

two during the day for a single service, and keeping them separate from the flock for a couple of days, or until their season of heat has passed over. With a small band of ewes—20 to 30—this is not necessary if the ram is in only field condition, and not fat. A strong ram lamb may run with a bunch of 15 to 20 ewes if the pasture is good, but he will be the better of a pint of oats and a little bran once or twice a day. In order to satisfy oneself whether the ram is proving sure or not, it is a good plan to catch him once a day and color his brisket with some coloring matter mixed with water, so that he will mark the ewes he serves. The color used should be changed after he has been with the flock two weeks, as the periods of heat are at intervals of 15 days, so that if any of the ewes return they will be marked with two colors, and at the end of four weeks a third color should be used. Red is generally used for the first course, black for the second, and yellow for the third. If many of the ewes return a second or third time, it is evidence that the ram is not proving sure, and another should be secured and turned with the flock. The actions of the ram should be watched from the first, to ascertain that he is successfully serving. The ewes will come in season earlier and more nearly at the same time if put on good fresh pasture a couple of weeks before mating, and it is an advantage to have the lambs come as nearly at the same time as possible, as they will be more nearly of uniform size in the fall.

ELABORATE SCHEME TO ERADICATE TUBERCULOSIS.

We have received from Burton Rogers, D. V. M., Veterinary Department, Kansas State College, a lengthy letter, in which he outlines a scheme for the eradication of tuberculosis from domestic food animals in five years. Dr. Rogers has had experience as a federal veterinary meat-inspector in seven cities, so that he writes with some understanding of the subject. He estimates that less than five per cent. of the farmers in the United States are sending all the tuberculous animals to market. The bulk of animals condemned by the inspectors, he says, are cows affected with tuberculosis, and many of these for years have been continuing the disease to their offspring and to hogs and chickens. What he proposes, in short, is a voluntary compact between the U. S. and State Governments, the farmers and the packers, in order to discover, first, where the tuberculous animals are located. All stock (except range stock) sent to market shall be tagged, and, upon discovery of tuberculosis in the carcass, notice shall be sent the owner, who is to allow all the susceptible stock on his premises to be tested by the tuberculin test, by methods recognized by the U. S. Department of Agriculture or the Kansas Experiment Station, unless he prefer to sell every animal on the place to the packer. The packers are to pay full market value for all the animals which react, or for all on the premises, the farmer to at once separate all reacting animals from the healthy ones, and not allow contact, except during shipment, and to disinfect premises as prescribed by the U. S. Department of Agriculture or the Kansas Experiment Station. The packers are to assume the loss from the condemnation of tubercular animals proportionately to the losses sustained by them from the same cause during the previous year. The packers are to furnish the tags, to be distributed by the Federal Government, and Congress and the State Legislatures are to provide funds for the testing and record-keeping. A special proviso would be made in case of valuable pure-bred animals desired to be retained for breeding purposes. The main theory upon which the foregoing proposition is based is that it will pay the packers far better to assume such liability than to suffer the present losses under the Meat-inspection Act of June, 1906, which has created such a hubbub in the Western States stock-yards. The proposals seem to us to be rather involved to be successfully carried out.

In consequence of the reports of some fraudulent practices in the use of the tuberculin test in case of pure-bred cattle shipped from Great Britain to the Argentine Republic, the quarantine station at Buenos Ayres, heretofore run by a private company, will be taken over by the Government, and a proposal is made that a quarantine station be established, probably near Liverpool, England, to be controlled by the council of the Shorthorn Society, so as to exclude the possibility of "doctoring" or "faking" in the future.

If your enquiries are not answered in reasonable time through our columns, it is probably because you omitted to send your full name and address.

JUDGING SHEEP.

To an onlooker by the ring-side where breeding sheep are being judged at the fairs, the thought comes forcibly to mind that in most cases so much dependence is placed upon the handling of the animals, and so little upon type, general appearance and the quality and placing of the underpinning, that the judge would probably do nearly, if not quite, as good work blindfolded as with his eyes uncovered. Good handling quality is, of course, important in sheep, but it is not all-important, or even the most important consideration, since handling depends so largely on condition, and fat may hide a lot of defects, especially in regard to the covering of the spine, which appears to be the principal point to which judges, as a rule, devote attention. The back, and its covering, of course, counts for much, especially in fat-stock competition, but in judging breeding stock, should not more attention be given than is generally given to character and style of head and neck, to width and prominence of chest, the quality of bone and the placing of the limbs, the quality and evenness of the fleece, and the general appearance of vigor and sprightliness one likes to see in a breeding animal? The way some acting judges grope and grip and punch the same animals over, and over again, without ever appearing to think of standing off and taking a general survey in making their comparisons and decisions, sometimes leaves the impression that they have hesitated till they are lost, and their ultimate decision in such cases often leads the onlooker to conclude they have been going it blind, and in desperation have jumped to a conclusion. A judge, of all men, should keep a cool head, take a little time to think, take a stand-off view and consider whether he is rating butchers' or breeding stock, and make his rulings accordingly. There is an old saying that "seeing is believing, and feeling is the naked truth," but neither statement by itself is absolutely safe to follow, while combined in proper proportions they are.



Flora 90th =70100=.

Two-year-old Shorthorn heifer. First prize in class and grand-champion female, Canadian National Exhibition, 1907. Bred and owned by Geo. Amos & Son, Moffat, Ont.

THE FARM.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND NEWS.

It is many years since Prince Edward Island has had such a wet summer; in fact, I may say we have had no summer at all this year. The first part of the spring was cold and backward, with no rain all seeding time, and by July 1st the farmer was beginning to carry a pretty heavy lower lip; all crops were at a standstill, the hay apparently suffering to the greatest extent, but the weather took a change about that time, and up to the present writing, September 10th, rain has fallen in abundance; scarcely a day passes but there is rain more or less. Farmers who had their low land under crop this spring thought they were lucky, but the wet summer has seriously interfered with what promised to be a heavy crop on such soil, and, not only that, but the land is going to be too soft to get a binder on it now. Yet, perhaps, the greatest loss sustained by our farmers is the rust that has already come and is still coming every day on our grain fields, caused by the damp, close, sultry weather. All grain is affected more or less by the rust; in some localities seriously. It has been a long time since there was such a growth of straw, and the oats may possibly turn out better than they now promise. The joint worm has not hurt the wheat crop to any extent in this section this season. This has been a poor season for corn—too

cold and wet, with little sunshine. The past season has been most successful for the growing of strawberries. One farmer in Cape Traverse made out of berries about \$120; and some others we know a smaller amount, yet large enough to warrant others going into the raising of the same fruit, with good chances of making money. Potatoes are a magnificent crop, and the early ones are turning out well, but the eating quality will not be as good as other years, on account of too much wet. Harvest, and, in fact, every branch of farming, is nearly a month behind this year, and if we should not have a fine open fall a lot of work that should be done will have to stand over till the spring. We would urge everyone to be careful of the fodder this fall and winter, because the hay crop is far short of the average, and if we run short, as we did two years ago, we will not be able to get it from the other Provinces, as the hay crop there is even poorer than our own. Capt. Joseph Reed, one of the best authorities we have here on the crop situation, cautions our farmers not to sell a pound of hay for export, but treasure well what they have. It is almost out of the question to get hay from farmers now at any price, as very few have any to spare, and a lot will be short, but we expect the big crop of straw will relieve the situation. If potatoes should be a fairly good price this fall there will likely be a lot offered. Very few farmers had to use Paris green this summer; the bugs did not seem to make the headway they usually do, probably on account of so much wet cold weather, with little sunshine, which was very much against the hatching of the eggs. The fruit crop is a very light one. Some orchards that are well cared for are producing well, but the crop in general is not over 50%, and prices will be high. Early varieties sell readily now in the local market, for from \$2 to \$3 per barrel of three bushels, according to quality. The merchants who buy fruit find it difficult to get imported apples at any price. The tent caterpillar is very prevalent this season, and it looks as if this pest was going to be one of the greatest enemies of the orchard yet to contend with. Something might be done if the insect was confined alone to the fruit trees, but they are to work on all kinds of trees with leaves; even the forest trees are attacked by the hungry creatures.

Some talk of the brown-tailed moth in Nova Scotia, but we have got what seems to be nearly as bad. I notice there are several kinds of those insects at work in the orchard. What we call the tent caterpillar weaves a web over the leaves, and gets his living by sucking the sap out of the leaf, while there are others which do not have any web, but begin by eating the leaf at the edge, and devour the whole leaf. There are two other kinds I might mention which seem to devour

the leaf like the latter, by eating. One is a grub with a smooth body, about two inches long, of a dark-brown color, and seldom more than one specimen in one place. The other is a large green grub, sometimes as large as a man's finger, and about two inches long. This gentleman is hard to detect, as he is somewhat the color of the leaf. He also is alone, and does not seem to eat much. The first-named is by far the most destructive, and will spoil the appearance of a tree in a very short time.

The fall fairs are coming on. The Island will hold one in each county this year. Some were of the opinion that one fair for the Island would be better, but others thought differently, and the Local Government gave each county a grant, so a few weeks hence will determine whether or not an exhibition in each county will prove best. There is certainly enough choice stock in each county to make up a grand show, but the prizes are rather small to induce owners of first-class animals to exhibit them, but this is a very selfish way of looking at it. An exhibition is almost entirely of the farm, and for the farmer, and the farmer ought to stand by it, and take an interest in it, and help along in any way he can, and if he is making a specialty in horse-breeding, in cattle, sheep, swine, or in poultry raising, he should bring out his best, and let others see what practical experience and careful selection can do in improving our stock. This will also apply to the farmers who are working along the line of seed selection, and the growing of grain from picked seed. This may seem a tedious task to many, but it