

Alford's Horridge Bell repeated her Somerset Show success.

Entries of South Devons numbered thirty. D. Camp's Ley Marquis, six years old, was shown in rare condition in old bulls. He is a wonderfully good specimen of massive proportions, measuring about 9ft. from head to tail, exceptionally broad and deep, characteristic head, and as good a beast as was ever shown. He was awarded first. Bulls calved in 1911, Whitley's Primley Excelsior, last year's winning yearling, led. In cows, premier award went to J. D. Ellis for Magnet, a fine cow. In 1910 heifers, D. Camp's Orange Girl, shown in good all-round condition, repeated last year's success. In the 1912 heifer class Ben Luscombe took first and third with Countess Girl and Countess Maid, the thirteen months old twins of the famous dam Countess.

For the Bath and West Show, held this time at Truro, there were 248 head of horses on view, 431 cattle, 213 sheep, and 122 pigs. Naturally, the peculiarly local breeds made representative displays. South Devon cattle simply excelled themselves. In old cows, J. D. Ellis stood first with a magnificent cow just old enough to show the matured perfection of the breed. F. B. Mildmay won in three-year-olds with his shapely heifer, Camelia 2nd. The yearling heifer class contained some astonishingly large heifers for their age. B. Butland scored with Handsome 12th, a large heifer and well put together. The Cornish prize was taken by W. E. Catley's Rose-land Gentle, with C. A. Hanson's Orange Girl reserve. Old bulls were led by J. Leach's New Year's Gift, of very great proportions, and well put together. His weight is nearly a ton and a half. There was quite a number of smart young bulls in the yearling class. First fell to B. Luscombe's Langston King, very deep, with a nice back; second to W. Tucker's Dairyman.

In Devon cattle there was a choice class of yearling heifers, the first and foremost, as well as being the best Devon in the show, for she secured one of the champion prizes offered by H. R. H., the Prince of Wales, was L. H. Alford's Horridge Belle, a heifer full of merit, with a lovely coat and nicely sprung ribs. In bulls calved in 1911 Viscount Portman was first with that lengthy, growthy, deep-set bull Marmion. He was run very close indeed by W. Brent's Ford Plumper, a very free-walking, lengthy bull, with a good middle.

Shorthorn cattle gave us a foretaste of what to expect at the Royal Show in July. A fine class of eight older bulls was headed by R. Stratton's roan, Mischief, which, since his last appearance at Newport, has filled out and let down into a very massive and masculine animal. To him fell the championship of the breed, together with the honor of reserve for the Prince of Wales' cup. In a good class of two-year-old bulls another surprise was in store, for, contrary to expectations, Mr. Hosken's Damory Landmark met with defeat by Lord Fitzhardinge's Aldsworth Pride, a very massive and well-fleshed roan of rather light hue. Lord Fitzhardinge won again in the yearling class with Brave Marquis, a lengthy roan, by Stranraer Marquis, possessing well-sprung ribs and plenty of range.

Hereford's were forward in great style, and a feature was the success of G. Butters in the bull classes. His old bull Sailor King won the championship, and his Charity, a very fine bull, led a fine lot of two-year-olds. Hughes showed the winning yearling bull. Cooke-Hill was equally successful in the cow and heifer classes, taking the first prize and the championship with Shelsley Primula, and first prize for yearling heifers. The Sailor King spoken of is a massive son of the Royal champion Sailor Prince, bred and owned by G. Butters. To him went not only the championship, but also the crowning triumph of the Prince of Wales' cup as the best bull of any breed in the show.

Seven yearling Aberdeen-Angus heifers took some sorting out before Mr. Prior was given first and subsequently silver medal for Persepha, a shapely and sweet heifer by Everlasting of Ballindalloch. A clear winning amongst three bulls calved before December, 1911, was Sir George Cooper's Bandalier of Hurstey, which has filled out and furnished into a grandly impressive bull of great scope, yet full of quality. He was awarded the gold medal. Mr. J. E. Quesed won the principal prizes in Romney Marsh sheep. In the Southdown classes Sir J. Colman won three first prizes, and Lady Wernher one.

Captain J. A. Morrison was the most successful exhibitor of Hampshire Downs, taking three first prizes and a second.

For Oxford Downs James Horlick took the lead in the shearing ram class, and J. T. Hobbs in the ewe and lamb classes. The principal prize-takers for Dorset Horns were Sir E. A. Hambro, Merson and Son, and A. Johnson; for Dorset Downs, Eden and Watson and Wood Homer; for Exmoors, P. Smyth and D. J. Tapp; and H. L. Kingsford; and for Dartmoors, Johns & Sons, H. Northley, and Rose. In Devon Longwools R. Cook and F. White shared leading

awards, and in South Devons J. Stooke and J. S. Hallett scored.

The Huntingdonshire County Exhibition has grown quite famous for its Shires. Two-year-old stallions saw F. W. Griffin's Boro' Vulcan lead. Mares suckling foals were topped by Griffin's five-year-old Menestrel Forest Queen, a well furnished mare, with good legs and feather. Filly foals were a promising collection, and here Griffin won with a well-made bay by Redlynch Forest King, which subsequently secured the champion prize for best foal in show. In a nice lot of three-year-old fillies first went to T. Gee's shapely Wrydelands Sunstar, full of quality and a free mover. The female champion prize fell to Griffin's Menestrel Forest Queen with Rowell's Lady Superior reserve. The gold medal went to the same animal.

London, England.

G. T. BURROWS.

THE FARM.

Alfalfa in Kent County.

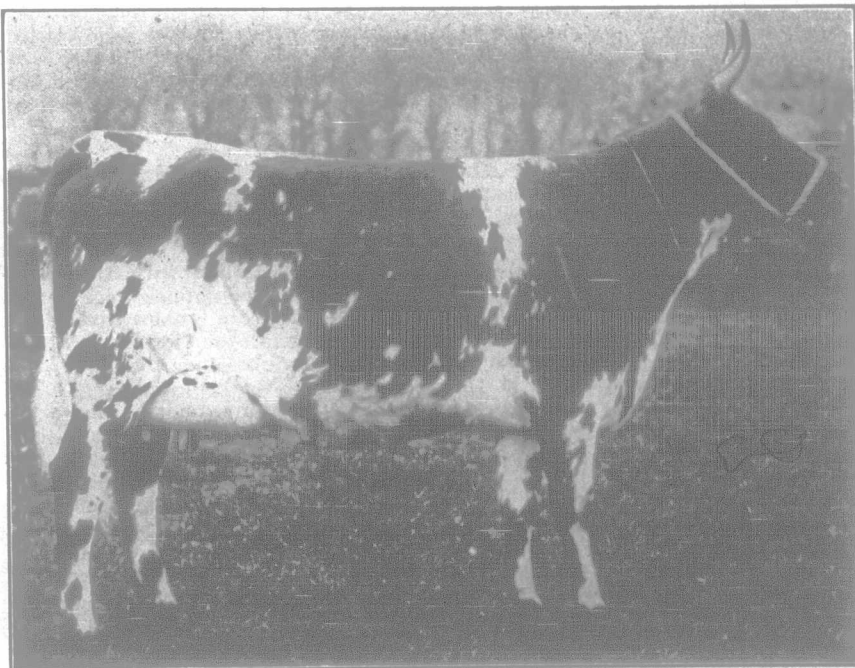
Editor "The Farmer's Advocate."

In the year 1911 the field was tile-drained, four rods apart. It was put into corn and kept perfectly clean. Not one weed was left in it. We didn't plow it any more, but in the spring of 1912 we gave it a double turn of the disk harrows, a single stroke of the drag harrows, drilled a bushel and a peck of barley per acre, sowed 20 lbs. of alfalfa per acre. Give it a single stroke of the drag harrow, harvested 66 bushels of barley per acre. In the fall of 1912 cut a ton and a half of alfalfa per acre, and now the field is all lying down. None in blossom yet, but we are going to cut it on June 20th.

It lies to the road, and everybody admired the lovely field.

Kent Co., Ont.

WM. PRATT.



Meikle Kilmory Perfection.

Winner of Derby, and female champion at Ayr Show, in Scotland.

Fungi in Soils.

"The need is urgent," says C. N. Jensen, of Cornell University, in a recent bulletin, "for a study of the fungi in soils generally recognized as sick to some particular crop, as well as of the relation of these fungi to crop rotations, fertilizers and fungicides. Do not the debris of the crops in the rotation serve as excellent pabula for the fungi that produce the disease in question? Which crops are of this nature? What effect on the soil fungi results from the addition of various kinds of fertilizers? Is the application of fungicides such as sulfur effective in changing the fungous flora? If so, in what way? These are but a few of the questions that need elucidation."

Feeding Value of Alfalfa.

The United States Department of Agriculture gives alfalfa hay the following rating: \$20.16 per ton as compared with red clover at \$14.12, timothy hay at \$9.80 and wheat bran at \$22.80. While we consider the disparity somewhat exaggerated, there is no question but that alfalfa hay is decidedly superior in feeding quality to red clover. It pays to take pains in saving such valuable feed, especially to preserve the leaves, which are the richest portion.

It has been found in New York State that an application of lime, about a ton to the acre, almost invariably benefits certain of the leguminous crops, alfalfa in particular. In Bulletin 313 of

the Geneva Experiment Station are given some interesting results on the benefit of lime for alfalfa. Of sixty-four alfalfa fields, well distributed over the State, only eleven were successful without lime, and all the fields except six were improved by the addition of lime.

THE DAIRY.

The art of milking is considered as being on a level with pumping water, observes the Maritime Farmer, with a neat touch of humor. Just so. And that is one reason among several why there are so many low-producing cows. Ordinary milking is about as skilful as pumping. Expert milking is quite another matter. Try to be an expert milker.

The five-year-old Holstein-Friesian cow, Spring Farm Pontiac Lass, whose seven-day and thirty-day official records were given in "The Farmer's Advocate" of May 29th, has broken another world's record, according to the Holstein-Friesian Register. In a ninety-days' test, under direction of experts from Cornell Agricultural College, she yielded 6,786.8 pounds of milk, testing 5.17 per cent of butter-fat. This is more in three months than many cows give in a year.

POULTRY.

Fresh Ground for Poultry.

If human beings were confined in small prison yards with no sanitary conveniences, fifty or a hundred persons together in a space only three or four times larger than sufficient to give them all standing room, compelled to eat their food off

ground soiled by their own alimentary secretions, how long would they retain their health? The horror of it would appeal. Yet something quite similar is practiced by many poultry keepers who wonder why their chicks die of dysentery, cholera, tuberculosis, gapes, and other diseases. Common sense should indicate the reason, but apparently it doesn't, for they fail to remedy the conditions until a devastating outbreak of disease occurs and the expert from whom advice is sought counsels change of quarters as an absolute necessity. How much better would prevention be? Chicken coops should be moved once a day, also the wire-netting pens or yards in which brooder chicks are confined. It is surprising how much better the chicks will thrive under this rational treatment and how much less disease will

develop. It is best for the chicks to have access both to grass and to cultivated ground, the former to supply vegetable food, and the latter insects. It is not always feasible to give both, however, while the brooder chicks are still confined in their portable pens. As between the two we believe it is better to yard the young chicks on a grass run where the grass is short. Later when they are large enough to run at large they will probably do better with their roosting pens adjoining cultivated ground, such as a corn field, or a well-worked orchard. To these observations of our own we wish to add a few well put paragraphs by N. E. Chapman, a poultry specialist of Minnesota. His advice is especially applicable where many chicks are kept on a small space and where grass runs are not available.

"On most farms feed for the flock is scattered about on the ground, and the chickens are continually fed within a small space. The surface of the ground soon becomes foul with the droppings of the flock. True, the sunshine acts as a germicide, and if the space is at all sloping the washing of the rain helps some, but generally the spot is level and often muddy. The ground quickly becomes contaminated with the continual tramping of the flock, and if there be one sick fowl many may soon become infected. This is especially true with small chicks and young turkeys. The first advice given in cases of general loss is 'change your feed place.' It is often impossible to find another location so convenient and accessible."