



GRAPH 4. LACTATIONAL-TEST CURVES OF THE CHIEF BREEDS.

Germany, and the Kolmogorian breed of Russia. Eminent breed historians, such as Professor Low and Howard, tell us that these same Dutch cattle in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries helped to form the foundation of the Teeswater breed, now known as the Shorthorn, and of the Dunlop, from which the Ayrshire has been developed by Scottish dairymen." It would be interesting to ascertain if the result obtained held good for the other breeds which are claimed to have their origin in the Dutch cattle. Of course, all curves would need to be obtained from records secured under similar conditions, otherwise the comparison would not be a true one.

The other dotted line shown in the graph joins the points where the average tests would lie on the respective "smoothed" curves. The parabola obtained is interesting, as it is considered probable that curves for other breeds tested in New Zealand would cut this line at points corresponding to the average tests for such breeds.

In Table 8 each monthly test as given in Table 7 is divided by the average test and then multiplied by 100—i.e., the lactational tests are expressed as percentages of the annual test.* By this method

* By "annual test" is meant the average test for the lactation, this being equivalent to the test of the whole of the milk produced taken in one lot.