

## Noble's Golden Marguerite

Our cover picture on this Bimonthly Bulletin shows the rock on the lawn in front of the dairy building, and the plaque on that rock dedicated to a noble Jersey cow. Thousands of students and visitors have passed by this plaque and perhaps idly wondered just what it was all about, who or what was being honored. The plaque is, in a sense, a monument not only to a Jersey cow, but to the man who owned her.

Samuel F. Crabbe died last autumn in Chicago at the age of 80. Born in Wisconsin, he was graduated as a civil engineer from the University of Wisconsin and was assistant city engineer at Eau Claire, Wis., before he came to Fargo in 1891. Here he was placed in charge of Fargo's first paving job—the paving of Broadway with wooden blocks. He was Fargo city engineer 16 years, was construction engineer for the old street car company, later was consulting engineer 18 years for the Cass County Drainage Board putting in all the network of drainage ditches which now web the county.

In Fargo, Sam Crabbe bought the old Darling farm at the southeast edge of the city and soon imported seven purebred Jersey cattle from the Island of Jersey. He went on to develop one of the most outstanding Jersey herds in America and to serve for many years as president of the American Jersey Cattle Club. Climax of his career as a Jersey breeder was the development of Noble's Golden Marguerite, the Jersey cow which produced 977.69 pounds of butterfat in a year, which at that time was the greatest production record ever achieved by a North Dakota cow of any breed.

Later Mr. Crabbe divided the Darling farm into city lots, sold them and removed his Jersey herd to a farm near Detroit Lakes, Minn. He left Fargo in 1935 to serve with the state highway department in its Minot office, and later moved to Texas and Chicago.

According to Dr. C. Jensen, head of the NDAC Dairy Department, "The idea of an impressive burial for Noble's Golden Marguerite was suggested to the late Prof. J. R. Dice, then chairman of the Department of Dairy Husbandry, by the late president of the college, John H. Shepperd." Both Prof. Dice and President Shepperd were close friends of Sam Crabbe and both, as livestock men by profession, were tremendously interested in the development of Crabbe's fine Jersey herd and his outstanding high producing cow.

Sam Crabbe's tenure in Fargo had considerable influence on North Dakota Agricultural College. The force of his character gave emphasis to the dairy aspect of agricultural teaching. As an engineer, Sam Crabbe drew the plans for the present dairy building and also for the present dairy barn. Ironically, the big, high

producing Holstein cows in the college dairy barn of today are suffering a degree of discomfort and uncleanness because when Sam Crabbe drew the plans for that barn, he was thinking of Jersey cows.

Sam Crabbe's portrait was hung in the Saddle and Sirloin hall of fame at NDAC in 1925, and for several years Sam Crabbe was secretary of the Red River Valley Fair Association.

The wording on the plaque, which is scarcely observed by hurrying students or GI wives enroute for their daily milk, butter or other dairy products, reads as follows:

## COMMEMORATING THE ACHIEVEMENT

of the

### FAMOUS JERSEY COW

# Noble's Golden Marguerite

No. 366620

September 22, 1914

August 12, 1932

### A GOLD MEDAL COW

State Champion Butterfat Producer

Over All Breeds and Classes

#### Her Official Record

Four Years Old	13,315.9 lbs. milk	703.63 lbs. Fat
Seven Years Old	17,882.0 lbs. milk	977.69 lbs. Fat
Nine Years Old	17,000.0 lbs. milk	848.8 lbs. Fat
Total 3 years	48,747.9 lbs. milk	2,590.07 lbs. Fat

Bred Developed Owned by

**SAMUEL F. CRABBE, FARGO**

—JB