

Bank Pretty is by Blossom's Prince from Pretty Polly (648.51 lb. fat), who in turn is by the noted sire K.C.B. Blossom's Prince goes back to Magnet's Boy, while Exile of Oaklands, the sire of Pretty's Flirt, traces to New Zealand's Exile. Thus each side of her pedigree traces to now proven strains—on the sire's side to Campanile's Sultan and New Zealand's Exile, on the dam's to Magnet's Boy and K.C.B. It would therefore seem a natural expectation that such strong blood lines must ultimately concentrate in an outstanding individual. Pretty's Flirt is an outstanding animal on type as well as production, her depth of body and udder-development being striking indications of capacity.

We have no details regarding the quantities and varieties of food fed to Pretty's Flirt while under test, but understand she received in addition to pasture nothing beyond hay, roots, green oats, and other usual farm feeds.

We hope to be able to report in next month's *Journal* that Pretty's Flirt has fully qualified for a certificate of record by calving subsequent to test, and in the meantime would extend to Mr. Miers our hearty congratulations upon the possession of a remarkable animal. Her work is also adequate testimony that she has been in the hands of a person who is capable of enabling even an outstanding cow to attain the championship of the Jersey breed in New Zealand.

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### PASTURE TOP-DRESSING TEST AT MARTON.

IN 1921 a small section of 2½ chains square, at Marton Junction, was divided into plots and top-dressed by the Department with several different kinds of fertilizers. The section, consisting of the typical heavy Marton soil, had been down in permanent pasture for a considerable number of years without anything in the way of top-dressing having been done. The result was that the better grasses and clovers had practically disappeared, and had been replaced by florin and such weeds as catsear, plantain, &c. The object of top-dressing the section was to ascertain what effect the treatment would have in bringing back the better grasses and clovers which were present to a small extent.

The section was divided into seven plots, and the manures applied carefully by hand. The following were applied—the three first in July and the others in August, 1921: (1) Ephos phosphate, at 4 cwt. per acre; (2) Nauru rock phosphate, at 4 cwt.; (3) Basic slag, at 4 cwt.; (4) Walpole Island phosphate, at 4 cwt.; (5) bone char, at 4 cwt.; (6) carbonate of lime (1 ton) and superphosphate (2 cwt.), each per acre. The seventh plot was left as a control.

All the dressings had a beneficial effect on the pasture to a more or less extent. The first to show effects was the lime-and-super mixture. When compared with the control plot the effect of the top-dressing was very marked. The section was cut for hay on 7th January, 1922. It was intended to take weighings of green material