

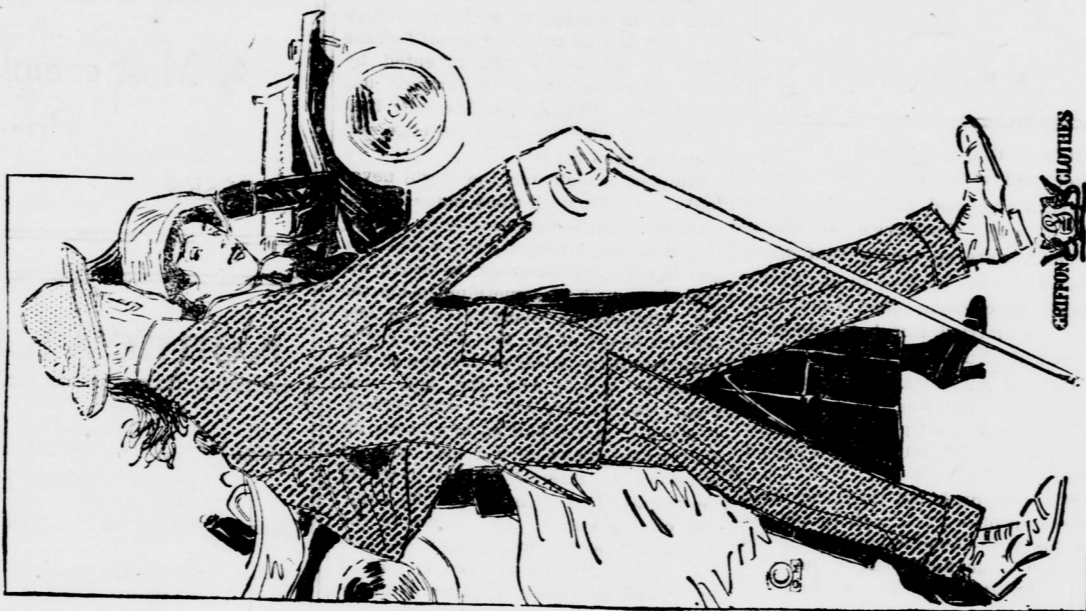
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BELLOWS TOGETHER

"She Knew Her Business."

The forehead—the space between the eyes—should be wide and dish-shaped. The dish effect results from the full eye, and we want the breadth, for there is where the brains are situated. Cows show intelligence in their faces much the same as human beings do. I have fancied as I looked at a fine cow that she knew what her business was and did not neglect it. Mark you, when a cow is keeping her jaws going she is working—yes, just as much and just as effectively as a set of stones in a grist mill or a weaver at a loom. She, too, is taking raw material and manufacturing it into a finished product. But, to return to her head. The horns should be symmetrical and not too large. The ears not very large, and when they are turned back there should be seen a yellow oily secretion on the inside. This should also be found on the udder and on the tip of the tail. I have heard that it indicates richness of milk, but more likely it denotes constitutional vigor and thrift. For the same reason we like the hair to be soft and oily or silky, and when we pull the skin up from the ribs it should be elastic and spring back and not be thick and leathery.

The neck should be slender and neatly joined to the shoulders. There should be no excessive amount of loose, flabby skin on the under part of the throat and neck.

The Double Wedge.

We (and I might here explain that "we" means myself and all who agree with me) like to see the double wedge in the dairy form. From the head she should gradually increase in width toward the hind quarters. Then from the shoulders down we like to see her broaden out.

There should be good width between the forelegs, and the space behind the elbow should be well filled out. Just in this part are situated the vital organs—the heart and lungs. A cow narrow between the forelegs is exactly the same as a narrow chested person—both are apt to be subjects for tuberculosis.

The backbone should be large, loosely pointed and a little prominent, another indication of nerve power, for in the backbone runs the spinal cord, the chief nerve of the body.

The barrel or body of the cow should have good length and depth. This is her storehouse and should be capable of holding large quantities of food.

The cow should be wide and strong across the loins to support this large punch, for weakness in this point often causes a sag in the back. The thighs should be thin and hollowed out to give plenty of space between the legs, and the flanks should be high, allowing room for a large udder.

Horsemen say, "No foot, no horse." Dairy men say, "No udder, no cow." The udder should extend well up at the back and well forward, being strongly attached to the body. The sole of the

udder in a cow, especially a young cow, should be level and the teats evenly placed and conveniently long to be milked. The udder should be covered with fine soft hair, should be springy, and the veins should be prominent.

Milk Veins and Milk Wells.

The milk veins coming from the udder and running forward under the body should be large, tortuous and extending well toward the front before entering the body through what are called the milk wells. Sometimes these openings in the abdominal wall are small and press the veins, swelling them and making them appear larger than they really are. In buying a cow not milking it is well to feel the size of the milk wells, and they will be some indication of the size and length of the milk veins.

After the cow is milked out the udder should hang like a bag of skin, soft and pliable. Occasionally we see a cow with a beautiful udder. After being milked she still has her beautiful udder, but has added little to the milk pail. This is known as a fleshy udder and often deceives a buyer.

The escutcheon, or milk mirror, is considered by some dairymen as an important indication of a cow's value as a milker. The escutcheon is that portion of the hind quarters at the back and top of the udder where the hair points upward instead of downward. It is taken as a good sign when the space covered with such hair is large and when there are several "cores" or "whirlpools" where the hair gathers toward a center.

Some judges like the terminal tail bone to reach the hock. The tail is but a continuation of the backbone—the larger and more loosely jointed the vertebrae the longer the tail. It should taper toward the point and end in a nice, full switch.

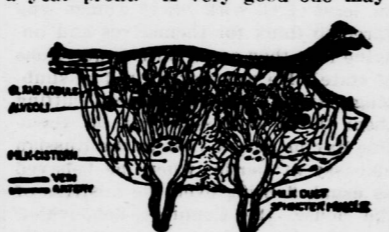
First Look For Constitution.

Summing up the qualities of a good cow, we should say first look for constitution. It is anything but pleasant to think of using milk which has come from a sickly, diseased animal. Don't you think with me there is a strong relationship between the vitality of the cow and the vitality of the milk she gives? First, then, let us emphasize the necessity of having a healthy cow as indicated by a readiness for her food, a full, bright eye, soft, pliable hair and skin; steady, even breathing and good heart and lung capacity. Then we want good milking qualities, as suggested by a strong nervous system, large middle piece and splendid udder. She should have a quiet, contented disposition, submit quietly to being handled and should be an easy milker.

A cow should increase in her milk flow during the first few lactation periods, and frequently there is a slight increase in the percentage of fat as she reaches maturity.

She may be said to be at her best from her fifth to her eighth year, and many do splendid work for many years after that age.

A cow should make from \$30 to \$60 a year profit. A very good one may



CROSS SECTION OF COW'S UDDER, SHOWING THE CELLS IN WHICH MILK IS SECRETED. make for her owner \$75 to \$100. The profit may be estimated if the food cost be subtracted from the value of the milk fat. The value of the skim milk, calf and manure offsets the cost of labor in connection with the care of the cow.

Pats of the Herd, But—

Receiving good care, a cow should give 6,000 pounds of milk, testing at least 3.5 per cent fat, or should make 250 pounds of butter in a year. A heifer should reach this amount in her second lactation period. This is not a high standard, but if put into force throughout the country it would mean that three-quarters of the cows would be doomed. The average yearly yield per cow is not over 4,000 pounds of milk. With such an average, how many very poor ones there must be! What about yours? In nearly every stable there are sleek, gentle cows, which stretch their necks as greedily as can be for mangels and meal and which walk forth with a leisurely important air to pastures green and luxuriant, the pets often of the herd, and yet if X rays of the scales and the test for fat were thrown on such cows the revelation would assign them to the butcher's block.

His Specialty.

"Do you speak several languages, father?"
"No, my son," replied Mr. Henpeck, gazing sadly at his wife, "but I do know the mother tongue."—Judge.

Aids to History.

Mrs. Brown—Haven't you found personally that history always repeats itself? Mrs. Bliss—Not always. The neighbors repeat most of my history. —New York Times.

Nature.

Nature never did betray the heart that loved her. 'Tis her privilege through all the years of this our life to lead from joy to joy.—Wordsworth.

What men want is not talent, it is purpose; not the power to achieve, but the will to labor.—Bulwer-Lytton.

SWAPPED WIVES

By MARY GANSEVOORT

Two family houses are very common nowadays. They are inexpensive, and everything inexpensive finds a ready demand. In a two family house in B. Mr. and Mrs. Kirby lived on the second floor and Mr. and Mrs. Axhalter on the first floor. Cheap things are apt to be expensive in the end, and it was so with this two family house. Mrs. Kirby became infatuated with Mr. Axhalter and Mr. Kirby with Mrs. Axhalter. Living under the same roof, there was plenty of chance for one of the men to meet the wife of the other clandestinely, and both couples were playing the same game.

There wasn't any trouble about the matter. Why should there be, since all were satisfied to swap partners? But the expense! Two single houses would have cost 50 per cent more, but the divorces cost 100 per cent more. Besides, there were two new trousseaus, two weddings involving carriages, wedding breakfasts and the parson's fees. Would it not have been better had each couple taken a single house?

Unfortunately the leases ran for two years, and the new weddings occurred within one. It would be a pity to lose one year's rent on account of an embarrassing proximity between two couples who had swapped partners, especially when there was no embarrassment. So the first Mrs. Kirby, having become Mrs. Axhalter, went to live downstairs, and the first Mrs. Axhalter, having become Mrs. Kirby, went to live upstairs. Everybody in the neighborhood said: "How practical and how sensible! All has been done pleasantly. Of all quarrels family quarrels are the worst."

It so happened that Mr. and Mrs. Kirby went on a journey, and while they were gone Mr. Kirby died. Meanwhile Mr. Axhalter died too. The disconsolate widows met in the hall. That's a part of a two family house which persons who have never tried them don't consider. The occupants are always meeting in the hall.

"Well," said Mrs. Kirby—ante Axhalter—"Tom has gone, I hear."

"Yes," said Mrs. Axhalter—ante Kirby, "and Jim, too, poor man!" She wiped away a tear.

"They were two very good men."

"Very good. They were two very good husbands to me, both of 'em."

"And I have no complaint to make of either. My first husband was very obliging in some things and my second

in other things."

"Both my husbands were good in all things," said Mrs. Axhalter, heaving a deep sigh.

"H'm! Did you find Axhalter always liberal with the cash?"

"Indeed I did! But it depends upon what you call liberal. Anyway, I didn't have to go through his pockets when he was asleep."

"Who told you that?"

"Told me what?"

"That to get money I had to go through his pockets when he was my husband. Anyway, I didn't give him any curtail lectures when he came home late nights."

"And who told you that?"

"A little bird whispered it into my ear."

"Did Kirby tell you I gave him curtail lectures?"

"Did Axhalter say I went through his pockets?"

The horns were locked; neither could move. So the only thing they could do was to unlock and begin over again.

"I'd like you to tell me, Mrs. Kirby," said Mrs. Axhalter, "which of your husbands you liked best."

"Well, as a man who had been influenced by some one else I think some times Kirby was the best man I ever knew. Then, again, I think Axhalter was even better than he."

"What do you mean by influenced by any one else?"

"Well, you know, Mrs. Axhalter, that a man after he has been married isn't the same as he was before."

"Do you mean that he has deteriorated?" asked Mrs. Axhalter, looking at her wife-in-law severely.

"I mean that if a man has lived with a woman who has nagged at him he grows irritable."

"I noticed that my second husband was sometimes a bit grouchy."

"You did, did you? Maybe it was getting used to new conditions."

Again the horns were locked. Again the two ladies backed away from each other. But only in an argumentative sense.

"Are you going to have your mourning dresses cut hobbler?" asked Mrs. Axhalter.

"Not to the extreme," replied Mrs. Kirby.

"I'm puzzled about my hats. I don't see how I can get a widow's cap to show under 'em, the brims are so big."

"And the veil? How are we to manage that?"

"They don't wear those long black veils any more."

"I'm so glad. What are you going to do about collars and cuffs?"

"I haven't decided. Come up to my floor and we'll talk it over."

"Come into mine."

"It doesn't make any difference now which floor we go to—we're at home on both."

They stood in the hall and talked. Oh, happy day that they had found a topic on which they could converse with their former friendliness!

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