

MANAGEMENT DAIRY

by D. W. Hennessee

Progressive farmers all over the world never miss a single thing that will help them do a better job in their farm enterprise. They read and study every article they see about their particular line of farming. They take time to study and plan their work, their farms, and their particular operation. They visit other farms to get ideas that are working. Armed with all of this information and these ideas, farmers make changes and progress.

To give our dairy farmers information and ideas, we plan to run a series of articles on "Good Dairy Management." We hope that by reading and studying these articles you can get something that will help you produce milk more efficiently in the years to come. It is a well known fact that if we could do something about the weather some of our problems would be solved. We cannot do much about the rain and when it falls, so let us do something about the things we can control.

Any dairymen who expects to improve the inherent producing capacity of his herd or to increase

the profitableness with which he can turn his crops into milk must give attention to three fundamental practices in herd management—culling, feeding and breeding. None of these practices can be conducted intelligently, nor even with any assurance that they will lead to herd improvement or greater profit, without records of production on every cow in the herd. Without production records the dairyman can only guess which cows to discard, how much to feed those he keeps, and which animals to use for breeding purposes.

Most dairymen would not care to admit that they are unable, without production records, to point out the best cows in their herds. Yet time and time again, new members of dairy-herd improvement associations have found that their judgement did not agree with the records they obtained when their cows were tested.

Many dairymen have been asked to point out their best cows at the time they first joined an association, and invariably at the end of the year the records have shown that some of their "Best" cows were really among the best in the herd. Not until a dairymen begins to keep records of feed consumption and milk production

on every cow in his herd is he in position to feed and manage his herd efficiently or to begin systematically to improve the breeding of his herd. It is easy to see that production records are tools that can be used just as a manure-spreader, that is to save labor and increase efficiency. It was nearly 50 years ago when a few progressive in Michigan organized the first cow-testing association in the United States and began to use records as a tool to improve the profitableness of their herds. The cow-testing movement has grown until there are more than one and a quarter million cows are on test. Contrary to popular belief, cow-testing is just as necessary and important in a grade herd as in a purebred herd because you are wanting information that you can work with to increase efficiency.

Lithium To Open Plant January 1

Lithium Corporation of America, Inc. will start production in its Bessemer City chemical plant on January 1, General Manager G. A. Munson said recently. Munson said that a considerable amount of ore had already been mined and hauled onto the grounds of the chemical extraction plant on the western edge of Bessemer City. Approximately 200 people will be employed when the plant gets into full production. Lithium Corporation holds the richest vein of spodumene. This mining area includes a 15-mile wide belt from Lincoln to Gar-

ners, S. C., where extensive mining operations are under way. Lithium compound is the finished product at the Bessemer City plant, and will be shipped to customers all over the United States. It is used in air conditioning equipment, ceramics, greases, organic chemicals, pharmaceuticals, and many other industries. The Bessemer City plant is 90 per cent complete. Hitting bad weather, Mr. Munson said, the construction work should be finished and the plant put into operation by January 1. The plant was built by Southeastern Construction Company of Charlotte.

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Motor Vehicles Dept. Urges Safer Walking

RALEIGH—Maybe one of these days we'll stop thinking of most pedestrian mishaps as "accidents" and instead put them on the record for what they actually are—self-inflicted wounds!

That was Assistant Motor Vehicles Commissioner Joe W. Garrett's word for pedestrians this week as the Motor Vehicles Department intensified its campaign for safer walking.

"There is a tendency," Garrett said, "to discuss motor manners as though they apply only to driv-

ers. Well, in my book there are plenty of discourteous pedestrians and a good many of the walkers injured and killed in traffic accidents every year are victims of their own thoughtlessness, discourtesy and stubbornness!"

Walking against the traffic signal, crossing diagonally at intersections, darting from behind parked cars and crossing streets between intersections were listed by the vehicles official as the violations of etiquette—and law—most common among pedestrians.

"The one with the most to lose in a traffic accident caused by a pedestrian's bad manners," Garrett said, "is the pedestrian himself. But this never seems to deter them. The drive struffers from pedestrian discourtesies in terms of frayed nerves and exhausted patience—factors that increase the likelihood of his being involved in an accident."

Garrett also pointed out occasional instances when pedestrian discourtesies are the direct cause of accidents in which the pedestrian is not involved—as in the case of a driver swearing to avoid a pedestrian and striking another vehicle.

"Laws regarding pedestrians are relatively few," Garrett said, "and for that reason, doubly important. The most important thing

for the pedestrian to do is observe traffic signals. It's not smart to jay-walk, to cross against red lights, or to cross a street in the middle of the block between intersections, except at plainly marked crosswalks.

"Keeping these laws in mind can mean keeping yourself and others alive," he said. "Let's observe them. Remember, when you're walking, let traffic laws do the talking. Don't take a step in the wrong direction."

RECORD MILK PRODUCTION DURING NOVEMBER

Raleigh, Dec. 22—Estimated November milk production in N. C. totaled 131 million pounds—a record high for the month according to the N. C. Crop Reporting Service. The November flow showed a seasonal decline of 11 million pounds from the October output but was 8 million pounds higher than production during November 1953 and 27 million pounds above the 1943-52 average for the month.

U. S. milk production during November, estimated at 8.4 billion pounds, was only a little above last year's previous record for the month, but was nearly 10 percent above the 1953-52 November average.

RECORD EGG PRODUCTION FOR NOVEMBER

Raleigh, Dec. 22—Laying flocks in the Tar Heel State produced an estimated 102 million eggs during November—the highest production of record for that month, being 12 percent above the previous record of 91 million in 1953.

The North Carolina Crop Reporting Service reports there were 8,944,000 layers on hand during November compared to 8,972,000 a year earlier. The rate of lay during November 1954 of 1,140 eggs per 100 layers was 12 percent above the rate for November 1953 of 1,014 eggs per 100 layers.

TOBACCO AUCTIONS IN THE N. C. MOUNTAINS

The chant of the tobacco auctioneer mingles with Christmas music at burley tobacco auctions at three North Carolina mountain markets: Asheville, Boone and West Jefferson. Visitors are welcomed at the mountain burley auctions, as they are at the Piedmont and Eastern North Carolina markets which have just closed a successful season in the selling of flue-cured tobacco. Burley markets usually continue sales until after New Year's.



It's Christmas Time

Great is the spirit of Christmas that brings to every heart—Peace, Good Will...and Love towards all mankind. May you enjoy the full blessings of the Yuletide Season.

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We wish our many friends volumes of good cheer and contentment throughout the Christmas Season as well as the coming New Year.

DR. L. L. CHASTAIN



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CHEER for Christmas

May the joyful hours of Christmas overflow with good cheer and happiness for all our friends

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Open Sunday, Dec. 26 At Noon

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Corner N. Mtn. & W. Church
Junction Hwy. 150 and 274
Paul Mitchem
Phones 9174 - 6255



A PRAYER for Christmas

As the curtain begins to draw across the old year, we pray that the spirit of Christmas be kept in the hearts of men not only this one day... but every day. For with Christmas in our hearts nothing in life could ever quench the joy or dim the light of our peace.



Greetings for Christmas

We would like each shining ornament on your Christmas tree to reflect joyous Season's Greetings and our best wishes for a very Happy New Year.

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