

LIVE STOCK.

MUSLIN CURTAIN VENTILATION.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Replying to your enquiries, I have used the muslin-curtain ventilating system since 1900 in Central New York, where the thermometer ranges as low as forty degrees below zero in the winter. I use it in my own bedroom, my dairy stable, horse stable, poultry house, swine barn, etc. My experience has been perfectly satisfactory. I had a King system in my dairy stables, and closed up the openings, as I found the muslin curtains much more satisfactory. S. H. Anderson, Falls Church, Va., has used the system in the dairy stable of A. M. Lothrop, whose manager he is, during the past year. I enclose a letter from Mr. Anderson, which gives his experience, and which is a fair sample of numerous others:

E. M. Santee.—In reply to your favor of May 1st, we have in use the muslin curtains in our cow barn and poultry houses, as ventilators, since last November, and the result has been a surprise to us. Whereas, we expected to close the windows as cold weather comes on, we found that it was then we got the most benefit from them. On the coldest nights we have had no trouble in keeping up the temperature, and then the air of that cow stable was a revelation. I used to visit the stable during the evening, to open or close doors, in order to keep things as I wanted them, but soon found that the new ventilators did the work better than I could possibly do it if I had stood at the door all the time. We had the same experience with our poultry houses. I want to thank you for giving us the information relative to their use, and assure you that, by giving it to the dairymen and poultrymen of this country you will be doing them a service that each must eventually appreciate.—[S. H. Anderson, Manager.]

E. M. Santee, Asst. Dairyman.
U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry.

[Note.—The muslin referred to is ordinary factory cloth, or muslin or cotton, as it is known in different sections of the country. It is the loosest mesh next to cheese cloth.—Editor.]

FIGHTING RAGWORT IN PICTOU CO., N. S.

One way and another, our readers have heard a good deal during the past few years concerning what has been called the Pictou cattle disease, prevalent in parts of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island. Technically, this disease is called hepatic cirrhosis, a liver complaint not unlike gin liver in man. The disease attacks cattle, and it is not yet established that horses are immune. It is caused by eating when in a dried state and mixed with hay, a weed called ragwort or "Stinking Willie," introduced into Nova Scotia in the early fifties, and since distributed widely in that and the Island Province. The disease is not contagious, but can never be stamped out till the fields are free of the weed.

It is gratifying, therefore, to know that the ladies are getting after it, by offering prizes to school children who will collect the largest number of specimens, the appeal being made through the teachers.

The East Pictou County Local Council of Women offers prizes to the sections procuring the largest average of stalks per pupil enrolled, the stalks to be cut close to the ground at the time the plant is in full bloom, which occurs, as a rule, between August 15th and 31st. Prizes are also offered to the individual pupils who cut the largest number of stalks of the weed. The prizes to the sections are, respectively: First prize, \$15.00, second \$10.00, third \$7.50, and to the next five, in order of merit, \$5.00 each, the prizes to be applied to school equipment, as teacher, trustees and pupils decide.

The prizes offered to the individual pupils are: First \$10.00, second \$8.00, third \$6.00, fourth \$4.00, and to the next twenty-five, in order of merit, \$2.00 each. The number of stalks cut must be certified by reliable persons who are willing to accept the responsibility of reviewing, counting and burning the stalks. The plan is heartily endorsed by the County Council, the local M. P. P., the School Inspector, and the Provincial Superintendent of Education. The Secretary of the County Council of Women is Miss A. M. Murray, New Glasgow, N. S. Success to the effort. May others take it up.

I think "The Farmer's Advocate" is worth double the subscription price to breeders and farmers.
W. L. PAFF,
Wellesley, Ont.

BATH AND WEST OF ENGLAND SHOW.

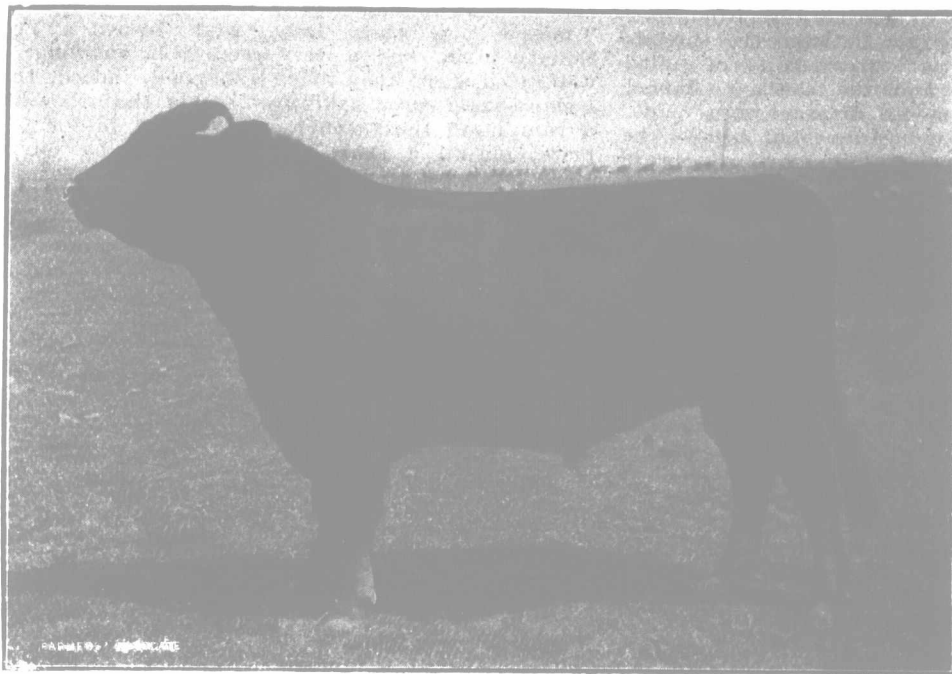
This show, which ranks second in importance of events of its kind in England, and is one of the oldest live-stock exhibitions in the country, was held at Newport, Monmouthshire, June 5-10.

The heavy horse section is never a very strong one at these meetings, but since it has been divided into classes for Shire horses and those of any other breed there has been an increase in the entries.

Amongst those that were successful with Shires at this show were Sir P. A. Muntz, with Dunsmore Franklin, in the older stallion class; Mr. F. E. Muntz, with that grand two-year-old, King Forest; whilst in the yearling class, Dewstow Forest King, another son of Lockinge Forest King, owned by Mr. H. Oakley, was first.

The brood mare and filly classes were very good, included amongst the winners being Blythwood Bounteous, first in the brood-mare class; Alderhy Lady Jemeson, first in the three-year-old class; Ashleaf, first in the two-year-old class, and Mr. L. Dodd's Rustic Gipsy Queen, first in the yearling class.

Hackney breeders will be interested to note that Dashing Girl, bred by Sir W. Gilbey and owned by Mr. W. R. Tubbs, was the winner of the silver medal for the best mare of the breed. Hopwood Clematis, owned by the last named exhibitor, was first in the four-year-old class, whilst Sir Walter Gilbey's Lively Birthday, a splendid two-year-old, was first in that class, and the winning yearling colt was Amberley King, owned by the Keynsham Stud Company.



Protector (imp.).

Shorthorn bull, Calved November, 1904. Property of John McFarlane & W. H. Ford, Dutton, Ont.

The cattle section was a large one, and full of interest.

For some reason the average merit of the Shorthorn classes, which were well filled, was hardly up to that usually found at this show. In the dairy class Lord Rothschild was first and second, with a couple of excellent dairy Shorthorn cows. In the usual class for cows in milk, Sherbourne Ruth, a good roan, won first honors for Mr. James Horlick, Vesta taking second prize for Sir A. C. Stepney. In the three-year-old heifer class, Allerston Mary 2nd, owned by Mr. R. M. Knowles, secured the preference over that fine red heifer, Beauty 3rd, owned by Mr. J. Deane-Willis. Roan Pansy was first in the two-year-old class, owned by Mr. F. Phillips, beating by a narrow margin Mr. G. Harrison's Montrave Wondrous. The yearling heifers were a very large class, Mr. A. F. Bassett heading the same with Tehidy Queen of Brilliants 3rd, Mr. Willis coming in second with Mermaid, a capital roan.

The older bull class was headed by H. M. the King's grand red and white Enchanter, Stonecrop, a white owned by Mr. Willis, occupying the same position in the two-year-old class, followed by Manor Nelson, a red owned by Mr. A. D. Acland. In the yearling class, H. M. the King was again to the fore with the well-bred white Golden Treasure.

The Hereford entry was most distinctly representative of the high merit of the breed. In the female classes the Earl of Coventry with Madame, Mr. T. R. Thomson with Beauty 3rd, Mr. W. B. Tudge with Princess Beatrice and Mr. A. E. Hughes with Lemster Plum, were the principal winners in the four female classes. The last named exhibitor was first in the old bull class

with Pearl King, whilst Perton, owned by Mr. H. J. Dent, occupied the same position in the two-year-old class, and the grand young bull Samson, owned by Mr. D. A. Thomas, was first in the yearling class.

Aberdeen-Angus cattle made a remarkably good entry, the younger classes being wonderfully well supported. Mr. J. J. Cridlan, with Mabel 8th, was first in the cow class, whilst Pride of Ewenny, owned by Col. J. Picton, Tuberville, was first in the three-year-old class. Veritas of Preston, a remarkably choice and well-grown two-year-old heifer, was first for the Rev. C. Bolden in her class, followed by Pride of Alick, owned by Sir G. A. Cooper. In the older class Mr. Cridlan was again to the fore, with Everwise, whilst Black for Ever of Ballindalloch won first honors for Sir G. Cooper in the younger bull class.

SHEEP.

A capital representative exhibit was made of the different breeds, and during the judging it was satisfactory to note that there were present watching this being done representatives of the great sheep industry from Canada, United States, Argentine, Chili, etc.

Breeders of Cotswold sheep appreciate and know the value of the sheep of this breed from Messrs. Garne's flock. They were leading winners in two of the three classes, i. e., yearling rams and ewes, and second for ram lambs, in which Mr. W. Thomas won first.

The Devon Long-wools, a hardy and prolific breed of long-wool sheep, made a specially good entry. Mr. F. White was principal winner for yearling rams and ram lambs, Mr. R. Cook for yearling ewes, and Mr. J. D. Pedlar was also a successful exhibitor.

In the Lincoln classes Messrs. T. Casswell, H.

Dudding and R. Dixon were the principal exhibitors, the former winning first honors for two-shear and yearling rams, and the latter for yearling ewes and ram lambs.

The Southdowns were well represented, and the winning sheep were typical specimens of this well-known breed of mutton-producers. Mr. C. Aueane won first and champion for males, with a notably fine two-year-old sheep, and first and second for yearling rams. H. M. the King was first for ram lambs, a particularly choice pen, second for yearling ewes, and third and r. n. for yearling rams, the Duke of Devonshire taking a well-deserved first, as well as special for the best pen of ewes.

The Hampshire Down entry was a very good one indeed. Mr. James Flower was well to the fore, with specially good sheep. First for yearling rams, and for ram lambs, and second for ewe lambs. In this latter class, a trio of high-class, typical lambs won for Mr. H. C. Stephens, who was also second for ram lambs and yearling rams. Sir W. G. Pearce, Bart., and the Hon. Bouverie were also amongst the winners.

The Shropshire entry was an exceedingly good one, Mr. M. Williams winning first and third for yearling rams, and second for ram lambs, with very typical sheep. First in the last named class, first and second for yearling ewes, and second for yearling rams were the honors won by Sir Richard Cooper with very choice sheep. Messrs. A. Tanner, Sir W. O. Corbet and T. S. Morgan were also leading winners.

A good entry was found in the Oxford Down classes, Mr. A. Brassey taking precedence in the yearling ram class, in which he was first and third, Mr. J. Horlick was second, and this exhibitor was also second in the yearling ewe class in which Mr. J. T. Hobbs, who was r. n. and h. c. for yearling rams, took first and reserve honors.

The Somerset and Dorset Horn sheep secured an average entry, and the leading honors were divided between Messrs. W. R. Flower, E. A. Hambro and F. J. Merson.

The swine section of this show is a very good one indeed. The Berkshires were represented by a very good entry, and the leading breeders in the award list were the Duchess of Devonshire, whose sow, Polegate Dorcas 2nd, won first honors as well as the medal for the best of its breed, and