

Third, dealing with the running time of stock trains: Up-to-date American roads carry stock at or near express time, and, consequently, they are not unnecessarily weakened in shipment. With us "any old time will do," according to C.P.R. management, and if a shipper gets a run of seven or eight miles an hour he may consider himself lucky. The distance from Portage la Prairie to Dunmore Jct. is, in round figures, 595 miles, and it takes about 85 hours to make the trip, and oftentimes longer. Surely half that time is ample.

Let us see the result of bad yards, make-shift cars, and this seven-miles-an-hour running of trains. A moderate estimate of the value of cattle lost this season from these causes is half a million dollars. It is quite true that the abnormal loss of the present season is due to the heavy storms striking the cattle during shipment, or immediately after. There is little if any doubt, however, that if these same cattle had been properly handled during a reasonable railroad haul of from 30 to 40 hours, with hay and water available on the trip, they would have been in a sufficiently strong and hearty condition as to withstand the storm during shipment absolutely without loss, while the loss after unloading would undoubtedly have been but a small proportion of what it actually was. In previous years the loss has been much smaller, but it is safe to say that it would average at least \$50,000 a year, or in ten years another half million of dollars. A million dollars' loss in shipment of stockers in ten years is a large sum, and seemingly out of all reasonable proportion to what it should be, and no doubt the C.P.R. would immediately dub such an assertion as a gross exaggeration and entirely absurd. The proof, however, we imagine can be easily had, if the numerous shippers would furnish data of their individual losses. Let, however, these losses be discounted by one-half, and there remains a sum as represented by such losses as would put all the yards and all of the stock cars of the C.P.R. into such shape as would effectually eliminate the present large percentage of loss from stocker shipments.

Something must be done, and at once, as already the ranchmen are refusing to accept delivery, except at point of disembarkation, while dealers refuse to contract for delivery save at point of shipment. Someone, under present conditions, is bound to lose money, and, seemingly, the only remedy is the lowering of the price paid to the producer, the farmers of Manitoba and Ontario.

CATTLEMAN.

No Joke.

Some of our American papers are inclined to poke fun at Secretary Chamberlain for advocating in the English Parliament discriminations in favor of the colonies, as compared with foreign countries, in matters pertaining to trade. It may yet turn out that such a disposition to levity is rather premature. As we see the matter, such a course of action is far from improbable or impracticable, and if it become a realization, it will mean something to these United States. In many lines of agricultural consumption Great Britain is at present by far our most valuable customer.—[The Minnesota Farmer.

A farmer he stood on the rain-sodden heather,
And mused as he gazed on an invalid ram—
Just whether the wether would weather the weather,
Or whether the weather the wether would damn.
—[The Globe.

"The Criticism of Veterinarian!"

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—When penning my communication regarding "What should be taught at the present-day veterinary college," I had no idea that any person's feelings would be hurt so that those persons would feel constrained to apologize for being graduates of a short-term school. Unfortunately, the late manager of Wavertree is defending a bad cause, so bad that he has to resort to quibbling. One can only infer from his arguments that as a four-year course turns out theorists

NOR OUTLINE THE CURRICULUM, NEITHER DOES IT CONFER ANY DEGREE; where, then, are the functions of this great institution, the Provincial University, called into play with regard to our much-loved profession? If I am correct, and I stand ready to be corrected, affiliation with the University, as far as the Queen City College goes, means the use of the name of a public institution to advertise a private one, which is an utterly immoral proceeding! I grant that many graduates of the Ontario school have made their mark in their chosen profession, but it was due entirely to the inherent qualities of

the men themselves; and, rather a remarkable thing, nearly all those successful graduates have declared openly for a higher standard, not by word of mouth only, but by their actions, as examples: Dr. Rutherford, Chief Veterinary Inspector for Canada, who fathered the Manitoba Veterinary Association bill, which Province now bars the Toronto graduate of later date than 1897; Dr. S. J. Thompson, Provincial Veterinarian of Manitoba; Dr. Stalker, late Dean of the Veterinary Department, Iowa State College, with a three-year course; Drs. McKillip and L. A. Merrillat, of Chicago, both connected with three-year course institutions; and one might go on enumerating them, all men who admire, as I do, the gentleman Dr. Medd refers to, only they differ very markedly in their opinion from that gentleman and Dr. Medd, as to what constitutes a proper veterinary curriculum for the twentieth century. That great association to meet at Ottawa in September, the American Veterinary Medical Association, also has declared unmistakably for the abolition of two-year courses. Then, again, we find gold medalists from Toronto going right to the Chicago schools (McKillip and Chicago), Cornell and others, to finish! A large number of graduates from the Toronto schools are to be found each winter in three-year schools, brightening themselves up in post-graduate or practitioners' courses. I have yet to hear of one of those men going back to his alma mater for such a purpose. The school Dr. Medd defends has its good points, some of which I may mention: It enforces discipline, and turns out on the average better anatomists than any college on the continent; if it only insisted on a matriculation of some value, added another year, and gave clinical instruction, about all the causes for complaint would be removed. Wavertree knows how necessary culling is in a Galloway herd; he would not admit an inferior bull at any time; the admission of a man of inferior intellectual attainments to the profession, via the college, is also detrimental in its effects. I take it that Dr. Medd would apply the term practical only to the veterinarian able to diagnose a disease in the living animal, and administer medicine for the same, which, after all, is only one phase of work in the profession to-day; meat inspection and other branches, such as are called for in the Canadian and United States veterinary services, are of equal importance; in fact, greater, and should receive equal attention in a veterinary college curriculum. If an illiterate veterinarian should accidentally, we will say, worm his way through college into one of the public services mentioned, how is the department using his services to get a clear, concise statement regarding an outbreak of disease he may have been sent to investigate? Nowadays the term—practical—is so often wrongly appropriated by unskilled labor, that I am sorry to see Dr. Medd pin his whole argument to that one word. To-day, practically only one Canadian veterinary college is in existence (see Journal of Comp. Medicine, Phila., Pa.). and as loyal Canadians and enthusiastic profes-



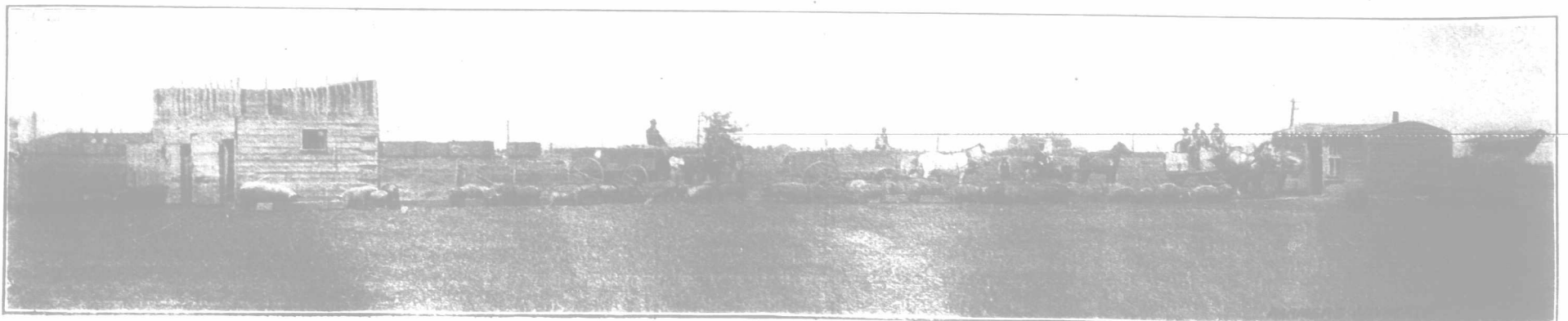
TWO CALGARY WINNERS.

1. Prince Lyndoch [2381], first prize in mature Clyde class, Calgary Spring Show.
2. Pride of Eastfield [2828], first at Toronto Spring Show, and second at Calgary.

BOTH OWNED BY JNO. CLARK, CROWFOOT, ALTA.

(according to his statement, with which, by the way, I entirely disagree), that a three-year course will furnish less, and a two-year course still fewer; meaning, in so many words, that the more uneducated or illiterate a person is, the more practical that person will be—a contention utterly absurd! If education is a bar to being practical, why, then, the whole trend of modern (not medieval) education is at fault. Why, therefore, should we establish more agricultural colleges, schools of practical science, of forestry—technical schools, in fact?

I am glad, as a child of the same alma mater as Dr. Medd, to hear him speak regarding the affiliation with Toronto University, and should be glad if he could give me the following information through the "Farmer's Advocate," for the benefit of a large number of veterinarians, besides myself, who are anxious to see the standard raised, not with a view of limiting competitors in the veterinary field, but in order to put the profession on an intellectual and educational footing equal to the agricultural, legal, medical, dental and pharmaceutical professions! I am afraid the good Doctor has let his friendship for the individual bias his judgment in this matter, because, except for an occasional heresy in his article, it is a plea for a longer course and higher standard. But to return to the affiliation with the Provincial University (by the way, a public, not a private institution), what does such affiliation mean? WHAT BENEFITS DOES IT CONFER ON THE PUBLIC, THE PROFESSION, OR THE STUDENTS? As far as I am aware, and I wish the Doctor to correct me if I am in error, THE UNIVERSITY DEMANDS NO MATRICULATION AT ENTRANCE INTO THE TORONTO VETERINARY COLLEGE, NEITHER DOES IT APPOINT THE EXAMINING BOARD,



HOG-RAISING ON PORTAGE PLAINS, MAN.

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