Paul VI to the United Nations. The stamps depict the Pontiff making his appeal for peace at the United Nations and the U.N. headquarters in New York. (AP Wirephoto via cable from Rome)

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CUT RASPBERRY CANES
Be sure to remove the old
raspberry canes this fall, unless
you want your 1966 crop to
be affected adversely. It is the
warning from Dr. I.V. Hall of
the Canada department of
agriculture research station at
Kentville.
The researcher explains that
raspberry bushes come through
last winter virtually unscathed,
with little injury to tips of
fruiting canes and to new bud
shoots. A warm, dry

OBITUARY
ALDEN E. DONALD
Inserted by his wife as a last
ing tribute to the deceased.
In the midst of life we are in
death. This thought expressed
itself to many friends and relatives,
when it was learned on
Tuesday, July 6, 1965, that Alden
Edwin Donald, 39 Elm Avenue,
Charlottetown, had passed
away very suddenly at his
cottage in Seaview.
He was born at Seaview, January
25, 1913, son of the late Colin
and Elizabeth (Crozier) Donald.
He was a faithful member of
the First Baptist Church,
Charlottetown. His pleasing
personality and kind deeds won
him a host of friends. He was
always willing to help any who
needed assistance and was highly
respected by all who knew
him. At the time of his passing
he was employed at the Rehabilitation
Centre, Charlottetown.
Left to mourn the loss of a loving
husband and brother are his
wife, the former Harriet O'Connor,
of Milltown Cross, two brothers,
Keith of Summerside, William,
of Hamilton, two sisters,
Helen, Mrs. Charles Locart,
of Summerside, and Mildred,
Mrs. Roy Adams, of Seaview.
He was predeceased by one
brother Fred and one sister
Blanche.
His funeral which was largely
attended, was held on Friday,
July 9, from Malpeque United
Church, conducted by Rev. Lloyd
assisted by Rev. Ross Howard,
Charlottetown. Hymns sung were:
The Lord's My Shepherd and
Peace Perfect Peace.
The many floral tributes bore
silent testimonials to the esteem
in which the deceased was held.
Palbearers were: William C.
Donald, Everett Donald, Eddie
MacKay, Gordon Cousins, Gerald
Lochart, David Adams, Flowerbearers
were: Jerry Adams, Ralph Cobb, Thomas
Cobb, Orville Adams, and Delmar
Crozier.
The funeral was under the direction
of the Davison Funeral Home.
Interment was in The People's
Cemetery, Malpeque. God called
him from this world of care
To a home more precious above
Where we hope to meet at our
Saviour's feet
In heaven where all is love.

CARD OF THANKS
Wife of the late Alden Donald,
extends her sincere thanks and
appreciation to Dr. Auld, Davison
Funeral Home, Rev. Lloyd, Rev.
Howard, friends, neighbors and
relatives for their many acts of
kindness shown her and to all
who so kindly sent flowers, cards,
and messages of sympathy, in her
recent bereavement.

PIUSVILLE
Mr. and Mrs. Masey Gallant,
Montreal, are spending some
time visiting relatives in Piusville
the homes of Mr. and Mrs.
Peter F. Gallant and Mr. and
Mrs. Anthony Gallant.
Mr. and Mrs. Justin Corcoran,
East Royalty, spent a Sunday
visiting relatives in the district.
Mr. Wilfred Arsenault, Saint
John, N.B., spent a weekend
visiting at the homes of Mr. and
Mrs. Clarence Arsenault and
Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Gallant,
Piusville.
Friends of Mrs. Anthony Gallant
are pleased to see her home
after receiving treatment in the

BREADALBANE
Mrs. Julia MacInnis, Charlottetown,
was a recent visitor to
Breadalbane.
Miss Lynda Snowie has
accepted a position at the Bank
of Montreal, Charlottetown.
Recent guests of Mr. Malcolm
Buchanan included their son
and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. John
A. Buchanan, and Mr. and Mrs.
Warren Kelly.
Mrs. Florence Moreau, Charlottetown,
was a guest of her
sister, Mrs. Bismark Cousins,
Breadalbane, recently.
Miss Veima Cousins has been
re-engaged as a teacher in
Sherwood School.
Mrs. Roy Cutcliffe, Augustine
Cove, was a recent weekend
guest of Mrs. James Craig,
Breadalbane.
Allan Hickox, Breadalbane,
has resumed his studies at Mt.
Allison University, Sackville.
Mr. and Mrs. Lorne Seaman
and David Snowie motored to
Moncton for a weekend.
Mr. and Mrs. Leslie MacInnis
and family, Breadalbane village,
recently moved to Gaspe,
Quebec.

BEDEQUE
Helen Bowness has returned
from Florida where she has
been engaged in nursing to
spend some time with her
brothers and their families, Mr.
and Mrs. Hammond Bowness and
Mr. and Mrs. Walter Bowness.
Rev. R.B. MacCaull and Mrs.
MacCaull from Great Village,
N.S., have been spending a few
days with relatives and friends.
They also attended the funeral
of Mrs. MacCaull's cousin, Mrs.
Ralph Campbell, Fernwood.
Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Henderson
left recently on a vacation
in the United States.
Rev. R.M. Cameron, Rev. E.S.
Weeks, Ralph Calbeck and
Wilfred Craig, attended the meeting
of the P.E.I. Presbytery of the
United Church of Canada, on
Sept. 29th at Kensington.

OBITUARY
GORDON MACLEAN HARVEY
The death occurred at Crapaud
on September 1, 1965 of
Gordon Harvey, formerly of
Cape Traverse in his 74th year.
Surviving are his widow,
Louise Dawson, one son Ralph,
Cape Traverse, two daughters,
Evelyn, Mrs. Lorimer Cudmore,
Deer Lake, Newfoundland, Elinor,
Mrs. Allison MacLeod
Charlottetown; one sister, Edith,
Vancouver; three brothers,
Daniel, Halifax; Bruce and
Harry, Vancouver.
The funeral service conducted
by Rev. Allison O'Brien was
Church. Hymns sung were "Unto
The Hills" and "The Lord Is My
Shepherd". The choir sang
"The Sweet Bye and Bye".
The pallbearers were: Raymond
Harvey, Frank Harvey, Ernest
Harvey, Vronon Muttart, Jack
Leard and John MacKay.
Interment was in the People's
Cemetery, Tyron.

CARD OF THANKS
The wife and family of the late
Gordon Harvey wish to express
thanks to all those who sent
flowers and messages of sympathy
and to all their kind friends and
neighbors for the many kindnesses
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1000	20.00	33.33	40.00	50.00	61.25	84.50
1500	30.00	50.00	60.00	75.00	91.88	126.75
2000	40.00	66.67	80.00	100.00	123.12	169.00
2500	50.00	83.33	100.00	125.00	154.38	211.25
3000	60.00	100.00	120.00	150.00	185.62	253.50
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