

Farm Demonstration Agent's Column

Contributed by
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A NICE PROFIT—Four cows, three of them heifers with their first calves, returned a net profit to their owner, Don Fisher, of \$28.90. The milk from these cows was weighed at each milking and a sample taken on one day about the middle of the month which was tested for butterfat. The grain and hay fed to each cow was weighed and its value calculated. The grain feed was all purchased and because of this cost more than it would had it been grown at home. At least 50c per hundred could have been saved had home grown grains been used. The hay was soybeans and some cane was fed. The total cost of the feed was \$39.20; the butterfat was worth \$58.33; the skimmilk was valued at 50c per hundred making it worth \$9.80. This \$28.90 can be considered as the pay for the interest on the investment, depreciation, and for labor. There should be a value placed on the manure from the cows which any farmer will tell you is of much value. At least 60% of the fertilizing value of any feed can be saved in the manure if it is properly cared for.

The 3 heifers were purchased by the Dairy Specialist, F. R. Farnham, for Mr. Fisher, a year ago. There is one heifer calf sired by the Pure bred Jersey bull on Porter Bryan's farm. This bull is from a purebred Jersey cow that has made in one year over 600 lbs. of fat. What is the heifer calf worth? It is hard to calculate the actual profit from a herd of cows. We can place a money value on the feed consumed. We can calculate the production very closely. We can value the skim milk as a feed for calves, for chickens, for hogs; we can estimate the value of the manure from a fertilizing standpoint; we can do all this and yet we can not always secure the cor-

rect answer. Many times the feed that a cow consumes would not have been saleable. We have had farmers tell us that one of the reasons they kept cows was to give them a market for their hay. They could not sell it in any other way to such an advantage. Again, oftentimes, cows can forage about the fields and pick much of their feed that would only fall over and be lost otherwise. Much of the feed would only be wasted if there was not a cow to feed it to.

Again we place a money value on the skimmilk. This is only an estimated value. There does not seem to be any other feed that can really take the place of skimmilk as a feed for young stock, chickens, calves, pigs. Its actual value is probably much more than the set value.

And the labor of caring for the cows. Much of it is done at times when the farmer would otherwise only be idling away the hours. It might be said that another wasted product is utilized. So we can go on and set an estimate on the different products of the cow, we can value her feed, we can value the labor expended and yet we have not secured the true answer. There are other profits that cannot be valued satisfactorily.

THE COST OF EGGS—People say that eggs cannot be produced profitably for 18c per dozen. We grant that there is not a great deal of profit but also the season during which eggs sell for this amount is the season of cheapest production. Also this season does not last a great length of time.

Mrs. Jeter Bryan's report on her flock for February tells us that her hens produced eggs for 15.9c per dozen. Mrs. Porter Bryan's flock charged 17.1c per dozen for eggs. T. A. Woody's flock asked their own-

er for each dozen eggs, 14.50c. The above figures are from actual records and not from surmises. They show that there is a profit at this season of the year when the flock is handled properly with eggs at 18 and 20 cents per dozen. The farmer does, however, deserve a larger price.

TESTING PAYS—To show that the farmers of Madison County are on the right track we quote from Hoard's Dairyman, the foremost dairy paper of the United States, the following—"It is not uncommon to hear men state that good yearly records do not increase the selling value of cows. This argument usually comes from those who can profit more by not knowing what a cow is capable of producing. The facts are that cows, whether grade or pure-bred, with good yearly records and equal otherwise to those that have not, will sell for 100 to 300 per cent more.

The Holstein-Freisian World analyzed the public sales of 1927 and found that pure-bred cows with long time records averaged over \$650 and cows without records and from untested dams sold for a little over \$200.

Buyers of grades are demanding more than ever cows with good annual records. It is being found by the practical dairy farmer that the cow that can make 300 to 400 pounds of fat in a year is many times more profitable than the one that produces 200 pounds of fat. The time is fast approaching when good prices cannot be expected for cows with no records."

There are 10 of those handling dairy cattle in Madison Co. who are keeping records on their herds.

IS THERE OVERPRODUCTION?—We hear much about overproduction; especially in poultry and eggs. People seem to think that there is an overproduction in Madison County of poultry and eggs. If we look to furnish only the markets of this county and of Asheville this idea is correct. But can the farmers of Madison County stop when they have these markets satisfied? If they do, which farmers are going to be left out of these businesses?

Mr. Oliver, State Poultry Specialist, scorned the idea of overproduction. He says that the poultry business is not started in this county. He says that we cannot load a car of poultry here. We believe that he is right.

We cannot stop with the local markets, with the markets of Buncombe County. We must aim at shipping poultry and eggs. It takes volume to do this. It will take time to build this volume business. There should be, at least, 300,000 hens in this county. Then we can talk of our poultry business a little.

From GUNTER TOWN:

We have been having some warm weather mixed with cold. Mrs. Craig Ramsey of Hot Springs and two sons, Woodrow and J. C., took dinner Easter with Mr. and Mrs. Roy Franklin. Mr. and Mrs. Andy Rice visited Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Franklin Easter. Mrs. Lilly Franklin and Mrs. Dolly Franklin gave their children an egg hunt Easter, which they enjoyed very

much. Mrs. Leslie Gahagan took dinner Easter with Mr. and Mrs. Shady Franklin. Mrs. Robert Reeves visited her mother Sunday. Miss Jessie Franklin returned from the French Broad Hospital Sunday, where she had her tonsils taken out. Mr. P. E. Franklin and Mr. L. J. Franklin will soon be Ford experts. Mr. Joseph Laws called on Miss Jessie Franklin Sunday P. M. Mrs. Cas Thomas and son visited Mrs. L. J. Franklin on Thursday. We were glad to hear that "Little Edgar Franklin" was improving after his illness.

W. A. SAMS Physician and Surgeon Office Front Room Over Citizen Bank.

From Arcadia, S. C.

Rev. C. B. Prince is carrying on a revival meeting at the Baptist church. Miss Sarah and Dora Gosnell spent last week with relatives at Union, S. C.

Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Haynes and family from Inman, S. C., spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Lewis.

The Spartanburg singing convention met with Arcadia Baptist church Sunday afternoon.

Mr. W. S. Davis from Spartanburg was visiting Mr. J. M. Lewis Sunday afternoon.

Sorry Mr. Dewey Lewis is leaving this place. Miss Lula Frey and Mr. Hermon Brown were happily married Saturday night.

Mr. Joe Benson was the pleasant guest of Miss Lorene Morgan Sunday night.

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ASHEVILLE, N. C., R. 4

Mr. Clyde Hensley and family spent Sunday night with Mr. and Mrs. Jake Pharm at Leicester.



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Mr. and Mrs. Moody Roberts and children have had the measles but are improving. Miss Edna Israel was absent from church Sunday to attend her grandmother's birthday party. Miss Mary Plemmons was visiting Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Jackson last week. Miss Edna Gorman and Hazel Ford were in Leicester Saturday. Miss Edna Willis motored to Weaverville Saturday. Mr. Lloyd Rogers and Mr. N. R. Hunicutt were visiting the Strand Theatre Saturday. Miss Edith and Miss Mildred Haze have returned from College. Mrs. C. H. Haze is on the sick list.

Mr. Fred Jervis is going to speak at New Found Church Sunday morning April 15, on the Colleges that the Baptist Church has to support.

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At the wedding reception the young man remarked: "Wasn't it annoying the way that baby cried during the whole ceremony?" "It was simply dreadful," replied the prim little maid of honor; "and when I get married I'm going to have engraved right in the corner of the invitations: 'No babies expected.'"



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