

Elevation...thousands call him father

LANCASTER — As father's day rapidly approaches in this June Dairy Month, it almost seems fitting to salute one of the most prolific dairy "fathers" of the 20th century.

Round Oak Rag Apple Elevation, bred by Ronald A. Hope, Round Oak Farm, Purcellville, Virginia was born August 30, 1965. His sire, Tidy Burke Elevation was a Gold Medal Sire with more than 2,314 daughters in 637 herds. His Dam, Round Oak Ivanhoe Eve EX 94 4E finished with a lifetime record of more than 200,000 pounds of milk.

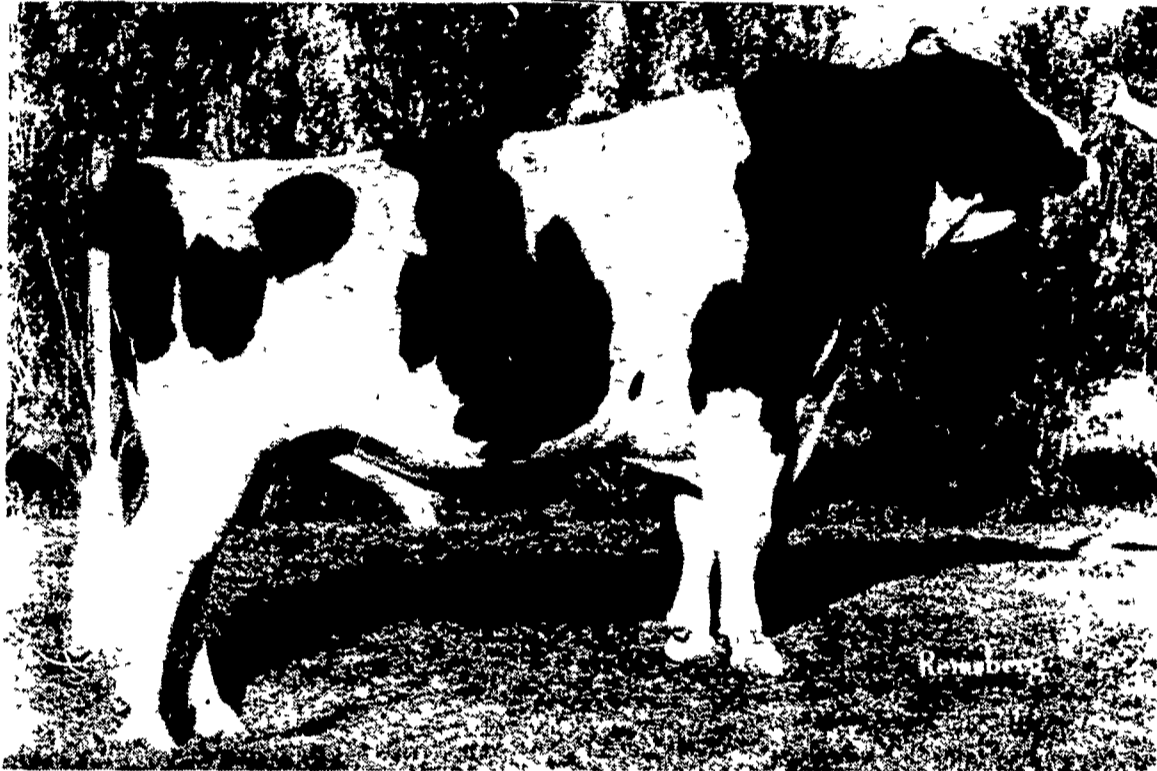
Hope sold Elevation to Virginia Artificial Breeders Association, which later became a member of Select Sires, when he was a calf. He was proven jointly by Virginia ABA and Maryland ABC, now a part of Sire Power.

A conservative estimate indicates that Elevation's female offspring alone have brought their owners \$50 to \$75 million additional income through sales of milk and breeding stock, as compared to daughters of an average Holstein bull. His most current proof clocked in at PDM +1,477, PD percent test -.02, PDF +51 and

PD\$ 182 with 99 percent repeatability.

The thousands of Elevation sons scattered throughout the world can be expected to multiply this sire's influence on the Holstein breed.

When he died on April 25, 1979, Elevation left behind a legacy which included 23,452 tested daughters; 13,744 classified daughters; 11,000 registered sons with the HFAA; 5,687 herd owners of tested daughters in all 50 states; 438 Excellent offspring classified by HFAA; 270 proven sons; 17 Gold Medal sons.



Round Oak Rag Apple Elevation, EX 96 was bred by Ronald A. Hope of Purcellville, Virginia. The Gold Medal Holstein sire who

lived from August 30, 1965 to April 25, 1979 has proven to be, if not the greatest, one of the most prolific sires in the dairy industry.

Junior Holstein assoc. plans judging schools

STATE COLLEGE — The Pennsylvania Junior Holstein Association is sponsoring a summer program including Judging Schools.

This year the program has expanded to three schools to service the growing number of participants. The three schools are as follows: July 5-6 Eastern Pennsylvania, Northampton/Bucks Counties, Chairperson — Donald A. Seipt, Headquarters — Sheraton Easton Inn, Easton; July 7-8 Central Pennsylvania, Blair/Huntingdon Counties, Chairperson — Judy Black, Headquarters — Minuet Manor, Altoona; July 9-10 Western Pennsylvania, Beaver/Lawrence Counties, Chairperson — Shirley Mitcheltree, Headquarters — Holiday Inn, Beaver Falls.

Lois Remsburg, HFAA Consultant in Virginia will be the official judge for all of the three schools. She is a qualified individual having been a member of the 1975 Virginia Polytechnical Institute Collegiate Judging team that placed 1st in the National Contest. Lois was 2nd high individual placing as a tie for 1st in reasons. In 1979, she coached the Maryland State 4-H Judging team that placed 2nd at Nationals. She has also worked with Agri-Graphics' slide and tape sets for judging.

Each school has been planned by local committees with youth in mind and each school has its own special features. The Eastern School participants will be judging 10 classes of three various breed. Keystone Farms will host the group for the evening for a picnic.

The Central School will have the opportunity to judge four breeds of dairy cows in ten classes. The evening meal will be a barbeque

followed by work on reasons and then a surprise is in the planning.

The Western School has a special feature. Juniors will have the opportunity to mingle with the Beaver-Lawrence County Holstein Club members. The evening meal will be held in conjunction with their club's Annual Barbeque at the Richard Kroll farm. Four breeds of dairy cows will be judged at this school.

Arrangements have been made at all of the schools for the swimming facilities at host farms or at the hotels.

This educational program is an ideal opportunity for all youth interested in dairy cattle. Learning about judging functional type dairy cattle makes mating decisions easier when analyzing the cow to be mated. This is also an opportunity for judging teams to work together as well as improve individually. Youth also get to see many varied types of operations at each host farm adding to their educational experience.

For more information contact the Pennsylvania Holstein office at 839 Benner Pike, State College, Pa 16801, 814-234-0364.



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Plushanski

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1979, when Persuader's first proof came out, the Plushanski Syndicate kept four full semen tanks and constantly shipped semen by bus.

"We couldn't collect fast enough," said Clyde. By now, Persuader was collected three times a week.

While awaiting his proof, the Plushanskis paid to have all his daughters classified and photographed, which included offspring in seven different states. According to Charles, it cost roughly \$15,000 to advertise, classify, photograph, collect and ship.

When his proof hit the press the young bull was +1,500 pounds for milk and was ranked 12th in his Total Performance Index. When his second proof came out, the Berks County bull stood second to none.

About that time, Tri-State, an artificial breeding cooperative based in Wisconsin was looking for a good Elevation son. The news had traveled north and eventually the Plushanskis struck up a lease deal.

The lease deal brought an end to the Plushanskis' home collection and shipping service in order to comply with the lease agreement. However, the Plushanskis receive approximately 36 percent of the bull's semen sales.

The lease agreement also relocated the bull from his Berks County roots to his new home in Westbe, Wisconsin.

"Certainly, Persuader has been the most popular bull we've had at Tri-State," explained director of

public relations Bruce Odeen.

"Since he came into the facility, we've sold everything he's produced as fast as he's produced it," Odeen added.

When Persuader entered Tri-State, Odeen was an active dairyman on the co-op's board of directors. He noted that he had a Persuader daughter at the time.

"His daughters are growthy animals with a tremendous appetite...and as friendly as a puppy," he laughed.

Like father like daughter. Odeen explained the bull is currently collected three times a week, which is the maximum. He's housed in an end stall and more than once has greeted visitors by stretching an ear outside the iron bars for a scratch, said Odeen.

His current proof is PDM 1,095, PD for test +.08, PDF 52, PD\$ 166 with an 83 percent repeatability. He's plus on type at 2.19.

His plus for test and type have made him a popular sire overseas. The Plushanski farm has been visited several times by overseas guests.

Perhaps the true mark of Persuader's influence is the fact that he's now being used as a mating sire and has several sons on the ground.

Even though the bull isn't housed at the Plushanski farm, visitors from all over pour in to get a look at his daughters. Since his proof first came out, the Elevation son has remained in the top 50 of Holstein sires.

"I just wanted him to be good enough to get a lease deal," understated Charles Plushanski.