

Growing Hogs in Canada vs. United States.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

I have just noticed your item in the issue of October 23, regarding the number of farmers who would like to sell Mr. O'Connor some young pigs. I am one of them. Is it any wonder that the farmers of Ontario have not taken kindly to the hog-growing industry? Under natural conditions, or if Canadian farmers had some of the advantages that the American hog grower has, hogs could be produced as cheaply in Canada as in the United States and with as much profit. As it is, he is under a severe handicap. In the first place the risk is much greater in Canada than in the States. There they can have their herds immunized against cholera; here in Essex County hogs condemned as having cholera are being slaughtered every day, and no proper effort made to scientifically control the disease. There one can buy breeding stock which are guaranteed never to have cholera.

Then, owing to the excessive railway rates charged on hog feed in Canada, the cost is made so high that it is impossible for us to compete. I am charged as much to haul a carload of corn thirteen miles in Canada as I have had to pay for a 500-mile haul in the States. This appears ridiculous, but I have freight receipts from Harrow to Ruthven—a distance of thirteen miles, rate 10 cents per cwt., and also from Homer, Ill., to Detroit, distance 500 miles, rate 10 cents per cwt. I have taken this matter up with the Railway Board, and at the meeting of the Swine Breeders' Association, at Toronto, last winter, but the rate remains the same. Ten cents per cwt. for thirteen miles haul in car lots; evidently nothing can be done.

If this Government was as much of a farmers' Government as it is a millers' and a railway man's Government, no doubt hog growing would be as profitable in Canada as it is anywhere under the sun, and, if indications stand for anything, the next Dominion

That there are many breeders who have faith in the hog business was in evidence at the annual sale at the O. A. C., when a considerable number of young Yorkshire sows and some that were bred brought a remarkably high price. The tendency of the hog market did not reflect itself in the bidding at this sale. At prices ranging from \$90 to \$112, one-year-old sows, due to farrow within a few weeks, were quickly bought up, while March and April sows sold at from \$45 to \$75. It must be remembered that this was good breeding stock, but the prices paid were higher than sows of similar age brought a year ago. This would indicate that the breeders purchasing these sows had faith in the future of the hog industry. Perhaps we are undergoing our most trying experience at the present time with high feed and low-priced hogs—a combination which is not conducive to enthusiasm about hog raising. Let us hope that this is the darkest hour before the dawn, and that ere long prices for hogs will be commensurate with the price of labor and feed. In the industrial world business men looking to the future are obliged to suffer a loss for a time during a depression. In the same way hog men may find it to their interest to stay in the business even at a temporary loss in order to hold the trade for the future.

The Veterinary Surgeon.

Although we have an exceptionally well-manned and well-equipped veterinary college in the Province of Ontario, it is believed by many that the Province tolerates a lower standard of veterinary qualifications for practice than any of the other provinces in Canada. It is possible within the Province to take a correspondence course in veterinary science. There are a considerable number who do so and then practice in different localities. At the best, the correspondence course cannot equal the course of study and instruction which is given the students of the veterinary college over a period of four academic years leading to the degree of Bachelor

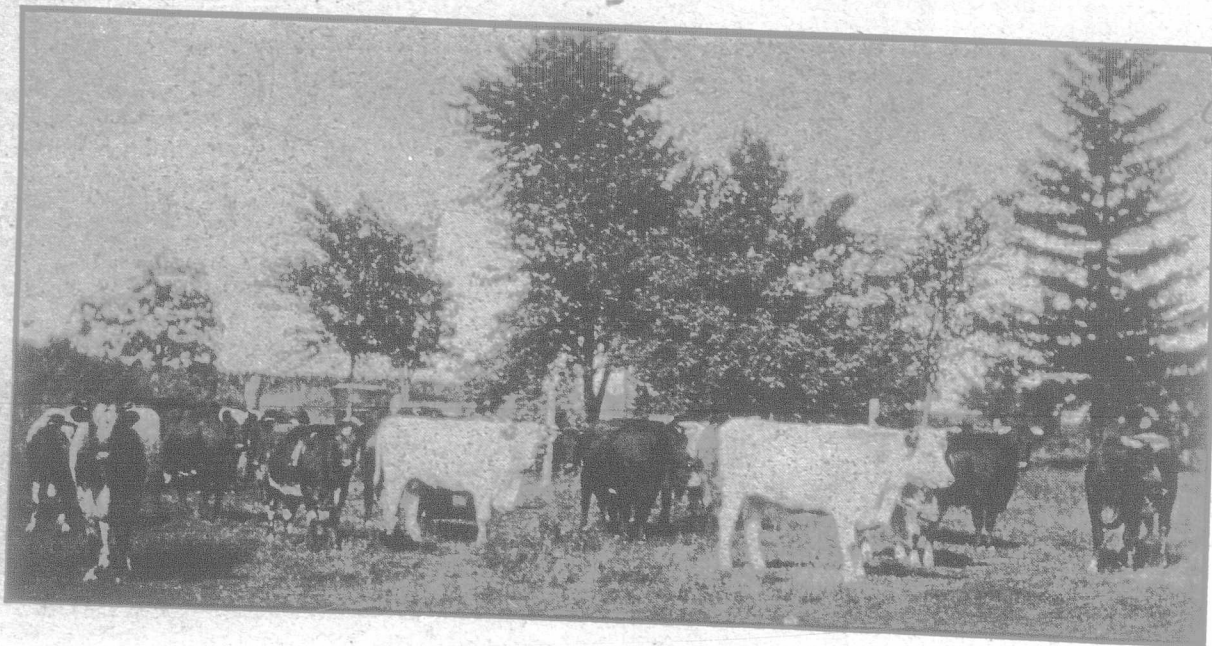
quackery and requiring a definite standard of qualification and registration of veterinary surgeons for practice in Ontario similar in effect to that of the other Provinces of Canada.

Shorthorn Sale at London.

The semi-annual sale of the Western Ontario Consignment Sale Company, held on November 4, at Queen's Park, London, was a decided success. The weather was not as favorable as on past occasions, but this did not deter breeders from various parts of the Province and from the States across the line being in attendance. The sale was held in the large machinery hall, which afforded an ideal place. The officers in charge certainly know how to conduct a sale. While high averages have been obtained in the past, the sale this fall eclipsed all others, although in past sales higher prices have been obtained for individual animals. Every effort was made to attract purchasers from the United States, but only three breeders purchased stock, and that at a value of \$3,135. The principal buyers are in Ontario, and it is noteworthy that practically all the highest-priced animals remained in this Province. The sixty-eight animals sold brought a total of \$22,560, or an average of \$373.73 for the females, and \$231 for males. On the whole, the offering was superior to that at past sales. There were, however, several scrub bulls in the offering, and several of the females were not in showing condition. Well-bred animals, showing character and high quality, and that were in high fit, were in demand. There was spirited bidding when the good things were brought into the ring, but the auctioneer had to labor hard to get beef prices for some of the poorer quality stuff. Winsome Daisy, a red heifer that will be two years old in January, topped the sale. She was sired by Escana Commander, and is a sweet, breezy heifer. She went to the bid of H. McGee, Toronto, for the sum of \$755. This heifer was consigned by Wm. Waldie, of Stratford. The three females consigned by Mr. Waldie averaged \$635. Crimson Fuchsia 38th, a three-year-old cow, consigned by H. McGee, went at the \$710 bid of H. Fisher, Mitchell. This was the second highest-priced animal of the sale. A Mina-bred heifer, consigned by H. Smith, of Hay, brought \$675. She had a bull calf at foot, and was purchased by Wm. McKenzie, of Teeswater. A three-year-old Village Girl, from the same herd, brought \$615. The highest-priced bull was Gold Digger, an eleven-months-old calf of the Rosebud family, consigned by Wm. Waldie. For this choice young herd header, Geo. Kemp, of Mitchell, paid \$505. Among the consignors to the sale were: Wm. Waldie, G. A. Attridge, T. W. Douglas, H. McGee, E. Brien & Sons, R. S. Robson & Son, Wallace Gibb, J. D. Ferguson & Son, Percy McKay, R. H. Scott, Wm. Knight, J. M. Langstaff, A. J. Fox, D. A. Graham, Wm. Hamilton, A. W. Barrett, T. Henderson, R. & A. Merrell, D. S. Tull, H. K. Fairbairn, and H. Smith. The sale was handled by Messrs. T. E. Robson, Laidlaw and Johnston, with the former in the box. The following is a list of the animals selling for \$100 and over, together with the names and addresses of the purchasers:

FEMALES.

Roan Lady 37th, H. McGee, Toronto.....	\$540
Rosalind 11th, T. A. Russell, Downsview.....	610
Winsome Daisy, H. McGee.....	755
Lavender Belle, A. Newman, Marlette, Mich.....	310
Broadhooks Lady, A. Newman.....	580
Daisy 5th, H. Crandall, Cass City, Mich.....	115
Oakland Maud, A. Newman.....	240
Burnbrae Butterfly, Robt. Miller, Stouffville.....	660
Walnut Kitty, W. Gallagher, Strathroy.....	340
Harnelbel Clipper, W. B. Annett, Alvinston.....	225
Crimson Fuchsia 38th, H. Fisher, Mitchell.....	710
Lady Sovereign 5th, T. Douglas, Strathroy.....	325
Nonpareil of Harnelbel, Jno. Miller, Ashburn.....	335
Lady Chesterfield, J. Pearson, Inglewood.....	210
St. Vincent Queen, C. Bignell, Lambeth.....	185
Miss Corsican, Wm. Harper, Hagersville.....	250
Mary Anne of Lancaster 16th, J. Miller.....	330
Crimson Ruby, J. Miller.....	185
Roan Lady, Murrell Bros., Belton.....	410
Fanny Fern, E. E. Carpenter, Fort Wayne, Ind.....	530
Lovely of Broad Lawn 3rd, W. E. Gibb, Embro.....	530
Lady Roy 12th, J. Miller, Ashburn.....	300
White Beauty, A. Newman.....	400
Princess 5th, Ross McIntyre, Myrtle.....	145
Wimple Hope, Robt. Miller.....	435
Miss Veronica, Oestreich Bros., Crediton.....	520
Claretta, R. & S. Nicholson, Parkhill.....	335
Josephine, J. Miller.....	380
Bess, J. Miller.....	470
Bud's Ringlet, S. D. Pack, London.....	435
Mina Rose, Morely Bros., Ailsa Craig.....	165
Pride's Lovely, R. McIntyre.....	370
Lucy, E. Carswell, Thamesville.....	230
Vain Princess, Wm. Dougall, Hensall.....	205
Village Morning, Wm. Harper.....	255
Village Belle, J. Pearson, Inglewood.....	390
Ella Bertha 9th, Morely Bros.....	165
Tillie 3rd, A. Newman.....	160
Splendor Gem, Weldwood Farm, London.....	460
May Maxwell, J. Pollard, Bridgen.....	310
Village Pet, J. Pollard.....	615
Roan Mysie 2nd, J. McLean & Son, Rodney.....	200
Beauty, Wm. McKenzie, Teeswater.....	675
Marabelle, C. J. Stock, Tavistock.....	400
Countess Julia 5th, W. Patterson, Strathroy.....	365
Roan Lady Blossom, A. Newman.....	500
Lady Volunteer, G. Auld, Guelph.....	280
Diamond Ruby, W. Hays, Port Perry.....	400



A Herd of Shorthorns.

Government will be more of a farmers' Government than the present one is. We have all heard of the "hand writing on the wall." We can begin to discern something—maybe it is handwriting.
Essex Co., Ont.

J. O. DUKE.

To Raise or Not to Raise More Hogs

The present hog market is very unstable, and producers are in a quandary as to what to do with their present herds. Some are unloading before the hogs have attained the proper weight, as they deem it in their interests to sell light rather than to use the high-priced millfeeds to bring the hogs up to the recognized market weight. The price of grain and millfeeds remains fairly uniform, while the price of finished hogs goes tobogganing. Fearing that the spring market may be low, we hear of farmers selling their brood sows, and of others killing the young pigs rather than raise them. This is certainly an unsatisfactory state of affairs, because if we are to gain and hold the British market it is necessary that we have a regular supply of high-quality bacon going forward the year around. Having a large quantity to market for two or three months of the year, and but a small number for the remainder, will not gain a stable market for any country. We will not venture to prophesy what the price of hogs will be next spring or a year from now, but we do know that the policy which results in the farmers unloading rather than increasing their hogs is detrimental to the industry. It is natural that the packers will buy as cheaply as they can and sell the cured product for all they can get. This is legitimate business, and what practically everyone would do if in a like position. If the price of hogs could be regulated by the price of a staple feed, and raised and lowered accordingly so that there would be a uniform margin between the cost of feed and the price received for the finished hogs, the ups and downs of the market would not have the detrimental results which they now have.

of Veterinary Science, granted by the University of Toronto. The live-stock industry is of too great importance for the animals to be treated by men who are not thoroughly acquainted with symptoms, and the best methods of treating the various diseases. It is essential that every precaution be taken to prevent loss through animal diseases. In order to treat intelligently, a veterinary surgeon should be duly qualified by having taken a prescribed course of study. Our Government should require the highest standard of qualification for those practicing veterinary surgery. At the last annual convention of the Ontario Veterinary Association the following resolution was unanimously passed, and might well receive the attention of our Provincial Government:

Whereas the live-stock industry has been largely safeguarded from economic losses by veterinary skill and science; and, whereas the prosperity of live-stock interests requires that every precaution be taken to protect the industry from preventable losses through disease; and, whereas the protection of the live-stock industry against depletion from disease can be afforded only by maintaining satisfactory veterinary service; and, whereas the principle of registration of veterinary surgeons is provided for by the laws of the various Provinces of Canada except Ontario; and, whereas the lack of adequate registration of veterinary surgeons in Ontario permits uneducated and unqualified men to represent themselves as veterinary surgeons, thus menacing the live-stock industry and depreciating the status of graduate veterinary surgeons in the eyes of the live-stock owners; and, whereas the standard of veterinary science will be advanced by the enactment of legislation requiring the registration of all duly qualified veterinary surgeons; and, whereas the Province of Ontario, the live-stock centre of Canada, now tolerates a lower standard of veterinary qualification for practice than any of the other provinces of Canada; therefore, be it resolved that the Ontario Veterinary Association request the Government of Ontario to enact legislation prohibiting veterinary