

effect upon grubs that have entered the sinuses. To get at these is a difficult matter. One plan is to lay the affected sheep upon its side and then pour one teaspoonful of benzine into the lowest nostril, which is held in such a way as to allow of this being done. The nostril is then closed by the fingers for half a minute or so, and the operation afterward repeated on the other nostril, the sheep having been turned upon its other side. Fumigating with burning sulphur also is practiced by some shepherds, and said to be fairly effective.

Valuable sheep may be operated upon with a fair degree of success for grubs that have entered the frontal sinuses. In horned sheep, the opening is made by means of a three-quarter-inch trephine introduced at one side of the base of the horn, or the horn may be sawn off close to the head. Benzine then is injected into the sinus, and following it warm water is copiously injected by means of a syringe to wash out the grubs by way of the nostril. In hornless sheep, the places to trephine are found by drawing a line with colored chalk from one eyebrow to the other across the face, and running a second line down the face to exactly intersect the middle of the first line. The trephining places then are located in the two upper angles of the cross thus formed. To operate, the skin is first cleansed, and then is dissected back from the skull, until a place sufficiently large to accommodate the end of the trephine has been laid bare. The trephine then is used like an auger to remove a wad-like disc of bone, through which benzine is injected into the sinus, and afterward water is freely used, as already stated, for the expulsion of the grubs. When this has been accomplished, the skin-flap is brought back over the trephine wound, held in place by a stitch or two, and then a pitch plaster is put over the part, and that suffices in the way of after treatment. The operation scarcely pays in common sheep, and seldom is needed where sheep are generously fed upon grain and hay, as a vast majority of the affected sheep escape having the grubs penetrate into the sinuses of their heads, and in time, if well nourished, get rid of their pests by sneezing and the discharges characteristic of the condition.

The chief facts to remember in this connection are the importance of generous feeding of sheep, the prevention of attack by use of tar mixtures during time of fly attacks, and then the destruction of each grub discovered upon the ground where affected sheep are kept.—[Live-stock Report.

BRIGHTER PROSPECTS FOR THE STOCK-CATTLE TRADE.

The two auction sales of Shorthorns, held in Western Canada in June, namely, Hon. Thos. Greenway's and Messrs. A. & G. Mutch's, besides some good private sales by breeders, indicate that the interest in pure-bred cattle breeding and in stock-raising generally is reviving. Prices realized at these sales were somewhat higher than those that have prevailed in recent years for cattle of the same quality, and that in spite of the fact that stock-raising has undergone one of the severest tests to which it has been subjected for many years by the extremely severe winter the West has come through. Doubtless the cattle trade in Canada is benefited by the rising tide and buoyant tone of the pure-bred cattle market in the States, and apart from that, there appears to be a steady tendency among our own farmers to devote more attention to stock-raising. Market prices for commercial cattle are doing a lot toward encouraging this tendency. As high as five and a half cents per pound live weight has been paid on the Toronto market for good butchers' cattle, and six for exporters, and that is what makes feeding attractive.

The improvement in the trade comes at a time when the breeding industry needs assurance. The men who have persisted in raising cattle during the years when the public appeared to be quite indifferent to the value of stock of any kind, are deserving of considerable compensation. It requires courage and no small amount of confidence and cash to persist in raising cattle for the betterment of the general average when the country appears to regard the products of the stables and byres as unnecessary to their welfare. The hope is that such a time is now passed; that from now on there will be a steady demand for cattle of a class that will tend to provide meat at the least possible cost to the feeder, and, to accomplish this, breeding stock that have this characteristic largely developed are required in every herd.

MORE PRAISE FOR MUSLIN-CURTAIN VENTILATION.

I have used the muslin in stable windows one winter used a thin, unbleached muslin, simply tacked in; had part glass and part muslin. It gives good, pure air without a draft. It would probably last two seasons. The stable is drier when muslin is used. It is better in every way to have part of windows with muslin.

D. H. BINGHAM.

Corland Co., N. Y.

RECOLLECTIONS OF A SHEPHERD.

THE UPS AND DOWNS OF TRADE.

Trade in pure-bred sheep, as in cattle, horses and other stock, has had its ups and downs, its periods of prosperity and depression in market values, but not more frequently or to greater extremes. Time was, along in the seventies, when the best end of a crop of ram lambs could be sold readily for \$50 to \$75 each at six months old, and exhibitors at the big Provincial fairs did a cash business almost equal to that of a departmental store in these days, having, at the end of the day, little idea what amount of money they had crammed into their trousers-pockets, till they had straightened out the bills after supper and counted it over. I remember selling a home-bred Cotswold ram lamb for \$125 to that big-hearted man, the late Col. Tyrwhitt, M. P., of Simcoe County, and I recall his good-natured remark that it was expensive lamb, but it suited him and he wanted it. But no wonder sheep were at fever heat, when, in 1872, creek-washed wool of the long-wooled breeds was eagerly sought for at 60 to 65 cents a pound, and so anxious were buyers to secure it that they sent agents into the country to contract with farmers for their wool months ahead of shearing time. In that year we sold our wool for 50 cents a pound, unwashed, while yet on the sheep's backs, and I proudly rode to town on a load of wool that was sold for \$560, the one year's clip of the flock on my father's farm. It would have taken a good many loads of wheat or barley to have brought in as much money, and wool is a crop you don't have to summer-fallow for, and a crop you don't look for on any other class of stock. That was when we had practically free trade with our neighbors of the United States, which was our principal market for wool, as it is

tion, "Who pays the duty?" A party of importers of pure-bred stock had warmly debated the question on the voyage over the ocean, and when they landed at Quebec the man who had most keenly upheld the protectionist theory that the duty comes out of the seller, and who had brought over a donkey in the shipment, was indignantly protesting when informed by the customs officials that that class of stock was not on the free list, and that duty must be paid on it. "Hoots mon," said that canny Scot, the late James I. Davidson, who loved a good joke, "what are you complainin' about, sure you don't have to pay the duty, it's the other fellow that pays that."

But this is a wide digression from the ups and downs in the sheep trade, which, while it was pretty low down a few years ago, is now on the crest of a wave of substantial prosperity, and the country is being scoured by buyers in search of sheep at good paying prices, while the pity is that we have few to sell, many of our farmers having become discouraged and parted with their flocks, because the price of wool—a crop that costs nothing to grow—had gone low for a season. Do farmers forget that fifteen years ago horses that ten years before were booming in price had gone down so low that they could hardly be given away, and a team such as would sell for \$400 to-day could then have been bought for one-fourth of the money; and that Shorthorn cattle that sold ten years ago for as high as \$1,000 have since gone slow at a quarter of that price, and that both these classes of stock have had such ups and downs more than once in the recollection of men not far beyond the age of three-score years? During all these years, the men who have stayed with the class of stock they understand, and which has done fairly well for them in the average of years, are the best off to-day.

With common lambs, that cost little to raise, selling to-day at more per pound than three-year-old cattle, and with a greater demand for lamb and mutton than any other meat, because of its palatability and wholesomeness, Canadian farmers, who have a climate and soil and feed as well suited for raising sheep as any on the face of the earth, and with fewer diseases or other handicaps to the business than in any other country, it seems to me, stand in their own light, and miss a splendid opportunity for making money easily, with little labor, in not keeping sheep, a small flock of which might profitably be kept on nearly every one-hundred



Judging Southdowns at the Royal Show, '07.

yet, and whatever may have been the truth in the erstwhile spirited discussion of the then red-hot question of free trade versus protection, the farmers of this country certainly had no reasonable kick coming when they were getting sixty cents a pound for wool and a dollar a bushel for barley owing to the open door in their neighbor's yard. When, in after years, prices for wool ran down grade till it had reached the depth of a York shilling a pound, and some silly sheep-raisers, with a protectinal bug in their lug, appealed to the Canadian Government for a tariff on wool, that shrewd politician, Sir John A. Macdonald, knowing there was practically no wool of the class we were raising being imported into this country, said: "Certainly, if the farmers want it, they should have it." And promptly a tariff of a few cents a pound on long wool was granted, and some farmers fancied they were made happy, although scarcely a pound of that class of wool was in competition with theirs. Now the farmers on the other side of the line are getting 33 cents for wool that we are selling for less than half that price, and no doubt the political economists who asked for a tariff here will claim that the American tariff protects their wool-growers against Canadian competition, although all the wool we have to sell amounts to no more than a drop in the bucket of the market over there. And simple Canadian farmers in the last few years have sold their sheep for a song to wide-awake Americans, who got the wool through duty-free on the sheep's backs, and sold it for half as much as the sheep cost them. There might possibly be a lesson for farmers in a survey of this situation, but for the blinding influence of partyism prevailing. And this reminds me of an incident that occurred in the time when discussion was hot over the ques-

acre farm, to the improvement of the land, and with little interference with other lines of live-stock raising. For sheep-raising, no costly buildings are required, no daily cleaning of stables, nor tying up and letting loose; no milking or churning or cleaning of cans and pans. Sheep will live and prosper where other stock would starve, and they make no complaint even if water be not provided for them—happy, contented, harmless, uncomplaining, owing no man anything, always paying their own way, and a profit to their owners in semi-annual dividends, a crop of wool and a crop of lambs, who can truthfully say there is not money in sheep-raising? For a sure thing for profit, with the least labor, taking the years as they come, with summers wet or dry and winters mild or stormy, the writer, from long and satisfactory experience, doffs his hat to the humble sheep, so singularly neglected by the majority of Canadian farmers, and claims, without fear of successful contradiction, that, considering cost of production and gain of weight for food consumed, and for price current per pound in the world's markets, they stand at the head of all meat-producing quadrupeds, plus the wool they produce, which is equal to found money.

"SHEPHERD."

Not for many years has the demand for breeding sheep for the United States been so active as at the present time. Dealers are scouring the Province of Ontario, buying largely of rams, and also of young ewes, wherever they can persuade breeders to sell; and the pity is that when such a chance for profitable business presents itself, our farmers have so few sheep to sell. To part with the best of the young ewes is surely unwise.