

think, in introducing a sire into the whole flock, without first testing his suitability, by using him on a few ewes selected with great care, the breeder having in his mind a well-defined ideal of the proper type to be established in his flock. Continued perseverance on these lines will be a great factor towards bringing about that uniformity of character so much to be desired. The second point I notice is a lack of sufficient weeding out of the flock all animals which do not come up to the proper standard of the breed; also all young and breeding animals are not sufficiently induced to lie out of doors by providing for them sheltered, well littered, roomy yards, where they can lie down through the day—in fact, you will find many that will prefer lying outside during the night, except in stormy weather. This I consider very conducive to the raising of vigorous, healthy stock, and the development of robustness of constitution, which, combined with large growth of fleece and aptitude to fatten, symmetry and fecundity, should be the flockmaster's aim and ideal. Tups of this class and character will find a ready sale anywhere, and the breeder will find he cannot afford to breed or sell poor specimens of his breed. Carefully bred stock will bring millions of money into the pockets of the farmers of this country, and furnish healthy, delightful and profitable employment for the young farmer who now seeks employment in towns and cities.

The third weak point I wish to name is breeding from excessively fat animals, which have been got up for exhibition purposes. If you will exhibit,—and I suppose someone must exhibit to keep the different breeds before the public,—I unhesitatingly say sell such animals and not breed from them to the injury of your flock, producing, as they do in many instances, a lot of poor, weakly, scrubby lambs, and these are bred from simply because they are pure-bred. In place of this let the breeder select the quantum of ewe lambs for his own use, and set them aside, and let no price tempt him to dispose of them, when in a few years the whole of his flock will be uniform and the best. This line of management being persevered in, there will be no necessity of running home to the Old Country to import either ewes or rams, except as an occasional change. The time has come when I think the sheep breeders of this country should set to work in earnest to breed sheep of such a type, and of such excellency of form and character, that they can, not only supply the whole farming community, but each other, with such different breeds of sheep as may be required. We have a country and climate well adapted to sheep raising, and thousands of acres of land which to-day would be vastly more remunerative to the owners if turned into sheep farms and conducted somewhat on the lines here laid down, instead of being rooted over with the plow in a vain attempt to grow wheat at a profit. In conclusion, let me say, gentlemen, breeders, farmers, try to introduce into sheep husbandry better management, better sheep, and more of them. (1)

SUFFOLK SHEEP IN THEIR LAND AND OURS.

GEORGE W. FRANKLIN, IOWA.

The Suffolk sheep, like many other good mutton sheep of the present day, are the result of a series of cross breed-

(1) This is worth every attention from all Canadian farmers.—Ed.

ing. The breed originated among the farmers of Suffolk, England, by the use of the old Norfolk ewe and the Southdown ram. The Southdown sheep is so well known that it is not necessary to dwell on its conformation, quality of wool and mutton, constitutional vigor and soundness. The old Norfolk, however, is less known, being now almost extinct. It was large, long bodied, black faced, black legged and hardy. (1) The flesh was known for its fine grain, good flavor, and large quantity in proportion to live weight.

From the year 1800 to 1850 the interbreeding of the Southdown and the Norfolk was quite general. In 1859 these Southdown-Norfolks were first called "Suffolks," classes being given to them by the Suffolk Agricultural Association. The Suffolk sheep, as they now exist, may be briefly described as black faced, hornless, with clean, black legs, about thirty per cent. larger than the Southdowns, which they resemble in character of wool. Among the excellent points of this breed are: Fecundity—Thirty lambs to twenty ewes being a very frequent occurrence in large flocks. In the flock of the writer, this spring, are one hundred and sixty per cent. of

In size they are next larger than the Shropshire, with wool a little coarser than that of the Southdown. A gentleman from the State of New York imported a ram lamb nine months old, which weighed one hundred and ninety-five pounds when taken off the vessel, a yearling ewe weighing two hundred pounds (not in show condition), and this same gentleman reports a lamb seven weeks old weighed eighty-five pounds. I had one yearling ewe, in stock condition, at the Annual State Shearing in Iowa, which weighed, after being shorn, one hundred and eighty-eight pounds. The same sheep, in the scoring contest, took the first premium on a score of ninety-six and one-half points. She measured forty-seven and one-half inches around the heart girth, and was thirty-five inches from withers to root of tail. In this breed will always be noticed the same color of the face and legs—that of inky blackness. Never will a gray, a brown, or a speckled face be seen.

Some years since the Germans learned the value of this breed, and were the sole importers till quite recently, when they were brought to the notice of American breeders. So

a reliable guarantee to purchasers, by maintaining and publishing a register of pure-bred Suffolk sheep. The Iowa Suffolk Sheep Company has imported a flock of this breed, which are kept at present on Orchard Hill Farm, Iowa, under the management of its secretary. [Some of the highest-bred animals of this flock are seen in our illustration, engraved from photographs]

The Dairy.

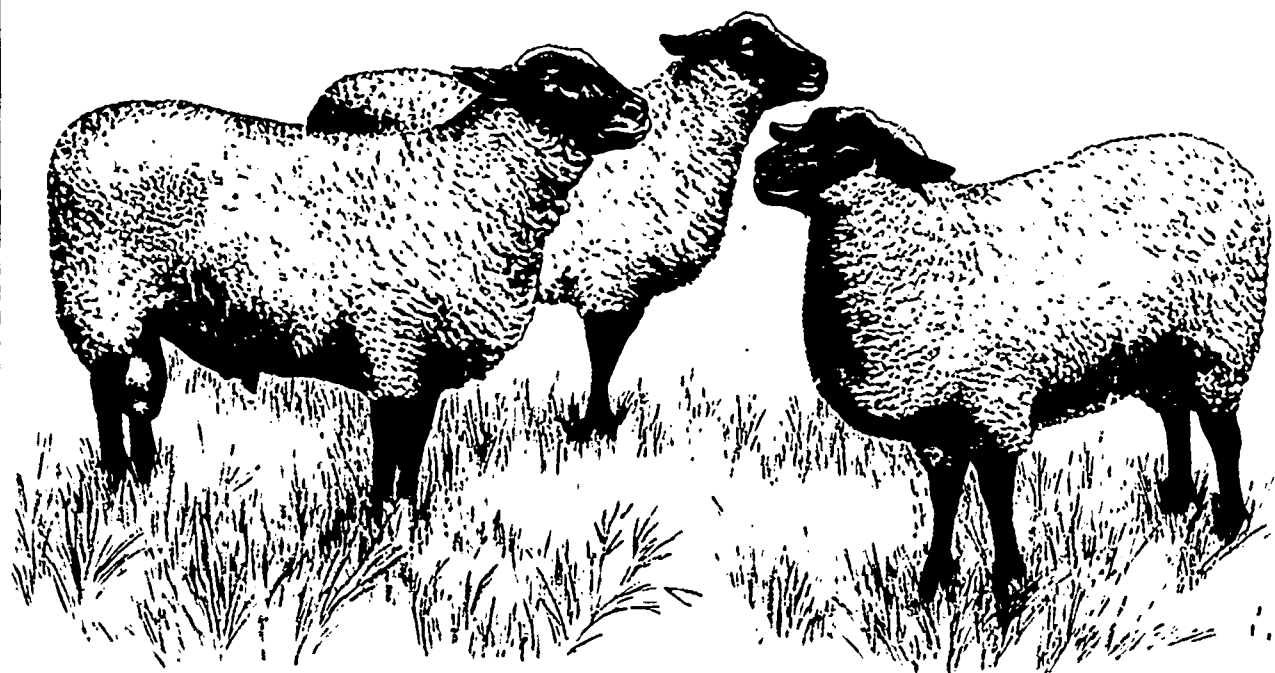
LECTURE BY M J DAMIEN
LECLAIR.

Superintendent of the Experiment
Station and School at St.
Hyacinthe.

BUTTER-MAKING.

Mr. President and Gentlemen,

The art of butter making is governed by a series of rules and principles that, in their application require a great deal of tact, of experience and



HIGH-BRED SUFFOLK SHEEP.

live lambs to the number of dams. Early Maturity—They are noted for this even to as great extent as the famed Hampshire. One pair of lambs dropped this spring, at this writing—May 9th—weigh an aggregate of one hundred and eighty-two pounds; another lamb, now two months old, weighs eighty-four pounds, the youngest lamb, now thirty-five days old, weighs forty-eight pounds. In England, nineteen out of twenty breeders prefer a tup lamb as a breeder to an older sheep. Hardihood—They will get a living where other sheep will fail to thrive. I have noticed them staying in the pasture during storms which drove other breeds kept on the same farm to shelter. Mutton—The quality is of the finest, with an exceptionally large proportion of lean meat, and commands ready sale, at top prices. Constitution—Their robust, hardy character, power of endurance, and comparative freedom from foot-rot have, during the past fifteen years, caused them to displace, to a great extent, the half-breed sheep formerly in favor on the marsh land of England.

(1) With horns.—Ed.

far as known, the first importation of this breed was made in 1888. Other importations have followed, and the importers of them have not been disappointed in what they first saw in this breed for America. The one thing that seems strange is that it did not find its way to this country sooner. They are quite plentiful in the eastern part of England, and are beautiful animals, with large, rangy bodies, and very quick to mature.

One of the distinguishing features of the Suffolk sheep is the head, upon which there is rarely any wool. Long, graceful, clean, and coal black, with long, black ears, it imports a strong individuality to the sheep. I have Suffolk and Cotswold sheep on the same farm, and visitors admire the Suffolks most. They are great milkers, and are very hardy. The venison-like flavor of the mutton recommends it to connoisseurs, and the absence of excessive fat insures a growing preference on the part of consumers.

The American Suffolk Flock Registry Association was established in the early part of the present year, incorporated under the laws of the State of Iowa, for the purpose of promoting the purity of the breed and providing

of judgment. It is easy enough to make butter, but to make it always of superior quality, to give it invariably the same taste, the same aroma, is an art.

If the milk always reached the maker in the same condition, if he had only to deal with fresh milk, just drawn from the cow, I should lay down the following rule as invariable: Cool your cream, on leaving the separator, down to 45°, churn after 24 hours, at a temperature varying from 56° to 60°, according to the time of year; have a good thermometer, and you will be a perfect butter-maker.

But, as the heat, the cold, the humidity, varying from day to day, produce changes in the milk, it follows that the treatment of the cream must be varied too, and that it would, therefore, be useless to seek for fixed rules for the making of butter. And I have, for a long time, relegated my thermometer into a secondary position, preferring to place more dependence on taste and scent. These two senses, well employed, are excellent guides, and are, besides, the only ones the maker has to depend upon in ascertaining the degree of ripeness of his cream.