

# Where Town and Country Meet

EDITED BY C. H. BEAUFIELD

High cow in butterfat in Douglas County Cow Testing Association, 1923-24. Produced 15,025 pounds of milk, 518.7 pounds butterfat.



Fourth high cow in butterfat in Douglas County Cow Testing Association, 1923-24. Produced 12,493 pounds of milk, 410.2 pounds butterfat.

## Cow Testing Associations Eliminating "Boarders"

### Time Opportunity for Eliminating "Boarder" Cattle

Dairy Development Society Reiterates Plea for High Class Stock on Nebraska Farms.

At a regular meeting of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce held Friday the Nebraska Dairy Development Association made a report upon the cow testing association work for the year 1924.

The report says: "We have, at a number of meetings, discussed the need of more cow testing association work. When the society became active there were only two cow testing associations in the state. Now there are three with the possibility of another one being completed in the near future. We have approximately 500,000 dairy cows in Nebraska. It is estimated that one-third or 170,000 of our cows produce only about 60 pounds of butterfat per year, and are being kept at a loss. One-third produce approximately 100 pounds of butterfat per year, which pays for their feed and labor, but leaves no profit for their owner, and the other one-third produce about 150 pounds of butterfat per year and are making a profit for their owners.

Government statistics show that the 24,000,000 dairy cows in the United States are classified in a similar proportion as to their production, namely, one-third or 8,000,000 being unprofitable, one-third breaking even and the other one-third being profitable. The feed and labor expended upon this large number of unprofitable cows represents an enormous waste. These "boarder" cows offer unfair competition to the good cows and to the careful dairyman. The product they produce at a loss often creates a temporary surplus, which depresses the price for the entire production.

New Good Time to Test. "The present is a very opportune time for the farmers to test their cows and eliminate the boarder cows so as to be able to produce a profit. If the farmers will constantly eliminate the unprofitable cows we never need to fear an overproduction of dairy products. To illustrate this point we find that in Nebraska's two largest whole milk markets, namely, Omaha and Lincoln, there is at present time a surplus which causes the price to go down. If all the dairymen would sell the unprofitable cows in their herds there would be a shortage inside of 24 hours and every dairymen would not only be producing his milk at a lower cost from the remaining cows that are profitable, but would also receive a higher price for his product.

Douglas County Report. "We have available the results for 1924 year of cow testing association in Nebraska, and which is located in Douglas county. In this association 255 cows completed the year's work and during the year 41 cows were found unprofitable and were sold to the stockyards. It should be taken into consideration that this association is in our oldest dairy community in the state and had enrolled the herds of some of our very best dairymen who have been for years selecting and culling their herds.

More Associations Needed. "Recognizing the great need for more cow testing associations in the state, we have given a great deal of attention to this work. During the short time that we have been active, we have in co-operation with the college extension department completed the organization of the Lancaster County Cow Testing association, with 475 cows; the reorganization of the Tri-county association, with 410 cows, and have assisted extension agencies in getting individual farmers to keep records on 509 cows or a total of 1,452 cows being under test in addition to the Douglas county association that has an enrollment of 495 cows."

### IMPROVED OATS NOW AVAILABLE

We have received the following communication from P. H. Stewart, agronomist of the state agricultural college, which will be of interest to all those in search of an improved type of oats for this spring's sowing: "The agronomy department has 400 bushels of Nebraska 21 oats—a selection of Kherston oats—that will be available to farmers in Nebraska wanting pure seed. This strain has been outyielding the original Kherston four bushels per acre. "These oats are plump and heavy, but are somewhat bleached in color, due to rains at harvest time. The price is 85 cents per bushel at the bin or \$1 per bushel fanned and sacked in Burlap sacks, E. B. Lincoln. "These will not last long and orders should be sent in promptly. They will be filled in the order received."

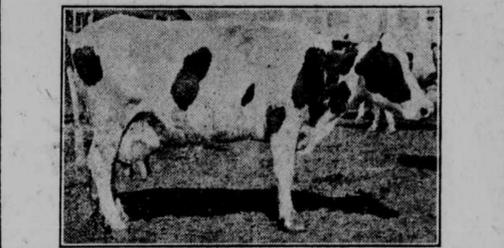
Fox Farms Numerous. Victoria, B. C., Feb. 20.—There are now 29 fox farms operating in the province of British Columbia.

### Holstein Herd of Cows With High Test



High herd in Douglas County Cow-Testing association, 1923-24. Average pounds milk per cow, 8,912; average pounds butterfat per cow, 304.8; cows in association, 46.

### One of Douglas County's Good Cows



High cow in milk and also second in butterfat in Douglas County Cow-Testing association, 1923-24. Produced 15,111 pounds of milk, 507.3 pounds butterfat.

### OPINIONS ABOUT COW TESTING

The men who have been doing the work here in Douglas county say many good things about the cow testing work.

Fred Suhl says: "It shows the value of the cows and also points out the boarder cows. I have been well pleased with the work."

O. M. Boettger says: "Finding the boarder cows is the main object. It also creates an interest in feed and feeding which has been of great value to me. The monthly summary sheets give one a chance to study the record of each cow."

Otto Pfeiffer found at the end of six months that of his 15 cows, six were boarders, so he sold them for beef. Through the feeding of a balanced ration he got as much milk from 12 cows as he did from 15 cows before. The test also helped in checking up on the creamery tests for milk and butterfat.

Max H. Speck thinks the work is a big help to dairymen in weeding out unprofitable cows. Most of the members are feeding better rations to their cows, he believes, and are linked closer together because of the association.

Charles Graun says: "I have learned that it is not so much the amount of feed consumed as it is the net profit which a cow returns for her keep and also the percentage of butterfat the milk contains."

Charles Rosacker says: "In building up a dairy herd, the most essential part is a good sire, a fact which is brought out definitely only by testing. The testing has proven to me that it is not best to let a milk cow get down in flesh even if she is dry. Testing will show this up so clearly that it will remain stamped on one's mind."

### Rosebud Purebred Sow Sale Big Success; Top Price \$75

The most successful sale of the season was held at the farm of Russell E. Read near Winner, S. D., last Tuesday. Farmers from all over the Rosebud country came to attend the purebred Hampshire sow sale. A 355 average was realized upon 40 head of bred sows, mostly spring gilts. These sows were bought by farmers who have been carrying on general hog raising and who are not particularly interested in the purebred business. The outstanding feature of the sale was the spirit of optimism which prevailed among the farmers. They are all looking forward to better hog prices during the coming year. The highest priced sow of the sale was \$75.

Under Weight Causes. Col. H. Slaughter in his opening sale talk made a point of the under weight conditions of the principal hog markets, which is unusual. He said: "Millions of hogs have been going into the markets during the last few years. Each year they are getting lighter and lighter. This underweight condition is not altogether due to high priced corn. Many farmers all over the corn belt have been neglecting to use good purebred hogs. "Thousands of high grade sows have been sent to market, thus shutting off the foundations for good pork production. We have been getting poorer grades of hogs. Corn belt farmers have let the hog business slip back and we had just as well admit it, we

### Alfalfa, Clover Grow Without Inoculation

Nebraska Soil Grows Hay Seed Without Liming, Under Average Conditions; Helps Some Farms.

By R. N. HOUSER. (County Agent Saunders County.) We read much about the need of inoculation and lime in growing alfalfa, clovers, and soy beans. Many farm papers, particularly those to our east, have much to say along this line. What about inoculation and lime for Nebraska conditions?

Occasional cases have been found where inoculation has given good results on alfalfa and sweet clover. In most of the tests that have been conducted, however, no beneficial results have been secured. Inoculation of soy beans seems more apt to give returns than of alfalfa or the clovers.

Soy beans will grow without inoculation, but in that case obtain all their nitrogen from the soil just as does corn or wheat. Very little Nebraska soil tests acid and shows a response to lime. Some of the glacial soil in southeastern Nebraska tests strongly acid and in some liming trials which have been carried on on that soil, lime has helped to secure good stands.

Under average Nebraska conditions neither liming nor inoculation are apt to prove beneficial or necessary in getting stands of alfalfa and the clovers.

### About "Hard Seeds."

When sweet clover seed is produced, many of the seeds have a coating on the outside which prevents water from being absorbed. If such a seed is planted it acts like a small stone in that it does not swell up and germinate as it should. This is because every seed must absorb water before it will grow. It has been found that if one of these "hard seeds," as they are called, is scratched on its surface, it will then absorb water readily and grow. This scratching of the surface is called scarifying and seed thus treated is known as scarified seed. The scratching of the seed coat is done by a machine which hurls the seed again and again against a rough surface such as sandpaper. The scarifying process not only improves the germination of the seed, but it also removes any hulls that might be on the seed.

### Officials Cow Test Work Douglas County



From left to right: M. N. Lawritson, J. F. Pierson, E. G. Maxwell.

Marketing of Grain Halted by Bad Roads. Beatrice, Neb., Feb. 21.—Little grain has been marketed at this point the last few weeks because of the bad roads. In some localities the high ways are being dragged, but farmers state that a warm rain would cause the frost to leave the ground so they can be properly worked. They say wheat is showing green, which is an indication that the crop has gone through the winter in good shape.

### Backyard Poultry Philosophy

All authorities agree that the heavy breeds of poultry should be hatched and raised in the backyard. They also claim that the leghorns should be hatched between April 15 and the middle of May.

During the incubation period of chicks the biggest thing toward a successful hatch is the evaporation of the moisture. If too much is taken out the chicks will be small and under downed. Get a hatching chart and use it. It is the advice of all experts.

Taken From Egg Reporter. April Eggs and Grain. To quite an extent, even in the corn belt, poultry is fed grain at first hand. The grain reclaimed from year to year, as usual, at "no cost" to the farmer, but the grain fed out of hand is scarce and bids fair to be high, if not scarce, the coming season.

While wheat at above \$2 a bushel and corn at above \$1 may not be indicative of a corresponding advance in the price of eggs, the fact shows that a bad time for renewing our flocks, depleted by disease and low-hatching records of the season just past.

The February option, as well as the April option, seems to indicate a conservative idea of the force of these crop changes in yielding a sufficient supply of eggs for current use until after the storage requirements shall have been met. It is, perhaps, unwise to begin bullish talk so early in a new egg season; but there are years when production should be stimulated early and it does appear to be one of them. If we are to have anywhere near a normal supply of eggs next winter,

### 3,178 Pounds of Pork From One Litter in Six Months Give Him Record



Production of 3,178 pounds of pork in six months from a litter of 12 pigs is the record achieved by Rufus Julius of Dover, Pa. The mark is officially credited to him by the agricultural experiment station of Pennsylvania State college. At the conclusion of the test the heaviest porker in the litter weighed 309 pounds and the lightest 265 pounds. Julius and the prize porkers are shown.

### Hog Sanitation County Meetings Well Attended

Farmers Learn Profit in Four Pigs Per Sow Consumed by Overhead Expenses.

By LEE W. THOMPSON, County Extension Agent. The five meetings held on farms last week for the purpose of discussing hog lot sanitation were well attended by farmers who were greatly interested in this particular line of work.

The average attendance at each meeting was between 18 and 20. The meetings were held in the hoghouse. A veterinarian from the bureau of animal industry, United States Department of Agriculture, was present at all but one of the meetings. He discussed the life cycle of the round worm and conditions which cause "bull nose," sore mouth, enteritis (an intestinal disease) and pig typhoid.

It was pointed out that round worms do not actually cause these diseases, but hog lot conditions that are favorable for development of round worms are the same that cause hog lots to be infested with these other disease germs. A heavy attack of round worms upon the pig makes the pig much more susceptible to these diseases. As a result, the pig has a combination of these various ailments.

Sanitation Outlined. Mr. Pesson of the experiment station, outlined a system of sanitation as developed by the McLean county farm bureau of Illinois, co-operating with the United States Department of Agriculture. Pesson pointed out that experiments conducted over a period of years showed that it took the profit on four pigs to take care of overhead expenses, such as feed, and care of the sow. Accordingly, if five pigs per sow are marketed on the average the net profit is on the fifth pig only.

If seven pigs per sow are marketed we have a net profit on three pigs. The farmer marketing seven pigs per sow makes three times the net profit as the farmer marketing five pigs per sow. There are on the average of five pigs per sow marketed each year in Nebraska. Of 160 farmers last year following the hog lot sanitation plan those who use the individual hoghouse method marketed a little over 1.2 pigs per sow, while those who used the central hoghouse method marketed six pigs per sow.

Increase Efficiency. The object of the project is not to increase the gross number of hogs produced, but to increase the efficiency of production. For example, a farmer keeping 15 sows and raising five pigs per sow would actually market 75 pigs, but if it took four pigs of each litter to pay for keeping the sow this farmer would have left 15 profit pigs. However, if he kept five pigs and was able to market seven pigs and at the same rate of four pigs per sow to pay for the cost of feeding the sow he would still market 15 profit pigs.

Hog lot sanitation then is not a method for increased production but for increased profit per unit of production. A recent letter sent to farmers from the county agent's office contains a self-addressed blank postcard which if filled out and stamped by the farmer and mailed to the county agent will bring detailed information for following out the sanitation plans and any help that may be needed in carrying the plan throughout the year.

Hoghouse Plans. The principle of the hog lot sanitation is getting the hogs on new ground where hogs have not been since a crop was grown on this ground. This of course, means that some system of individual hog houses will have to be used. A number of farmers feel that they have experienced too many sorrows all the various individual hog houses that they care to. The "Clay County" type of hoghouse, however, has given almost absolute satisfaction and is so arranged that it can

### Many Scrub Dairy Cows Sold in 1924, Says Report of Nebraska Dairy Development Association Society

(Part of Report of Association) During the last year there have been many cattle sold in Nebraska for dairy purposes that were picked up at stockyards for 2 cents per pound. Several thousand head of such cows, costing from \$15 to \$50 per head on southern markets, were sold in Nebraska for as high as \$100 per head and in a few cases, even higher. Farmers buying such cows are doomed to disappointment. This is not only a financial loss to the individual purchaser, but reacts adversely to the proper development of the dairy industry in the state.

Serious Situation. To impress you with the seriousness of the situation, we wish to quote from the state veterinarian's records on importation of dairy cattle into Nebraska during 1924. The number of dairy cattle imported into Nebraska, the states they came from, the counties in our state receiving them, are as follows:

- From Texas, 3,356, Jerseys, to 30 counties.
- From Wisconsin, 2,965, mostly Holsteins and Guernseys, to 40 counties.
- From Minnesota, 1,101, Holsteins, Jerseys and Guernseys, to 21 counties.
- From Missouri, 709, mostly Jerseys, to 19 counties.
- From Iowa, 439, mostly Jerseys and Holsteins, to 23 counties.
- From Colorado, 417, mostly Holsteins, to 16 counties.
- From Kansas, 285, mostly Holsteins and Jerseys, to 11 counties.
- From Oklahoma, 69, mostly Holsteins and Jerseys, to two counties.
- From Wyoming, 69, mostly Holsteins, to one county.
- From Illinois, 43, Holsteins, to one county.
- From South Dakota, 20, Holsteins, to three counties.
- From North Dakota, 14, Holsteins, to two counties.
- From Idaho, 9, Jerseys, to one county.

Under these conditions it is highly important that our farmers carefully investigate all shipments of cattle before buying. We ask the co-operation of the various breed organizations in the state to help improve this condition.

Campaign Conducted. The Nebraska Dairy Development society has conducted an active campaign against the importation of inferior dairy cattle into Nebraska. We have obtained reliable information and statistics and have presented the situation to the various breed associations for co-operative action. Our experience has been that legislation has not been effective in stopping this practice due to lack of enforcement. Resolutions and recommendations do little good. The solution lies with the farmers themselves in recognizing that there is a difference in cows.

### National Exposition at Indianapolis

From Creamery Journal. The national dairy exposition will be held at the Indiana state fair grounds, Indianapolis, October 10 to 17, 1925. The decision to hold the exposition at this point was reached after dairymen in that section and leading agricultural educators of the state of Indiana had thoroughly considered the executive committee of the National Dairy association that a year's work for dairymen, culminating in a great educational exposition, would be of the highest value to the people of this central section which

### CROP OUTLOOK FOR NEBRASKA

From Nebraska Farmer. Wheat condition is reported unchanged, but somewhat uncertain. Less than one-fourth of old crop is on farms. About 17 per cent of the corn is unshucked; slightly more than one-half corn and wheat crops are on farms; there is a marked tendency to market cattle unfinished. This is a summary of the present agricultural condition reported by the division of crop and livestock estimates.

The condition of winter wheat was at 53 per cent on December 1 and there has been but little change in condition, according to present reports of farmers. However, the condition is somewhat uncertain. Some expect slight damage from ice, others expect no injury from this source. About 23 per cent of the old wheat crop remains on farms at present. About 11 per cent of the reports from farmers indicated an increase in spring wheat acreage.

About 17 per cent of the corn is unshucked, due to the inclemency of December and January weather. The present quality of corn is reported to be 63 per cent of the average quality and 31 per cent is reported as being fit for feed.

ADVERTISING. Oldest Firm in Saddle Business. The oldest saddle store in the west is the store now owned by Alfred Cornish, 1210 Farnam St., Omaha. Mr. Cornish was started 45 years ago by G. H. and J. S. Collins, whose father was a partner of Gen. U. S. Grant's father in Galena, Ill. For many years this old and well-known firm of G. H. and J. S. Collins had four places making the famous Collins saddles: Cheyenne, Wyo.; Billings and Miles City, Mont.; and Omaha. They were pioneers in the saddle business and were the first to make saddles in this western country, and no saddle ever had such a good reputation and large sale as the Collins saddle.

### SAUNDERS COUNTY CLUB WINNERS

Saunders County club members who were winners in 1924 state-wide contests have recently been reported from the Lincoln office as follows: Canning club, Eleanor Borreson, Wahoo. Pig club, Clarence Hanke, Ithaca. Scholarship, Eleanor Borreson, Wahoo. Poultry club, Virginia Janak, Wahoo.

### Livestock on Nebraska Ranches in Good Condition

O'Neill, Neb., Feb. 21.—Livestock on the ranches of north Nebraska has wintered unusually well this year, despite heavy snows and severe cold, and will go into the spring in excellent shape. The abundant snows also assure an abundance of moisture for spring work and an excellent start for the hay crop. Many of the streams and lakes still are ice covered, but a few more days of continued fair weather will open them up.