our domestic breeds, lambs were obtained, which at the proper lamb age, weighed 90 to 105 pounds, with a most delicious flavor as well as the heaviest yield of mutton. We have marketed a few lambs that we were able to buy, with some of the best hotels in the South, and their testimony is right along these lines. I hope this strain may be introduced generally, because I think it would improve our Southern stock, particularly from a mutton standpoint."

"It may seem that I was taking a pretty big chance to invest so much money in an enterprise before the practicability of it had been proved," said Crawford, recently. "But it wasn't altogether a gamble. Scientists had proved that lambs resulting from the cross of Karakules on native sheep bear pelts valuable for fur. These tests, of course, were only scientific; no one had actually attempted the production of the pelts for profit. But the scientific fact seemed safe enough to me. I was willing to try it. I always have been pretty lucky in taking chances anyway. But there wasn't any doubt about the Karakule sheep thriving in this country. They are used to worse climate than can be found in this country.

"I am delighted with the results obtained so far. When it is possible for sheepmen to save and sell for $3.00 to $15.00 apiece the pelts of lambs that die or are born dead, thereby turning into profit one of the greatest sources of loss with which sheepmen have to contend, the desirability of the Karakule strain can be realized."

Persian lamb fur is the most expensive of the three kinds. To be graded in this class the lamb skins must have small, tight curls of a lustrous black. Skins which have looser, larger curls are known as astrakhan fur. When the fur shows shades of gray it is called krimmer. The pelts of lambs that are born dead or that die soon after birth are not lost. Crawford has saved every pelt so far, and no distinction is made in the prices of lambs that die and those that are killed for fur.

Several Karakule farms in Canada have been started with breeding stock obtained from the Kansas ranch. In a recent order 100 half-bloods and seven pure-bred Karakules were shipped to one Canadian fur farm.

Oregon, U. S. A. HARLAN D. SMITH.

The Movement of Pure-Bred Stock.

The amount of live stock exported from Britain during the month of August last indicates to some extent the general trend of the industry, and nature of the curtailment of exportations from European countries for some time to come. During the month mentioned 150 cattle were exported against 639 in August 1913. Shipments of sheep numbered 118 against 1,467, and pigs only amounted to 35, whereas 166 left home during August one year ago. The war cannot be considered as the sole cause of this decrease, for during the eight months ending August 31st, 1914, the number of cattle exported was 1,967, against 3,117; sheep, 2,100 against 3,148, and pigs, 344 against 674 in the same period last year.

What the outcome of subsequent events may be, cannot be foretold, yet the over-worked condition of the meat trade in the countries at war must result in a depletion of their live stock. This in turn requires the retention of breeding stock at home, and prices may become an obstacle to American importers. Meats cannot soar indefinitely in this country, for the unemployed and low-salaried laborer will not consume meat at exhorbitant prices; consumption decreases and, in sympathy with this condition, prices drop. All this will tend to curtail importation of Old Country stock.

FARM.

Old Silage.

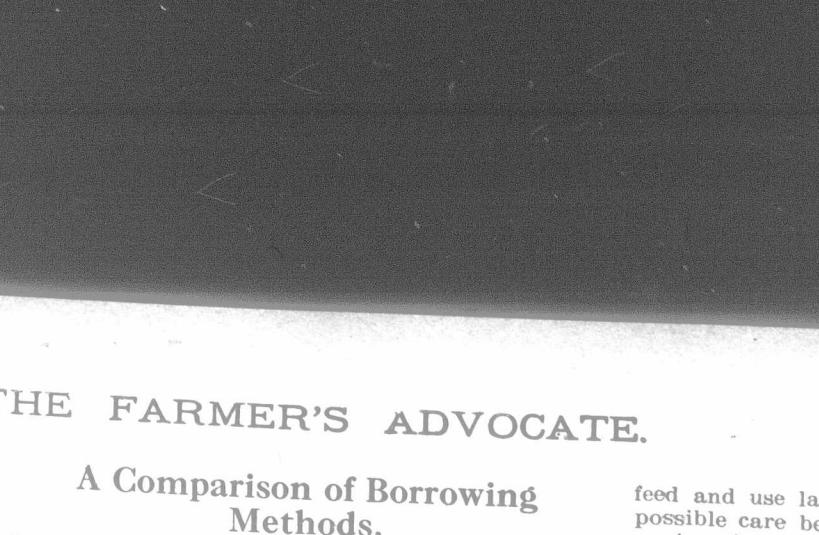
We recently read an interesting note about how long silage will keep in a silo. O. W. Righter, an Indiana farmer, has reported that he placed well-matured corn in a concrete silo fourteen years ago, and the bottom of this silo was only emptied last July. The only difference noticed between the fourteen-year-old and the one-year-old silage was that the former was slightly more acid than the latter, but the cattle ate the old equally as well as the new. Readers should note that the corn was ripe when it was placed in the silo. The silo was a home-made one with the base five feet below the surface of the ground. This fact, coupled with that of the corn being so well ripened no doubt had an important bearing on the keeping qualities of the silage.

Readers will commend our correspondent, Peter McArthur, for his generous offer in last week's article of fifty barrels of No. 1 apples for the brave Belgians. It is to be hoped others will follow his example, and that the needy people who have saved the situation may be helped as much as possible.

A Comparison of Borrowing Methods.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The other day I was reading in your reliable journal a comparison of the ordinary method of issuing mortgages on farm property with the amortization method. From the article in question the average reader would, I think, be led to infer that the latter method was superior to the former in cost for actual services rendered. I think, therefore, it should be explained more clearly, that while the amortization method may be more convenient in certain cases, depending on the ability of individual farmers to repay loans in ten annual instalments of principal besides interest, it is not actually cheaper in point of view of services rendered. In one case the farmer has

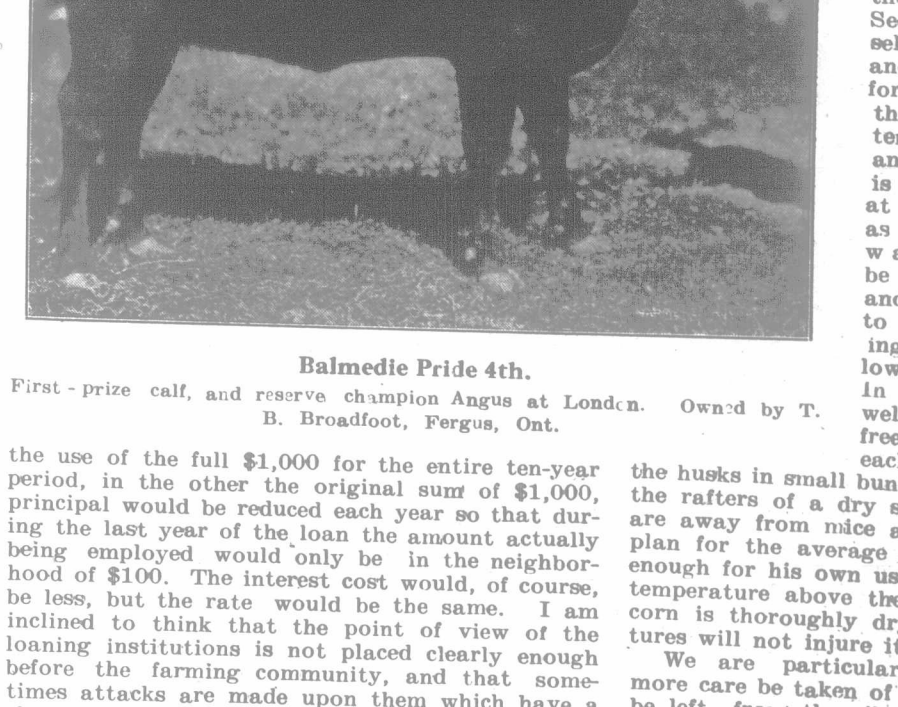


Balmedie Pride 4th.

First-prize calf, and reserve champion Angus at London. Owned by T. B. Broadfoot, Fergus, Ont.

the use of the full $1,000 for the entire ten-year period, in the other the original sum of $1,000, principal would be reduced each year so that during the last year of the loan the amount actually being employed would only be in the neighborhood of $100. The interest cost would, of course, be less, but the rate would be the same. I am inclined to think that the point of view of the loaning institutions is not placed clearly enough before the farming community, and that sometimes attacks are made upon them which have a slender basis in fact. Sympathy and knowledge are required on both sides.

Lanark Co., Ont. W. J. FLETCHER.



Hampshire Sow.

First in the yearling class at Toronto and London for Hastings Bros., Crosshill, Ont.

Saving Corn.

A short time ago we took the occasion, editorially, to advise corn growers to take the best possible care of husking corn this fall. It is very often the case on many farms where silage forms the major portion of the roughage feed for the live stock in the winter that an acre or two, possibly more, of corn is left after the silo has been filled. Quite frequently very little care is taken of this portion, and the stalks with the cobs attached are thrown over the fence to the stock or fed out of the barnyard. Also on many other farms where corn is not one of the special crops, but where a little is grown for fall feed and use later on, we would urge that every possible care be taken of both stalks and cobs.

American corn is sure to be a rather stiff price on our markets this winter. It is much higher than usual at the present time, and a poor crop over there will leave it so that most of the yield is used by the feeders on that side of the line. All classes of concentrate feeding stuffs are already high in price, and with stocker and feeder cattle, young pigs and even feeding lambs selling at an advanced price, too much care cannot be taken of the feed.

Then, many growers of corn, if they will take the trouble, might be able to greatly increase their chances of a crop another year by carefully selecting their own seed. It is a fact which has been proven time and again that by carefully selecting seed year after year from the same farm the strain of the variety being grown may be improved. This is true not only of corn but of other crops. Seed corn should be selected early and preferably from the fields before the corn is cut, but any that is left for husking, if properly husked and hung up in a dry place with the husks attached, should be all right for use next spring. One has the advantage then of being able to pick out the most matured ears, the largest ears and those most uniform in quality. Seed corn should not be selected from the corn crib, and in choosing ears to save for next spring's seeding only those on which the corn extends down well over the butts and tips should be selected. It is well in selecting also to get at least twice as much as should be required, in this way a further selection may be made at time of shelling, and there will be ample left to sow the field after discarding those cobs which show a low percentage of germination. In storing corn it is always well to see that there is a free circulation of air about each ear. Tying the ears by the husks in small bundles and hanging them from the rafters of a dry shed or granary where they are away from mice and rats is about the best plan for the average man who saves only seed enough for his own use. It should be kept at a temperature above the freezing point until the corn is thoroughly dry, after that low temperatures will not injure it.

We are particularly anxious, however, that more care be taken of the feeding corn which may be left from the silo or which may have been grown originally for the stalk feed only. There is a chance to get several bushels of first-class grain from even a small acreage, and this grain is sure to be valuable in feeding operations this fall and winter.

Two Points in Seed Selection.

Earliness, uniformity of harvest, size of crop, and quality appear to be four factors in crop production. At a time when premium is placed on quality and when earliness counts for so much, a grower will go to considerable trouble to win out over his competitor in these regards. Methods of cultivation contribute to these ends, but enough stress is not laid upon the quality of the seed used. The Agricultural Experiment Station of Vermont has recently published a bulletin wherein the results of their investigations with large and small seed and the heredity of the seed are set forth. The conclusion arrived at through this work is that under most circumstances it pays to grade the seed according to size, and pay particular attention to the percentage of the seed used. The averages of their work, especially with beans, show the largest yields when large seed, derived from plants grown for large seed, were planted, and the smallest yields when small seed derived from plants grown from small seed was used. Another interesting feature was that the yields derived from small seed produced from plants grown from large seed were better than when the small seed came of small seed and [illegible]