

Stock and Dairy.

The Sussex Cow.

The *Agricultural Gazette*, in speaking of the Southern Counties Agricultural Association Show, at Corydon, Eng., says of the Sussex breed:—

The Sussex classes, in that this breed has no other such a gathering, were probably the most interesting of all the classes of cattle. Huge red beasts these are, heavily fleshed, upon large frames, with no deviations many have from the red color, except as to the tip of the tail, which was generally white. These seem likely to be the red breed of the future, at all events for dry counties. Their hair was generally harsh, and their skins thick. There can be no question that these animals can face wind and flies, and maintain themselves in condition with ordinary treatment. It is not probable that any intruder will drive these out of the district which they now hold. Their size, for age, is of the largest, whether as calves or yearlings; indeed, such big calves were not to be found in any other classes. That the breed will stand wet, or forage for themselves upon hill pasture, cannot be foretold; but that, in the eastern side of England, especially where oxen are worked—and it seems probable that work-oxen will become once more common—no breed has more useful qualifications.

That they are a cross, and have Devon and Short-horn blood, seems certain. Possibly this cross is the reason of their great growth and stature. It may be that the introduction of fresh blood took place beyond the period of the recollection of their present owners. Yet there are sure and certain signs that some herds have more Teeswater, and some more Devon affinities; but all have also a "tertium quid" belonging to another stock, which makes this a distinct breed now, whatever it may have been once. Happily they are not "fancy stock" as yet. It is to be hoped that breeders will resist lustily any attempt to convert them into rivals of parrots and lapdogs, and white elephants.

In the class for old bulls eleven appeared; and of these six were not much over two, and none much over three years old. It is probable, therefore, that the public has not yet seen the stature this breed can attain at full growth. The cows would indicate that enormous steers can be raised from them. The prize list will give the names of the winners. Nearly 100 animals were shown in the classes. No other breed had such numbers, nor did any sheds hold so many lookers on as did those occupied by the Sussex breed.

Alderney Cows.

Alderney is well known for the breed of good cows which bears its name. These are so called probably because the first ones exported were from that island, although now very few that are sold as Alderney cows are directly from there. Those of that breed actually exported from these islands are generally from Jersey, where the cattle are much the same as those of Alderney, small, with tapering heads, and of a delicate fawn color. The Guernsey cow is esteemed by some even more highly than the Alderney; it is rather larger, and more of a red, brindled, in color. The cows are milked three times daily, and the milk is churned without skimming; one pound of butter a day is by no means an uncommon yield for a good cow. The cow cabbage is made to reach a size so large that the leaves are used to wrap the butter in for market, while the stalks are varnished and armed with ferrules and extensively used at St. Helier's for canes. The cows are very carefully coddled. The grass they feed on is highly enriched by the vraise, a species of seaweed gathered from the reefs at low tide. There are two vraise harvests appointed by the government, one in the spring, the other in August, although it is gathered at other times in small quantities. All hands turn out in the season with boats and carts, frequently at night, and it is a very lively, picturesque occupation, though often attended with risk and loss of life from the overloading of boats or sudden rise of the tide.

The cows are always tethered when feeding; they eat less in this way, really giving more milk than if glutted with food, and while they are cropping the grass on one side of a field, it has time to spring up on the other side. When they have done eating, they are at once removed from the sun into the shade. The breed is preserved from intermixture with other breeds by strong and arbitrary

laws very strongly enforced. No cattle are allowed to enter the islands, except for slaughter, within a certain number of days, with the exception of oxen for draught.—S. G. W. B., in *Harper's Magazine*.

Guernsey Cattle.

From time immemorial the island of Guernsey has been famous for its breed of cattle, and a very just reputation it is, for there are few localities in Europe, and certainly none in her Majesty's dominions, where a more jealous care has been observed to prevent the mixture of foreign element. Of course, the isolated position of the island has greatly aided the inhabitants in their endeavors; in fact, we doubt if any but a locality so situated could for so long a period have preserved a breed so intact. The cattle are larger and more valued than even those of Alderney, the name of which is so familiar throughout England. They are exquisitely delicate in form; colors varying from light red to fawn and dun, with a few black, each generally with white intermixed. The head is long and handsome, eye large and prominent, horns gracefully formed. For flesh-giving qualities they are profitable, and for dairy stock they are truly excellent, yielding on the average, if properly fed and cared for, 1 lb. of the finest butter per day throughout the year. The size is a fair average, and doubtless the breed would be much larger were it not for the peculiar treatment they have ever been subject to. The farms of the island being limited in size, it is found necessary to tether the cattle, whereby they lose much of that exercise and freedom which would tend to larger growth. They are also by this means too frequently exposed to excessive heat or cold, without the possibility of choosing the necessary shelter. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, it is really remarkable how well the animals have thriven. So great is the demand for this breed that, on an average, seven hundred cows and heifers, with about a dozen bulls, are annually exported.

Lice on Stock.

I will admit that kerosene oil will kill lice. A certain housewife killed all the cockroaches in her pantry by applying kerosene to the shelves, and then touching it with a lighted match. The new house cost about \$1,500. In like manner may any one kill the lice and stock too. Such a remedy should not be used for any such purpose. Neither can any one afford to make soap at the expense of the suffering which it would be likely to cause your stock should they become wet from any cause. Such recommendations are outrageous, and a disgrace to civilization. Any kind of sheep oil, with attention and an occasional soap-suds washing, is good, and will usually destroy all the lice on stock. Good keep, pure air and water, are among the chief enemies of all parasites. One of the best applications for the destruction of lice on stock of any kind is two drachms of pulverized arsenic, mixed with a full quart of soft water. Use a moderate-sized sponge, and keep shaking the bottle while using. Rub it to the roots where the lice are the thickest, and be sure to find every location of the pests. This is a powerfully acrid poison, the nature of which I perfectly understand, and I recommend it from experience. There is no danger from licking, as the animals can only lick certain parts, and usually not where the lice locate; and should the whole two drachms be licked off in a few days, neither horses nor cattle would be the worse of it. Young stock, of course, require much less.—Wm. Horne, V. S., in *Country Gentleman*.

Success with Sheep.

There have been indications for some time and from various quarters, that wool is going to advance in price. The demand appears to be heavy in England, and this affects our own market. We have watched the sheep and wool business for 20 years, during which time there were several panics, sheep being butchered for pelts and tallow, but immediately after prices rose, and then every sheep was saved. Meanwhile, those who kept on steadily and sold at the going prices have done well, while those who held wool over a year or so thereafter were well paid. The truth is, there is no better business, year after year, than that of sheep husbandry, for the reason that the increase of our population is so constant and great as to keep up a steady demand for all kinds of woollen fabrics. As it has been in the past, so it is quite likely to be in the future, and those who have sheep may safely get more. But let not inexperienced men rush in, for complete knowledge is required and constant

attention. The best way to get a good flock of sheep is to raise them, because there are but few chances to buy such sheep as will pay to keep, unless at high prices. He who has good sheep knows it as well as anybody else, and as a general thing, if he offers to sell sheep they will be culls. A beginner should buy a few good American merinos, say from twenty to fifty, and if they are really good—that is, young and free from disease—there is more increase and money in them than in a flock of 500 culls, old, scabby, and otherwise unsound. In fact, such sheep are not worth the feed required to winter them, and the best use to make of them is to send them to the butcher, if such a thing is allowable.

By commencing with a few sheep a pains-taking man can learn how to manage them as fast as they grow, being like some school-teachers, who learn as fast as their scholars do. It will take from three to five years to learn the sheep business, and by that time the flock should be of respectable size. We hardly know of an instance of young men going blindly into the business with 500 head who have not lost their whole investment.—*New York Tribune*.

Selection of Lambs for Breeding.

A Western New York correspondent of the *Chicago Live Stock Journal* says:—

By keeping only the best ewe lambs, a continual improvement in the style and quality of the flock may be expected, provided always that good rams are used. Therefore all lambs to be reserved for breeding should, if possible, be put, at the time of separation from the ewes, into a separate pasture from the rest of the flock, putting in with them a tame, dry ewe or a wether, so that they can be taught to come readily at the call. Many breeders put a trough into the pasture where the lambs are put for weaning, and they are fed bran or oats once a day, until winter. Such men always have sheep that shear heavy fleeces, and they do not lose any lambs before spring from anemia, or "pale disease." But if the lambs are put into clover or other pasture that is up to their eyes, they do very well without the bran. The ewes should be put into rather short feed for a few days after the lambs are taken away, until the flow of milk has ceased, and they have become dry. Then let them be thoroughly overhauled and examined; and all whose teeth are getting narrow and loose, and those that do not produce good lambs, should be separated from the rest and put into good feed, so that they can be fattened for the butcher. Usually there are enough yearling and two-year old ewes that have never had lambs to take the place in the flock of the old and unprofitable ewes, so that the flock can be kept up to the required number. If the selection of the breeding flock is left until later than August, the hollow places of coarsely built sheep become so filled out with wool that it is much more difficult to throw out those that are not perfect in shape, and as a consequence, the flock of lambs is apt to be somewhat uneven. Indeed, some prefer to select their breeding ewes at shearing time, rather than later.

Contour and Quality in Breeding Cattle.

Dr. Sprague, in a paper read before the American Short-Horn Breeders' Convention, at Cincinnati, stated the points in breeding as follows:—

To learn a trade is to learn to do things precisely upon the same general principles, and up to the same general standard that experts in the same trade attain to. The principles are simple, though the parts are complicated. So of the Short-Horn beast. He is merely a machine for converting crude grain or grass into bone, muscle, adipose matter, and hair; and the whole secret of excellence—the superiority of one beast over another—consists in his ability to convert the most crude food in a given time into the finest quality of the tissues named, so distributing these as to give us a roomy frame of bone in the parts where we want room for the vital organs, and for the choicest cuts, and thick, fleshy, well-marbled roasts, and broad, well-marbled steaks, in the parts where the best fibre is produced. Such a conformation should be secured as will answer these ends as effectively as the engine is expected to generate steam through the consumption of fuel in the furnace.

The conformation of the trunk of the cow is a subject worthy of very careful study. The bony frame is of secondary importance, the vital organs within being of the first importance, and the size and vigor of these, if accompanied by a liberal dis-

tribution of cellular tissue, ensures a rapid circulation of particles, and the tissues. Liver, and give strength to the body, width to the bones, most importance, face. From this we consider the air cells of the lungs, the surface in a large surface in results.

Two of the worst Short-Horn are the wedge shape to the other is a long ridge, a curve upward, back of the fore defects are so having hump or low up in one or two they may not be pointed out about gans within. I of a house that walls and fixtures well-advised or the offspring w parents. The heart, lungs, stomach, cross to

Passing from attention to the long and standing forming a level broad, level loin round, deep chest should always every inch of a third of a beast sent by a second and extending of the hind quarters would say. The well back carried presented in the from the hip to the gamized frame distributed and where one part next begins—

The third a we will treat whilst striving of the carcass point—the test that are to be of texture is and the excellent viz., fair size, meat, are the estimate of a tion is, that a high flavored idea, proved We couple two cure well-for if the parents will generally have dark, u and all the p same, unless having light

P For the where it is p for next sea statements receipts of and truthfu turns as th generally, c probably a mon or po during win in operation to Oct. 31st the cow sh 300 pounds will receive more the c making from worth from Much be receipts of figures.—