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The Banker-Farmer

WISCONSIN
BANKERS'
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News Bulletin

BANKER-
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EXCHANGE

A Little Journal of Agricultural
Information for the Farmer

BULLETIN No. 15

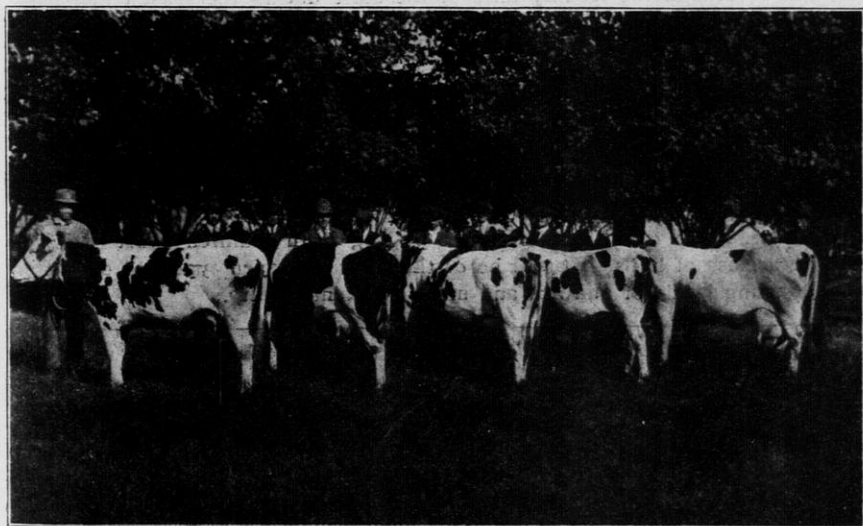
NOVEMBER, 1921

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION AND EFFORT FOR DAIRY CATTLE PRODUCTION.

BY

GEORGE C. HUMPHREY,

College of Agriculture of the University of Wisconsin.



"Dolly" family of Holstein cows, owned by W. P. Kissinger, Waupaca, Wis., and delegation of farmers from Independence, Wis., seeking foundation breeding stock.

Where enterprising men organize and unite their efforts for the purpose of breeding superior herds of dairy cattle, there will develop and be found a most prosperous community. There is nothing that succeeds like success. Community organization and effort in developing any enterprise means success. The above group of men represent a community which has recently become organized to breed and develop a single well-known family of Holstein cattle, which is also represented in the picture.

WISCONSIN COMMUNITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS.

Wisconsin, by virtue of her numerous dairy cattle communities, is the leading dairy state of the Union.

Through the organized efforts on the part of many of her communities in supporting cheese factories, Wisconsin produces over 60 per cent of the nation's cheese.

Barron County, by means of a united and cooperative action, has the largest cooperative creamery in the world, with an output of over 902 tons of butter, amounting to \$1,056,279.88 in receipts for the year 1920. This county was the first in the world to have all of its cattle tested for tuberculosis, and, furthermore, has the largest county Holstein organization in Wisconsin.

Waukesha County, the first county to organize a community breeders' Association, is known as the "Guernsey Capital of America". At the National Dairy Show of 1920, its Ayrshire, Holstein and Guernsey show herds captured five grand championship prizes.

Waupaca County, through the united efforts of her dairy cattle interests, has secured a well qualified veterinarian, approved by state and federal authorities, who will devote all of his time to increasing the present large number of accredited tuberculosis-free herds in that county.

Twelve counties assembled and exhibited 18 county show herds of dairy cattle at several of the leading fairs of the state during the season just past, which has been a great incentive for breeding and developing dairy cattle of superior type and quality within their borders.

There are 103 communities in the state that maintain active cow testing associations at the present time. This form of united effort cannot be urged too strongly. Of the 103 associations, 45 are reported to be 100 per cent free from scrub bulls. Only 6.1 per cent of all cow testing association members use grade or scrub bulls.

The respective communities about Appleton, Ashland, Cumberland, Independence, Loyal and North Lake are putting forth a united effort to select and use a class of bulls that will be of the most approved type and character for producing herds of uniform and most excellent quality.



Andrew Mihalik's herd. "Imp Sailor Girl of Hawthorne" in foreground.
Glorianna's King Masher, 27645, a community sire owned by the Chequamegon Guernsey Association of Ashland and Bayfield Counties, is used on this herd, which requires a sire of proved excellence to insure the reproduction of its present high quality. Five cows in this herd are on official test.

HOW TO ORGANIZE AND GET COMMUNITY EFFORTS

The first step in organizing a community club for breeding better dairy cattle is to get together and seriously consider some plan for action. Call in and get the help of the County Agricultural Agent, the cow tester, the bankers and other keen business men who may be of valuable help in making purchases or, later, in making sales of surplus stock. Your State College of Agriculture will gladly furnish forms and material that will be helpful in getting an organization perfected.

Study carefully the selection of men who will best serve as officers and leaders. They may have to be developed, in which case be patient and give them all the help possible.

Do not try to cover too much territory, and it will be best to have each breed organize its own interests. After becoming organized, become federated with county, state and every organization that will offer assistance.

Adopt some definite lines of work. These lines of work can best be followed by having committees, charged with the full responsibility of getting something accomplished.

Study to know your community's greatest need and go after the remedy and apply it vigorously. There is likely to be the need of better sires or better foundation heifers and cows, which now is a good time to buy. Get an inspection of and a judgment on the character of cows, heifers and calves that are being maintained. Note carefully the sires that are making an improvement and those that are not advancing or maintaining the quality of the cattle in which your association is primarily interested. Preserve and encourage the extended use of the better sires and try to discourage the use of the inferior ones, even though they may be pure bred and registered. United effort in this work alone will justify all the time, means and energy expended, and will undoubtedly result in the greatest amount of good accomplished.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

Visit and inspect one another's herds and the best herds in adjoining counties.

Encourage boys' and girls' calf club work and put on calf shows as a means of encouraging such work, and for the purpose of judging the worth of sires.

Encourage cow testing work by having at least a cow testing association and doing official testing where pure bred herds are being developed.

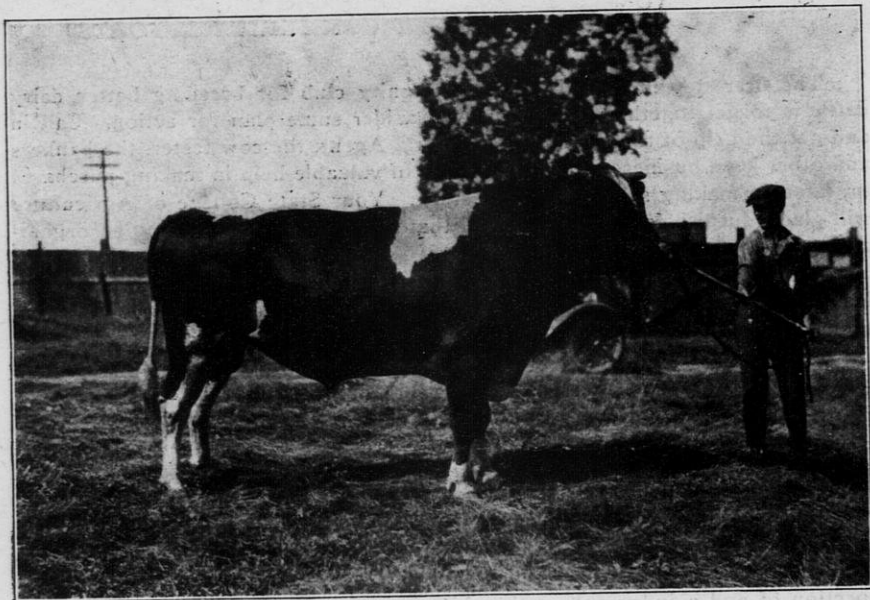
Do all that is possible to encourage the eradication of disease and having herds tuberculin tested under the Accredited Herd plan.

Encourage the consumption of dairy products, and endeavor to put milk or milk by-products on the market in the most attractive form and in a manner to insure its being of the best quality.

Where there are a sufficient number of good animals to warrant holding a public sale or to encourage buyers to come in and buy in car lots, the matter of advertising and selling to the best advantage should receive attention.

At all times work at something to keep up a spirit of good fellowship, enthusiasm and willingness to work, even to sacrifice if necessary.

Such a program may seem like a considerable task. It would be a mistake to think for a moment that it could be carried out and entail only a small amount of work. It will require a lot of real work, but it is work that can be done and that will crown a community's effort with greatest success.



"Sir Bess Ormsby Mercedes," owned and used by six members of the Cumberland Holstein Club of Barron County. A proven sire which won champion and grand champion honors at four of Wisconsin's leading fairs during the past season.

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