

from, besides the knowledge pertaining to sheep that each student should carry home with him.

Let me formulate a plan, crude though it may be, whereby this could be accomplished. We have nine distinct breeds in this Province. Suppose each College selects, say, five typical lambs of each breed, either ewes or wethers, each year, and keep them until they are yearlings off. This would mean that there would be a flock of 90 head during part of each year after the first. Representatives of each breed could then be used in the classroom for the students' benefit, also for the farmers' short course in judging, and should be of untold benefit to the many thousand excursionists who visit the College during the month of June. Right here I would say that, in order to make the best impression upon excursionists, the breeds should be kept separate during June, as all varieties of sheep grouped together present a mottled appearance, no matter how good the individuals. Ten acres of good pasture, fenced into nine lots, temporarily, would be sufficient for the occasion. After the yearlings are done with in the classroom, etc., they could be marketed as seemed best. If ewes were selected, they should be sold in time for mating; if wethers, they could be slaughtered at the Winter Fair, for comparison only, not for competition. Or, what would probably be better, would be to slaughter a few of each breed, and keep the remainder for the short judging course in January, and then send them to an abattoir, and have them reported upon. A report from the Colleges as to cost of maintenance, etc., should be of great value, as well; or the sheep could be slaughtered for the College dining-room, and thereby cultivate among the students an appetite for good, wholesome meat, which would be a good thing for the students, as well as for Ontario generally.

In concluding my rambling remarks on this very important subject, I might say I have no objection to lessening or increasing the number of head I have named, but I would like to have a free and friendly discussion upon the principle laid down to find out what farmers, students and professors really think is best.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

R. H. HARDING.

Horses Versus Cattle.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The Brant Township Farmers' Club has again been braced, and, after a short sleep of the summer months, is going to awake a stronger club than ever. Last year we had a membership of 32, and all indications are that this year our membership will be greatly increased. We have had a number of very good meetings, consisting of debates and discussions on various subjects, and much valuable information has been passed on. The benefit derived from Farmers' Clubs is not only learning from others, but it is also an incentive towards self-education, which is in the end by far the most important. To know for yourself because you have thought it out to your own satisfaction, is of far more benefit to you than to have it told to you. This sort of education will bring independence, while to have things told fosters dependence. The reason that farmers are coming more to the front is because they are getting to be more of a thinking community. Former-

ly, their activity consisted mostly of physical hard labor; but now, when a little mental exercise is mixed with the labor, we find it much easier to get along. To know why we do certain things goes a great way to making work take on the form of play, and we will always find that the more mind-stuff we mix with our work, the easier it is performed; at least, it seems so, because we are interested in it. The more we know of the laws of nature, the more pleasure we derive from working in harmony with these laws.

Not only is our Club trying to help us in agricultural matters, but it has also taken up a lighter and perhaps just as important a branch as the agricultural, namely, that of entertainment and culture. We are trying to make our Club one of all-round development, with special stress, however, on agriculture. A good farmer should be developed on physical, intellectual and moral lines, and, of course, on spiritual lines, too, but we have not yet seen fit to incorporate this feature.

The annual meeting of our Club was held on the evening of November 11th, and a very pleasant time was passed. The meeting was enlivened by several solos and instrumental duets, and everybody pronounced it a splendid success. After the auditor's report and the minutes of the last meeting were adopted, the previous officers were again elected. The balance of the evening was spent listening to a debate on the subject, "Resolved, that raising horses is more desirable than raising cattle."

The debate was well contested, and some very good points were presented on both sides, but many of them lost much of their value because of imperfect presentation. The points on the affirmative could be briefly summed up as follows:

1. The feed that we raise for horses is easier on the land than what we raise for cattle.
2. Horses are a necessity for farm work.
3. More pleasure can be derived from raising horses than from raising cattle.
4. There is more recreation in preparing and training a horse for market than for preparing a steer. One is a pleasure, while the other is work.
5. There is far more heavy labor in raising food for cattle than there is in raising food for horses.

6. Cattle require the grain to be ground, while horses do not. This requires, first, the time, and also the charge for chopping.

7. Dairying perhaps pays better than raising horses, but it requires a great deal more labor.

8. High prices of individual horses cannot be touched by prices of cattle.

9. Horses show more life than cattle, and are, therefore, more fascinating.

On the negative side, the following points were scored:

1. Statistics show that there are a great many more cattle raised than horses, which should go a long way to prove that cattle pay better than horses.

2. When a steer is fit for the market there is always a ready sale, but a horse is not so easily sold.

3. In breeding horses, the calf is the only object; while, with cattle, the main object is milk, and the calf is secondary, and may be regarded as clear profit.

4. The horse is subject to more serious ailments than the cow.

5. A horse with a serious accident, such as a broken leg, is only worth his hide, while a cow is always worth her value as beef.

6. It requires a great deal more care to raise a colt than to raise a calf.

7. Cattle can be wintered over more cheaply than horses.

8. The good old ox team has never been known to balk; this cannot be said of the horse.

9. The horse that produces the high prices is so little thought of in many colleges that they have no place on the curriculum.

10. More colts die than calves, and,

11. Because colts are more valuable than calves, we lose more in such event by raising colts than by raising calves.

12. The country makes more money exporting cattle and dairy produce than exporting horses.

13. The average price of horses sold in Ontario during a certain year brought 10 per cent. profit over their average valuation before they were sold, while the average price of cattle sold in Ontario during the same year brought 39 per cent. profit over the average valuation before they were sold.

Affirmative points criticised by negative side:

1. Horses are not a necessity. Oxen can do all farm work. Horses are becoming obsolete. The automobile, traction engine and flying machines are taking their place.

2. It was pointed out that just as much pleasure can be derived in caring for cattle as for horses.

3. The horses that produce the high prices are race-horses, and these horses have the tendency of drawing humanity downwards, while cattle build humanity up.

Negative points criticised by affirmative side:

1. Although cattle can be used for work, they are too clumsy and unsatisfactory.

The decision of the judges was in favor of the cattle. At our next meeting we will discuss "The most important improvement I intend to make during the coming year."

Bruce Co., Ont.

A. E. WAHN, Sec.-Treas.

THE FARM.

Countries that Grow Clover for Seed.

What countries besides Canada and the United States grow clover for seed purposes? Is it grown successfully in any of the countries of South America, or Europe, and, also, is it grown to any extent in Australia? Also, can you tell me, in order of merit, which produces the most alsike-clover seed? What I wish to know, if I can get the information, is what countries besides Canada and the United States grow alsike clover seed; that is, harvest it, and sell the seed? And I presume all countries that produce alsike-clover seed will likewise produce profitably all other kinds of clover seed. W. D.

Red clover for seed purposes is grown to a limited extent in almost all countries having a temperate climate. It is grown in quantity for commerce in Canada, the United States, Great Britain, France, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Austria-Hungary, Russia, northern Italy, Switzerland, Chili in South America, New Zealand and Australia. The quantity of red clover grown in Australia for seed is as yet not extensive. Only in exceptional years do they have red clover seed for export.

Alsike clover is used to a greater or less extent as a fodder plant, and is also harvested for seed in practically all countries with a temperate climate. The principal countries which produce alsike clover seed in quantity for commerce are Canada, the United States, France, Germany, Great Britain, Austria-Hungary, Scandinavia, Russia, Switzerland, and northern Italy. Until recent years, the Toronto market was commonly said to control the world's prices for alsike clover seed. The Chicago market is now scarcely second to that of Toronto, except in the matter of the quality of the seed. Canadian-grown alsike and red clover seeds are free from dodder, because of which they command a premium in European markets. I learned in Hamburg, Germany, which is one of the largest distributing centers in the world for grass and clover seeds, that, when compared with the quantity of alsike seed from America (in which the dealers do not make a sharp differentiation between Canada and the United States), the amount of alsike seed available from any one other country was inconsiderable.

Ottawa.

GEO. H. CLARK,
Seed Commissioner.

"The Farmer's Advocate" is a welcome visitor, eagerly read by old and young. I think, if the suggestions you and your correspondents advocate were put into practice, Ontario might make a better showing. We are not producing what we might or should do. Several reasons could be given. JAMES GREEN

Wellington Co., Ont.



Devon Steer, Favorite.

First in class, and champion Devon, Smithfield, 1909. Exhibited by His Majesty the King.