



★ LITTLE BLACKSTICKS    Mr Richard Dilworth ★

"From Dairy Barn we drove westward under the southern shoulder of Parlick, and coming into full view of the sombre Bleasdale Moors, arrived at Mr Richard Dilworth's Little Blacksticks Farm, to see another handsome bull in Lancelot (126382), calved on August 1st, 1914, and bred by the Warton Hall herd of Messrs E. & J. Whinnerah, at whose sale he was purchased in September last year. Here again we have another long pedigree to ensure a fixity of type. Lancelot was by Lord Mandeville (109233), and had the advantage of an excellent mother in the Rainbow cow Roan Lally 2nd, a superb dairy type that made 100gns in the same auction. His sister sold for 50gns, and if he can produce the likeness of his relatives, stock-owners will be tumbling over each other to secure nominations. A fine crop of calves are coming to him. Last year he had 83 visitors, and for the present season his engagements are already booked up. A bull of gay appearance, with a grand coat, he has width and depth, well arched rib, full thighs, a grand top line, and is beautifully balanced."

"The 145 acres under Mr Dilworth's control are embraced in three farms belonging to two owners, each of whom is a keen agriculturalist. Little Blacksticks, about 45 acres, belongs to Mr John Jump, and Middle House and Brown Brook, possessing about 100 acres between them, are the property of Mr James Jukes. On one of the last named farms a field which had probably never been ploughed within the memory of man, and was full of moss, bent, willow, and tewit nests, was prepared for cultivation, and here we have an example of what may be accomplished in the way of increasing the food supplies when there is co-operation between landlord and tenant. The owner provided the drain tiles and the tenant undertook the work of draining and carted off many a load of stones. Five acres were broken up three years ago, involving a heavy task, for the knitted turf tore like rags. Oats were sown, and except that they grew rather rank and went down a bit with the wind, justified the experiment. Mr Dilworth, who was reared on an adjoining farm, saw for the first time a yellow patch in the green and rolling country stretching between Blacksticks and the moors."

"Sixty cattle grace the pastures that are still affording a good bite, and like Mr Dewhurst, Mr Dilworth has a stock worth looking over. Prior to securing the subsidised bull, the tenant had used two bulls from Mr Rt. Cock's well known dairy herd at Rossall, and these sires have left their impress on the shapely, coloury and wealthy forms in the well-tilled fields. On average 20 cows are milked, and the cheese produced at the rate of one per day in summer are sent to Manchester. All the wye calves are reared, and from 14 to 20 are brought up annually."