

LIVE STOCK.

Give the young pigs plenty of "slop" feed. As they grow substitute more solid rations.

"As a four-cylinder hindrance and handicap to the progress of any farmer, there is nothing that can beat a poor cow," says Hoard's Dairyman most truly. "But that is not the worst of it. There is no other affection and attachment known on earth, not even the love of man for woman, that can equal the clinging adherence of some farmers to their poor and profitless cows."

In selecting a brood sow it is always worth while to pick one from a prolific dam, and one with a large number of teats. Each pig farrowed at a litter must eventually have a teat of his own from which to nurse, or he dies, or at best is a bad "runt." No class of farm stock stamps its female offspring with its own proclivities regarding prolificacy to a greater extent than does the sow.

As summer advances into autumn care should be taken if possible not to allow the stock to graze the pastures down so close as to leave no winter protection. Leaving the grass roots too much exposed in a cold climate like ours causes injury to them which means a late and comparatively slow growth next spring. Move the stock from field to field occasionally where practicable, and get more and better pasture and leave a better winter covering.

Choose the breed you have a fancy for, or like better than any other, but have also an economic reason. Choose one which is sure to make cash returns under proper management. It is well to understand something about the breed and the more the better. It is also well to be more familiar with your choice than the young couple who moved from the city to the farm and selected Rhode Island Red poultry because red was his favorite color, and her father came from Rhode Island. Know why you make a selection.

Weeds seem to be encroaching on many of the old pasture fields. They drain on the fertility of the land, and shade and crowd the grass so as to do unlimited injury. Many pastures could be profitably mowed over to prevent weeds seeding, and a spud could be used to good advantage in many instances. All things considered, where the land can with a reasonable amount of work be brought under cultivation, breaking up and re-seeding after the land has been thoroughly worked and cleaned, is most advisable in many cases. A better and cleaner stand of grass results.

If intending to found a flock of sheep study the differences which appear in the teeth of the sheep according to age. Never buy a ewe which has a "poor mouth," that is, one which has lost a large number of her teeth. The difference between permanent and temporary incisors is marked. The first pair of permanent incisors appear when the lamb is about a year old, and they attain full growth in a few months. A second pair, one on each side of the first two, appear when the sheep is about two years old. When the sheep is slightly over three years old a third two appear, and the last or fourth pair come soon after the sheep is four years of age, a full mouth being usually formed at five years. As the sheep grows older the teeth show wider and wider apart, and as this goes on the animal has greater difficulty in eating. Some ewes have lost most of their teeth at seven to eight years of age, while others do well for a few years longer.

Silage and Corn Stover.

At the Nebraska Experiment Station H. R. Smith conducted tests to determine the relative value of silage and shredded corn stover (stalks) for cattle feeding. In order to determine the amount of stover fed each steer, it was necessary to husk the corn from the stalk, and as the cattle were kept in the barn, shredded stover was more convenient although more expensive.

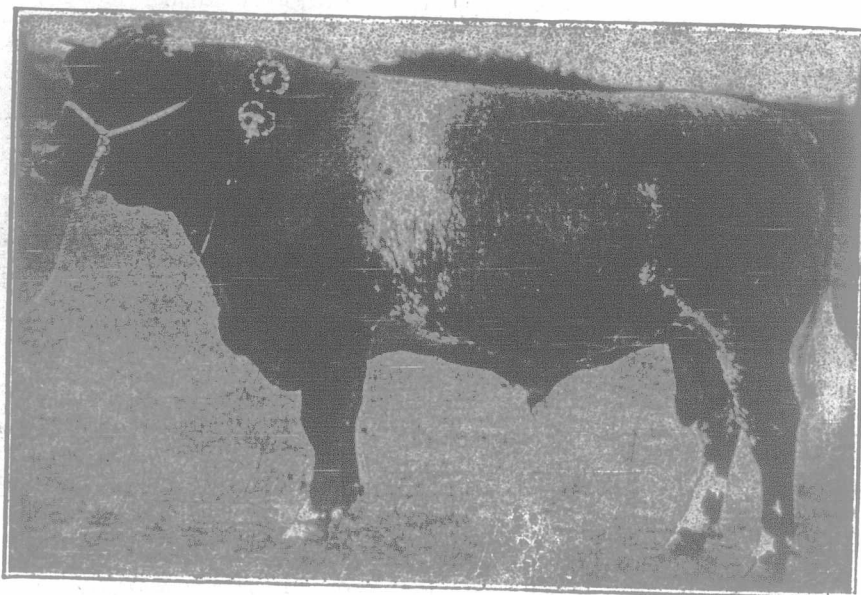
The use of bundle-corn, however, would greatly reduce the cost, as it can be harvested and shocked as easily as the ears alone can be husked from the stalk and cribbed. During the fall and early winter the use of bundle-corn, containing ears, might prove as profitable as the use of silage.

In sections where enough grass cannot be grown to carry the number of cattle wanted through the year, but where a large tonnage of corn can be grown on a relatively small acreage, the silo will become an important factor for use in summer as well as in winter.

Notes from Australia.

PROLONGED LACTATION PERIODS.

How long will a cow milk? It is a question which is being answered in an interesting way in Australia. There are quite a number of candidates for the record-milking stakes. The competition began by the publication of a paragraph to the effect that a cow at Clifton, belonging to a Mr. Bishop, had been continuously in milk for a period of six years, starting the long spell with her second calf at four years of age. Each spring she brightens up her flow and is soon in the flush again, gradually easing off till the winter is over. The next claimant for the record was a cow belonging to Mr. M'Shane, of Asel-



Woodend Stamp.

Champion Shorthorn bull, at the Royal Show, Bristol, England, 1913.

hide, which has been going continuously for ten years, with no signs of cessation, and is still averaging six pounds of butter per week. Mr. Bishop, of Lime Not, Walmer, N. S. W., puts in his claim with a cow which has been milking without a break for eight years, two years behind the last case. Unlike the other animals, however, she has given birth to five calves during the time. The surprising part of this case is that the arrival of the calf on each occasion has not made any difference to the character or quality of the milk other than to slightly increase the quantity just before and after calving. The owner claims that the cow will average one pound

Glen Innes, N.S.W., farmer got £2,500 for his potato crop, this off 80 acres. From 22 acres at Kooweerup swamp, Vic., a farmer's potato crop was worth £850. A cob of maize which won the prize at the recent Casino show weighed 1½ lbs. It contained 935 grains. Lucerne (alfalfa) grown at Tamworth, N.S.W., sold this season up to £8 per ton. It was in small bales pressed by the bundle press. Mr. Rutler, of Canowindra, during a year got 10 cuts of lucerne, and but for shortage of labor would have got another.

A TEST STANDARD FOR HERD BOOKS.

The Australian stock-breeding societies are favoring a test standard for the herd books, the entries in these to be made the basis of entry for the shows. The movement, which is revolutionary as compared to the old fancy show-type system in dairy cattle, is being favorably considered by the various societies. The same breeders are discouraging the cross-breeding craze for producing dairy cows.

ROTATION AND YIELDS.

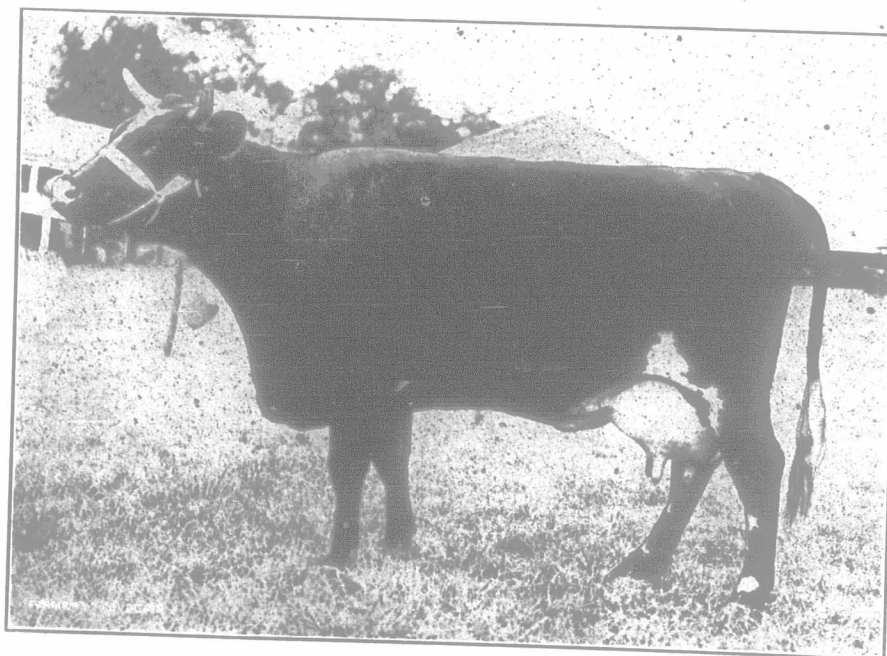
Tests have proved in New South Wales that wheat has shown a steady decline in yield where there has been no systematic attempt to spell the land, as against those sections where a fodder crop has been grown in a rotation. An official report shows that the averages for the first three years on the best of the unmanured plots where wheat was grown every year was 21 bushels, but for the last two years the return was less than eight bushels. Fallow land for the first three years gave an average of 26 bushels, and for the last two years slightly under 20 bushels. Where fodder crops were grown every alternate year the average for the first three years was 27 bushels, and for the last two just under 22 bushels. The use of fertilizers in all these sections was amply justified by results. In some cases the average was raised by four bushels to the acre.

FAST WORK IN FRUIT PACKING.

Richard Leitch and Walter Page engaged in a fruit-packing contest at Huonville (Tas.) for a wager of £20 a side. Page secured a lead shortly after starting and held it to the finish. He worked with a sloping bench, and his rival worked from a flat bench. Page completed his 50 cases in 1 h. 30 min. and 16 sec., and Leitch 1 h. 54 min. 38 sec. The winner's time worked out at a little over two minutes per case.

TO EXPERIMENT WITH PRICKLY PEAR.

A couple of American chemists have come to Australia under the belief that they have a good thing on in regard to the prickly pear country in Queensland where there are twelve million acres given over to the pest. O. C. Roberts, of California, has signed an agreement with the Government to eradicate the pear within ten years off 100,000 acres if he gets the freehold of the land when he completes his task. He is to begin operations by May of next year. His plan of treatment will be to cut roads through the pear jungle and then use these roads for carts which will carry gas sprays, the fumes of which, he says, will destroy the plant to the roots. As he clears portions of the block he will be given farms. The other speculator is Mr. Rassmussen, also of California, who has just arrived, and he says he intends to do some wonderful things with the spiny curse—make paper pulp, sugar, fibre, spirits, and other commercial articles out of it. He is also going to convert it into fodder



Heather Queen 3rd.

Dairy Shorthorn cow, 2nd at Royal Show. Yield of milk, 41½ lbs. of butter throughout the year. Naturally he refuses to part with the animal.

SOME BIG RECORDS.

A few points as to return and yields and records. At Narre Warren, Vic., apples this season have given a yield of £100 per acre. Twenty-three acres of canning peaches at Bairnsdale, in the same state, gave 253 tons of fruit. Between November of 1910 and March of this year a cow belonging to Mr. Kopp, of Peak Hill, N.S.W., produced four lots of twin calves. Seven of them are alive. A hide was recently sold at Brisbane for 14½d. per lb. It weighed 77 lbs., and after tare was taken off it was worth £4 8s. 6d., claimed to be a record price for Australia. A