

willing to carry out by every means within his power that which will tend to produce a good all-round result; in fact, it will make dairying a much greater pleasure to him than it previously has been. As soon as the "boarders" have been detected, cull without mercy. Perhaps the farmer may plead that he cannot buy other cows to fill their places; but is he not better off with twenty cows, all of which give a good profit, than with forty, twenty of which are kept at a loss? and, as I previously stated, the loss on the one half may completely wipe out the profit on the other half.

Many farmers do not know whether their cows are being worked profitably or not; many say that it is too much trouble to keep records, and that it does not pay for the time spent over it. On the other hand, every farmer who has tested his cows and culled the unprofitable ones knows that it does pay and that it is very little trouble. It is blind policy to simply total up the proceeds at the end of the season and divide the result by the number of cows; it gives no idea whatever of the possibilities of a herd.

Perhaps one of the most important questions a dairyman can ask himself is, "In the matter of breeding am I adopting the best means of building a high-class herd?" One thing is very certain—you cannot afford to buy scrub bulls at so-many shillings per leg. When you have made an independent fortune you can afford to indulge yourselves in that direction, but not before. Whether you have to beg, borrow, or steal him, procure a high-bred sire from a well-known milking strain, and you are on the direct road to success. I am not advocating any special breed—that is for the farmer to decide; but I do advise, once a breed has been chosen, to stick to it through thick and thin. No good permanent result has ever been obtained through crossing and recrossing—it is the direct road to the Bankruptcy Court; and in my opinion it is much easier to improve a breed than to manufacture one. We are in no need of new breeds; but we are in great need of more good individuals of the existing breeds. It may be better to have a good animal of unknown breeding than a common pedigree animal, but it is a fact that in order to produce the best animals we must stick to some one breed and use sires of the desired type of this particular breed continuously. When it has to be admitted that, even when exercising the greatest care in the choice of a sire, the results are sometimes disappointing, it can safely be concluded that to breed from an animal simply because it happens to be of the male sex, or to buy animals in the open market simply because they happen to be of the female sex, can only lead to disaster.

Proper feeding and care of the young bull as well as the cow must not be overlooked, as it is of the utmost importance, and if bred for