

Smut on corn stalks, and equally the hard, dry, weather-beaten leaves of the stalks, are quite indigestible, and if there be smut on them the indigestibility will itself be a source of disease.

Rye hay is not a desirable winter feed for sheep; nothing near as good as oat, wheat or pea straw if the latter is cut in early bloom. It is hard, woody and not greatly relished by any kind of stock. If cut for hay at all it should be done during its early bloom.

Stock Notes

DR. SIBBALD, Sutton West, Ont., reports his Shorthorns as doing exceptionally well. He has made a large number of sales in the Northwest during the past year, and also in this province.

THE TROUT CREEK FARM.

The Trout Creek Stock Farm, Millgrove, near Hamilton, owned by Mr. W. D. Flatt, of Hamilton, bids fair to rank as the premier farm of Ontario, if not of Canada. The beautiful herd of Scotch and English Shorthorns numbering about 110 head, is worth going many miles to see, for there is not an animal but might stand to lead anywhere as a prize winner.

Mr. Flatt has just returned from Great Britain, where he purchased 23 head of improved English Shorthorns ranging from a few months to four years old. Five of this number are cows that have been specially bred along the dual purpose line, for beef and milk. These Mr. Flatt purposes breeding to Scotch bulls. Mr. Flatt is strongly of the opinion that Canadian breeders do too much line breeding, and as a result Shorthorns have a tendency to become too fine in structure and lacking in strength, character and size. He has for some time given special attention to breeding up his herd on the dual purpose plan, and to-day Shorthorn lovers can see with pride some fine work in this connection. For beauty of form and strength of constitution it may well be doubted if the superior or even equal can be found anywhere in America to compare with the Trout Creek herd.

While in England Mr. Flatt visited the famous dual purpose herd of William Duthie, Collyne, Scotland, consisting of about 300 head. "Anyone," says Mr. Flatt, "whoever doubted the possibility of a dual purpose cow would never doubt again after seeing Mr. Duthie's herd."

The Trout Creek herd is headed by a remarkable animal, Golden Fame, Scotch imported, a truly grand animal, having great constitution and symmetry.

Mr. Flatt thinks stock-raising will never make the progress it should in Canada so long as the present system of registration has to be traced back to British importations. If the British breeder can start out on any line he wishes, to build up a herd to his taste, without foreign importations, and still register his animals, why should not the Canadian stock-raiser be able to do the same? The present system in Canada, Mr. Flatt thinks, is unprogressive and very expensive, and seriously retards the best interests of improved stock-raising.

W. J. T.

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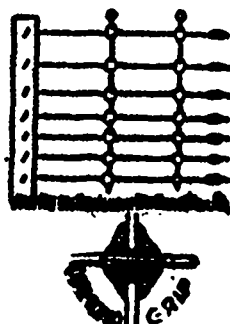
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