



The Capp family poses with the first red and white Holstein they ever raised. From left to right the family members are: Debbie, Donna, William, Sr., Billy, and Elsie Capp.

Red Holsteins

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pounds, which is up there with the others," Mrs. Capp notes. She also pointed out that of those animals which milk over 100 pounds, the butterfat test is 3.8.

"So, I think they're just as good as the black and whites," she concludes.

When Elsie Capp talks in the first person, saying "I got interested," and "I think," and calling them "my animals," there is a reason - she is mainly responsible for the introduction of the red and whites into the family herd.

"Those red and whites weren't my idea," stated William Capp during an interview with Lancaster Farming. "They're really her cows," he said, looking over at his wife and giving her the credit.

William Capp had always been a black and white fan, but his wife had other tastes.

"I always wanted a red and white, she recalls, thinking back to her life on her father's dairy farm. "But, whenever a red calf was born, it was sold right away because it was considered a freak."

Although she never had a red and white, she still harbored the desire to own one some day.

Then, in 1970, one of the Capp's Ivanhoe cows had a red and white bull calf by a fluke of nature, and Elsie Capp thought she had her red and white.

"But, our artificial breeder came in and offered us \$200 for him, and he was gone," she remembers. The price of the animal coupled with the thought of nearly having one for herself after all those years, however, made Elsie more determined that she was going to have red and whites. And, it didn't help that a neighbor and business acquaintance was developing one of the largest herds in the state right before her very eyes.

Then, in November of 1973, the Capp's bought a bred heifer which gave birth in January of 1974 to a red and

white heifer calf which Elsie had waited for so long.

"That calf turned out to be the most spoiled animals we have in the barn," she says with a wry turn of her head and a silent laugh at her indulgence.

"We let her run loose in the barn and she grew up on dog food," she continues. "It used to be cute, but it's not so cute anymore when she gets loose and starts eating up all the dog food."

That statement was varified later in the day when, during milking, the "spoiled brat," got loose and headed straight for the dog food.

"See what I mean?" Elsie asked with a helpless shrug of her shoulders.

This pet of Elsie's, however, is the second highest red and white producer the Capps own. At three years old, her production record is 21,195 pounds of milk and 794 of fat.

The only red and white animal to top this record is a four-year-old owned by 13-year-old Bill, Jr. "Miller's Rinnie," the daughter of

Pinelee Rich Gift, has a record of 24,314 pounds of milk and 782 of fat. Those figures topped most of the [Continued on Page 130]

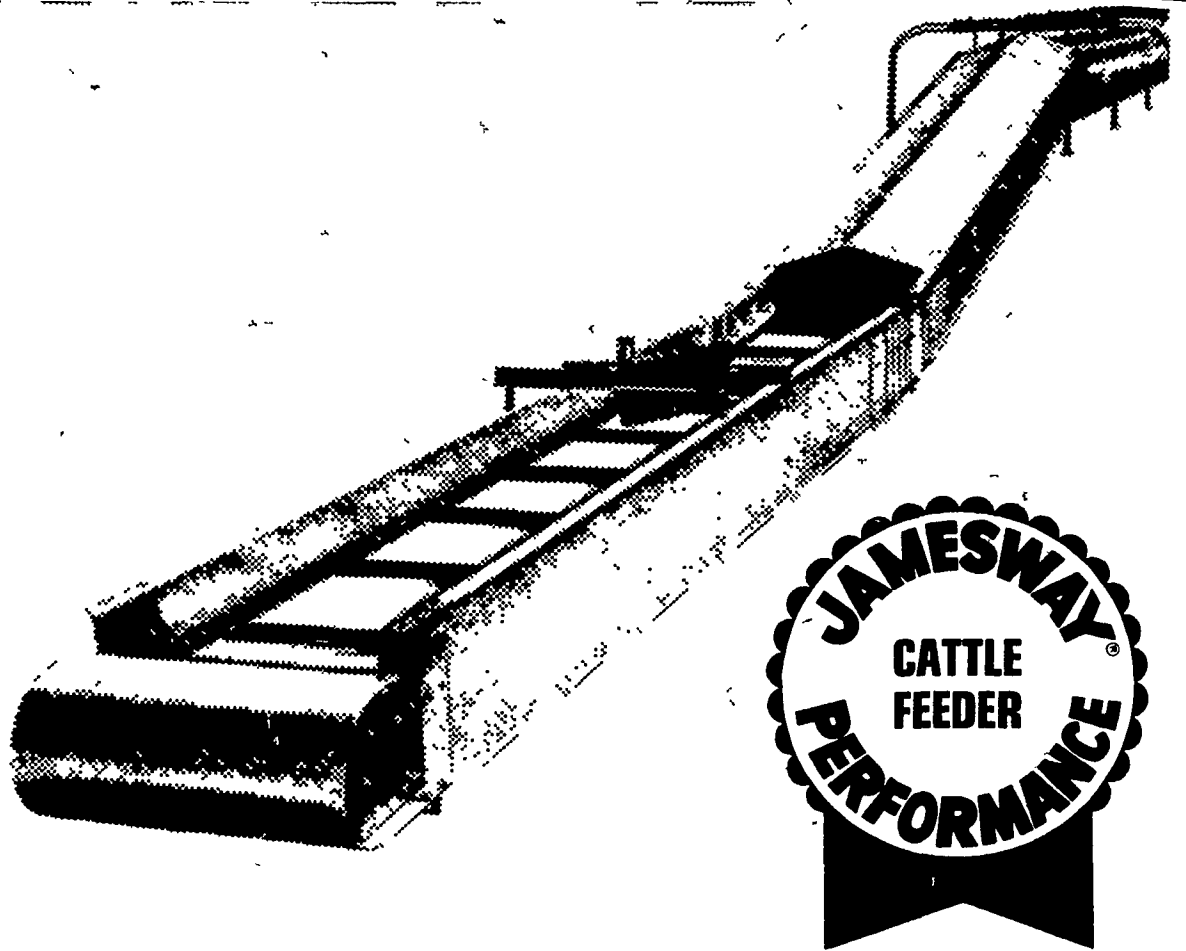
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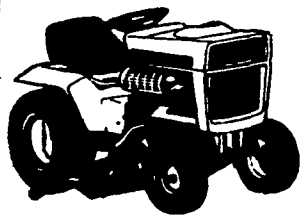
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