

STOCK.

Prizewinners in Barn-plan Competition.

Some time ago I made an offer of prizes for plans for outbuildings suitable for a meat or beef farm of about 100 acres, and also of prizes for plans for outbuildings suitable for a dairy farm of similar area. The following gentlemen kindly consented to act as judges: Mr. F. W. Hodson, Dominion Live-stock Commissioner, Ottawa, Ont.; Mr. G. E. Day, Professor of Animal Husbandry, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ont.; Mr. J. H. Griesdale, Agriculturist, Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, Ont., and Mr. H. H. Dean, Professor of Dairy Husbandry, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ont. Owing to absence in the Northwest, Mr. Hodson was unable to take part. The awards were unanimous in every case; and, according to them, the prizes were won by the competitors named hereafter:

MEAT OR BEEF FARM OUTBUILDINGS.

- 1st prize, \$100, by "Farmer Boy"—Andrew Kerr, Morriston, Ont.
- 2nd prize, \$75, by "Aberdeen-Angus"—Fredrick Ranson, lot 43, 2nd concession Lancaster, Ont.
- 3rd prize, \$50, by "Young Farmer"—John A. Watson, Fernhill P. O., Middlesex County, Ont.
- 4th prize, \$25, by "Eureka"—A. S. McBean, Saranac Lake, N. Y.
- Highly Commended, "Onlooker"—John Dawes, Springfield, Ont.

DAIRY FARM OUTBUILDINGS.

- 1st prize, \$100, by "Bullder"—Alfred A. Gilmore, Atheistan, Que.
- 2nd prize, \$75, by "Scotty"—Frank H. Harris, Mt. Elgin, Ont.
- 3rd prize, \$50, by "Ubique"—F. C. Harrison, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, Ont.
- 4th prize, \$25, by "Choreboy"—Henry Dunn, Hillcrest Farm, Ascot, Lennoxville P. O.
- Highly Commended, "K. 20"—Roy K. Guthrie, Paris Station, Ont.
- Commended, "Rubber"—B. Drummond, 59 Waverley St., Ottawa, Ont.

I take this opportunity to thank those who entered the competition. The plans of those who were not successful in winning a prize will be returned to those who apply for them to me at Ste. Anne de Bellevue, Que. Otherwise, I shall be glad to keep them here for use (perhaps) some time in the classes of the Macdonald Agricultural College. I am again indebted to the agricultural press for valued assistance in this effort to bring about improvement of the conditions on the farms of Canada. JAS. W. ROBERTSON.
Ste. Anne de Bellevue, P. Q.

Agricultural Committee and the Embargo

At a meeting of the Agricultural Committee of the House of Commons, Ottawa, on June 20th, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

"That in the opinion of this committee the embargo on Canadian cattle entering the United Kingdom is most unfair and unjust, as it is a publication to the world at large that the Board of Agriculture considers it unsafe to permit Canadian cattle to come into contact with the herds in the United Kingdom, whereas it is a well-known fact that in no country, other than Canada, can herds be found so free from disease.

"That the scheduling of Canada by the Imperial Government is considered from a financial point of view a serious loss to the Canadian cattle trade, the farmers and the stock-raisers of the Dominion.

"That action of the Imperial Government is not justified by the facts of the case, it having been clearly proven that the disease of pleuro-pneumonia has never existed in Canadian cattle.

"That in view of such conditions, the removal of Canada from the schedule would be but an act of justice, and should be strenuously pressed.

"That as the Dominion is a stock-raising country and capable of producing a large and constant supply of beef cattle, it is considered important to the Empire that no obstructions nor difficulties should be placed in the way of Canadian cattle-breeders which would tend to decrease the food supply within the Empire."

On motion of Mr. Armstrong, of Lambton, the Government was also asked to send the Minister of Agriculture to England, and to invite also the Provincial Ministers of Agriculture, to endeavor to present the Canadian view. Mr. Armstrong's motion suggested also that this conference might be open to the press, so that the views expressed might find their way to the British public.

Some of the members doubted if this resolution would do any good, and suggested that more vigorous measures should be taken.

Form in the Show-yard.

Show-yard form is a source of unexampled perplexity to the expert as well as to the tyro. The vagaries of show-yard judging are not all explicable by that indefinable word "form," but for the most part we may take it as an axiom that condition and appearance are the two most elusive things which the exhibitor and judge have to deal with. We know, for instance, that in the realm of sport, victory depends, not so much upon how the man or the animal is capable of acquitting him or itself at his or its best, but how they will disport themselves on the day of contest. So it is in the show-ring. One week we find a comparatively easy victory converted into a seemingly inexplicable defeat in the week following, and the reason generally adduced is summed up in the phrase "lack of form." We have already hinted that all inconsistencies of judging are not excusable on this basis. There are judges and judges—some have the intuitive faculty of spotting likely winners, while others have very shadowy qualifications in that they are extremely erratic. This to some extent explains what is termed the luck of the show-ring. In these days, when single judging is coming more into fashion, it is eminently desirable that strong men only should be chosen. Not infrequently it happens that the vexed question of type creates a distinct breach between exhibitors and a judge. It would be extremely regrettable were these predilections for type not occasionally manifested. It is the only safeguard we have against faddism in breeding, invariably affording the necessary corrective to the introduction of fancy points which will not stand the test of utility. We have at different times witnessed extreme aberrance of judgment, for which it is difficult to find any reasonable excuse, but these cases are very exceptional, and invariably result in careful avoidance of that judge in future.

Preparation for Show-ring.

The importance of preparing cattle for showing to advantage because of the way in which they stand and lead is very considerable. We notice in an exchange that it is the practice in England and Scotland, when preparing cattle for the shows, to have them exercised daily, by leading them one-quarter mile out and the same distance back. When at the end of the trip they are turned around and made to stand the same as if ready for the judge's inspection, heads held properly and the animal made to stand square on his feet. The same training is gone through with again when the cattle are within close proximity to the stables. This is done for weeks before the fair. As a result, they naturally take up that position which shows them to advantage in the show-ring. This has a great influence on the general impression made when the eye of the judge rests upon them. Many who exhibit cattle at the fairs are noticeably lax in thus training their cattle for the show-ring. The animals are frequently so carelessly shown or so shy and frightened that they will not stand up naturally, and as a result frequently miss prizes that they might otherwise win.

Preventing Disease and Lice.

According to nature's arrangement, sunlight and fresh air are among the most potent agencies for the destruction of disease-producing organisms. Rooms and stables having plenty of light and fresh air are always the most healthful; conversely, the dark, damp rooms are always the abodes of disease. The facts have an important bearing upon the management of stables. The light in the stable should be, first, as abundant as possible; then should be intensified still further by the use of whitewash on the walls and ceilings. With stables where valuable horses and cattle are kept, it is of infinitely more importance to have the interior whitewashed than to have the walls frost-proof.

Besides intensifying the light in the stables, whitewash has the further advantage of being a direct disinfectant, and, while all stables should have a coat of it, those in which the horses have suffered from distemper, mange, lice, and many other of the common complaints, or those in which cattle having lice, mange or contagious abortion, or suspected of having tuberculosis, should by all means receive one or two annual applications of the lime wash. Germs of diseases and vermin remain lodged about the dust, cobwebs and cracks of stables during summer, and to put stock back into their stalls in the fall

is simply to lock them up in a bed of infection and court the diseases and pests mentioned above. Therefore, let every farmer take a broom and sweep down the ceiling and walls of his stables, and apply with a spray-pump or brush a wash made as follows: Half bushel of fresh lime, slacked and made into a liquid; strain through a fine sieve, add a peck of dissolved salt, three pounds of ground rice boiled to a paste, and stir in boiling hot; add half pound Spanish whiting and a pound of glue previously dissolved over a slow fire; then add five gallons of hot water to the mixture, stir well, and let stand for a few days; make the proper consistency, boil, and apply hot for best results.

Whitewashing is not only a precaution against disease and lice, but it also adds much to the appearance of the stables. Has anyone ever remarked the incongruity of a well-painted barn on the outside, while it makes a fine appearance, with the dust-laden, dark and dingy interior of the stables below. The thorough man goes into every detail. The interior of his stables is as neat as the exterior, and we cannot too strongly urge all our readers to emulate him in this respect.

If You Want Anything

AND DON'T KNOW WHERE TO GET IT, AN ADVERTISEMENT IN THE "WANT AND FOR SALE" COLUMN OF THE "FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE" WILL GET IT FOR YOU. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, LONDON, ONT.



Photo by Parsons.

District Maid.

Hackney mare. Over 152 high. Winner of many prizes, including first and female champion, London Hackney Show, 1905. Owned by Mr. R. P. Evans, Surrey, Eng.

It is necessary to remember that the judge has many things to bear in mind which the exhibitor all too readily forgets. It is not sufficient to point to a long list of victories, however convincing these may prove to the exhibitor. The question of form, which is almost as fatal as that of type, the conditions under which a judge acts, the manner in which an animal is brought out, and finally the exhibitor's art in showing, all tend to influence the result; and even the ring-sider, with opportunities of comparing notes, not to mention the various influences at work which sometimes are reflected in public opinion, is not always in the strongest position to condemn, however much he may utilize his undoubted opportunities.

These remarks are called forth, not by the accident of a particular case, but as a prelude to the summer show season. The peculiarities of form, added to the differentially critical character of the judicial functions, must inevitably produce many ups and downs in the career of an animal. The art of judging is not so easy to master as many assume it to be. A noted judge once remarked to us that "the difficulty of judging was that you could get so many different views of an animal," a truism which admits of no controversy, and yet it is this potent fact which robs judging of some of its most trying features. It is the sum and substance of the points of an animal which carry the day, not one singular aspect. We might collate the reasons given for the seemingly perplexing variations exhibited in the show-ring into a catalogue of ingenious excuses, but in the main they are comprised in the following:

- (1) Variation in form, which includes condition.
- (2) Judicial predilection for a particular type.
- (3) Good or indifferent showing.
- (4) Indifferent skill in judging.—[Farmer and Stock-breeder (British).