

ing grain, separating, feeding the calves, etc., is repeated as in the morning.

When the work is all done we retire to the house, eat supper and then become acquainted with the news of the outside world through the columns of the daily and agricultural papers.

So far I have not mentioned the care we give the bulls. They get practically the same food as the cows and that with exercise keeps them thrifty.

Breeders and farmers, who have occasion to buy bulls will do well to take possession while they are still very young. In this way they will be able to raise them according to their own ideas and above all will have had time to become acquainted with their dispositions. Every person is afraid of a full grown, strange bull. If not, they should be, as many times there is nothing more treacherous nor powerful than such an animal. Besides this, male calves cost much less, as a rule, than mature animals, not to mention the saving on transportation.

In conclusion, I will say that my original intentions were to allow a few paragraphs in this paper, upon that necessary and interesting being—the hired man—as found in our neighborhood. However, one of these fellows who has made his abode with us for a few weeks, deliberately foiled my plans by going upon a protracted spree just fourteen days ago, from which he has not returned. In doing this, he left a young man and myself to care for sixty-five head of stock, besides chickens and pigs and worst of all—a speech. I am afraid the speech, in consequence, has suffered as much as anything else.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. Clark: Every well posted dairyman must commend the management of this herd of cattle. I apprehend, however, that the farmers in this audience will want to know something about the profit side of this business. There is considerable work connected with such a system of management and if Mr. Howie has no objection, I would like to have him state what is done with

the product of this herd and approximately what profit is made from this business as he carries it on.

Mr. Howie: I suppose it is not my place to answer this question, as the lady who owns the farm, my mother, is the one who pays the freight, and she is in the best position to know the answer. We ship cream to the Plankinton House in Milwaukee and we get above the market price for our cream. Our cows net us approximately \$100 a year for about twenty-five head of milking cows.

Mr. Gurler: When you say net, do you mean above the cost of feed?

Mr. Howie: Yes.

Mr. Gurler: Do you figure the skim milk into that?

Mr. Howie: The skim milk is disposed of on our farm in feeding hogs. We keep brood sows and sell the young pigs when they are weaned at about eight weeks old. They bring us about five dollars a pair, and a good sow will give us a gross income of \$35 to \$40 a year. That is also counted into the proceeds.

Mr. Burchard: How about the calves?

Mr. Howie: I did not figure the calves in. We count our calves as surplus stock. The cows pay all running expenses of the farm and all money taken in from the sale of surplus stock (which is registered and brings a price as such), is salted down. It does not come into the expenses of the farm at all.

Mr. Foster: How many cows does a man usually milk in an hour where he washes and wipes his hands in between?

Mr. Howie: Charley Tanner and myself are able to milk one cow in five minutes as the run goes, hard and easy, right through. However, I will say very few milkers we have ever had on our place, in fact, only one, has ever come up to us. I find that the common run of men are very poor milkers, or at least they are not what we call good milkers.

Mr. Foster: Does that include feeding the cow?

Mr. Howie: Yes, we feed the cow, as I stated, either before we milk or at the time or after we milk, according to the cow. Some cows, if you feed them during their milking, get restless and annoy the milker, so we feed them after milking.

Mr. Gurler: I would like to emphasize what Mr. Howie said

about the bull. There are thousands of farmers that will cling to a bull that is more dangerous than any wild animal on this continent. A black bear is a coward in comparison with a bull, because you never know when you are safe with a bull. We have men being killed all the time with the ugly creatures.

Ex-Gov. Hoard: Do you want to know how to keep him down?

Mr. Gurler: Yes; tell us.

Ex-Gov. Hoard: If you will start with your bull when he is young and accustom him to the tread power and make him work every day, he will be all right. I tell you a bull that goes onto a tread power and works on it for two hours, has got all the gimp taken out of him. I have had two wicked fights with bulls, but I have never been so much instructed as I have since I commenced this practice of the tread power. I paid \$80 for a tread power, and put it into the barn, and my bull furnishes the power for separating all the milk. He has to work about an hour and a half to two hours, and sometimes when he gets pretty cranky, even after the milk is done, he keeps working. The track wears down his feet, too, and keeps him in good condition, and every young bull is trained to get onto the tread power and work. I have one old fellow that has been dehorned and he bosses everybody and everything that comes into the barn. I can't put him onto the tread power, it would take forty men, but if he had been trained when he was a baby, in the way he should go, he would be a different animal today. I have not had a cross bull in my possession since I used the tread power.

A Member: My practice with cross bulls is always to have a good Shepherd dog at my heels and I never feel at all alarmed. The dog will never leave you and if the bull makes a move he will catch his heels.

A Member: I have got a good Shepherd dog and my bull tossed me about four rods in spite of the dog.

Mr. Howie: I have been in the ring with a bull three times, and every time I got the worst of it. The first time he had horns on, and I tell you it was not a very pleasant experience to be lying on your back with a bull staring right into your eyes within two inches. Fortunately he stumbled over me, and I got out of

the way. A strange bull should always be handled by taking it for granted that he is ugly. Keep him in a good pen and leave him there until you send him to the butcher. The way to keep a gentle bull gentle is to lead him, never try to drive him. We once got a gentle bull and he got in to the station on the freight car at one o'clock at night. He weighed 1,650 pounds and was gentle, but we didn't know it. The herdsman had the rope and I had a staff, and my honorable father went ahead with a lantern. He arched his neck and he burr-rr-ed all the way up the road. The worst of it was that the other fellow had all the trees on his side of the road, and I had nothing but an old barb-wire fence, and every time I would come within fifty feet of a tree, a glad shout of relief would come up, but as soon as I got on the other side of the tree, my fears began to return. However, we got him home, and in a box stall, and I never was so thankful in my life. You will never appreciate this until you have been downed by a bull.

Recess to 1:30 P. M.