

most of it and drag the cows through on corn stalks and shredded fodder. Of course, some are justified in so doing as there are a few cows that unquestionably do not pay for their feed and that is where the benefits of testing come in. Among the strictly dairy bred herds this is not so noticeable, but even there we find it too frequently. It is true that we often find good cows among the scrubs, but as a rule they have missed their calling, and their owners have failed to hear the call of the butcher.

We find as a rule that the members of the association are ready to adopt better methods of feeding and caring for the cow and the handling of her product. Of course there are exceptions to this and the best we can do in this case is to grin and bear it, and speak the advice mentally, trusting that the rut will eventually become deep enough to bury the man or make him sit up and take notice. As an experience to a young man, I think it cannot be valued in dollars and cents (especially when they are slow about paying their dues) as we meet with so many different ways and ideas of doing things that work toward the same end. Not alone in the way of housing, feeding and general care of stock, but all around the farm there is a chance to learn some very good lessons.

LA CROSSE COUNTY COW TESTING ASSOCIATION.

OLE HANSEN, ONLASKA, WIS.

The La Crosse County Cow Testing Association was organized in the spring of 1910, and began its work May 10th, with O. J. Mottard as tester. December 1st O. J. Mottard gave up his position and O. C. Hansen took charge. At the end of that year some of the smaller herds dropped out, and we took a few larger herds in their places.

We have some members who think there is nothing like the testing association. They say it is the best thing that has ever been started from the school. They can't see why it is that more farmers do not join, as the price is comparatively small considering the profits derived. They take more interest in their work, as do also the hired men.

A member of our association, whose herd stands in the lead of all the herds tested, fed balanced ration for most of the winter, and said that he never thought there was so much difference in feeding.

Results of last year's work were published in the local paper, and this fall I hope to balance rations for many of the members. There

seems to be more interest among the better dairymen than there has been to this time, so I think I will have a very interesting winter's work.

DISCUSSION.

Mr. Glover: A few years ago it was my good fortune to test cattle for butter fat in Illinois. I directed the work for three years and a half on farms in the northern part of Illinois. I had one pure bred herd that I visited for over three years, and in it was a cow capable of making only one hundred and fifty pounds of fat per year, and yet the bulls from that cow were being sold to my knowledge for more than \$100.00 apiece, simply because she was a registered animal. Now, a great many people used to say to me, "Is it practical to test cows? Isn't it just a fad? Weren't these positions created just to give some of you fellows a job?" What is more practical for a man to know, whether his cow was producing a hundred and fifty pounds of fat in a year or whether she was producing three hundred and fifty pounds? What is a practical thing? Is it keeping something so poor that it won't return the price of the feed it eats? Or is it rather having some understanding of your own business, knowing whether that animal is giving you a profit or not? I use this illustration to show the importance of keeping a good cow; an animal that will yield a hundred and fifty-one pounds of fat at present prices is giving a profit of one pound of fat; the cow that will give you a hundred and fifty-two pounds of fat is giving you two pounds of profit, and the latter is twice as profitable a cow as the former.

The poor cow requires as much stall room as the good one. She requires for all practical purposes, as much attention. She occupies a place in the pasture equal to that of the good one, and there is so little difference in the investment between the good and the poor one that we might say we have an equal amount of money invested in each. Then why milk a dozen cows when you can get five cows to do the same work and bring you the same profit? In that test work I found a herd of twenty-eight cows that did not return to the farmer as much as he put into them in actual expense, to say nothing of hard work, and another farmer nearby, with the same soil, the same climate, selling to the same creamery, was getting a nice income over and above his feed from six cows. In other words the six cows yielded their owner a profit of around \$300.00 while the other man with 28 cows had to pay something for keeping them. I will admit that there is hardly a cow so poor that she does not pay her way upon the farm.

but what I am saying is that she will not pay for her feed at market prices; that if you were to sell this feed in the market for what it is worth and what you could get for it, that it would return more than you will get from that kind of a cow. Of course, if you take the cows away from the farm a great deal of this feed would become valueless. Alfalfa hay to-day can be bought for \$3.00 a ton in the stack, in some of the western states and we are mighty glad to buy it for \$18.00 and \$20.00. What gives it that value? It is the dairy cow; she is the market and there is no reason why a farmer should not have a good market in his barn rather than a poor one. I think it is the highest sort of practical business, the hardest kind of common sense for a man to look for a market where he can sell his grain for the highest price.

The convention adjourned to meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Convention met at 10 O'Clock A. M. Friday, Nov. 17, 1911. President Griswold in the chair.

The committee on Nominations made its report, recommending the name of C. E. Jacobs of Elk Mound as president, and the name of A. J. Glover of Fort Atkinson as secretary of the association. The president of the association was instructed to cast the vote of the association for Mr. C. E. Jacobs as president, and Mr. A. J. Glover as secretary, which was done and they were declared duly elected.

The committee also recommended that Mr. H. K. Loomis of Sheboygan Falls be made the treasurer of the association for the ensuing year.

The secretary was instructed to cast the vote of the association for Mr. H. K. Loomis, which was done and he was declared duly elected.

The committee on Resolutions reported through its chairman, Professor Emery, as follows:

RESOLUTIONS PASSED AT THE WISCONSIN DAIRYMEN'S ASSOCIATION CONVENTION.

The committee on resolutions appointed by the president begs leave to offer the following report:

Resolved, That the Wisconsin Dairymen's Association, assembled in its Fortieth annual session at Beloit, this seventeenth day of November, 1911, records the following declaration: