



HOG BURIED ALIVE IN STRAW STACK ON OBERON FARM, CARBERRY, FROM NOVEMBER 18TH TO MAY 20TH.

ing and we are informed that through low prices or keen demand Mr. Clark stayed with the hogs. He uses purebred Yorkshire, Tamworth and Berkshire sires, often crosses the two last mentioned breeds, but is of the opinion that rather better results will accrue from breeding from Yorkshire sows. He breeds from young sows, has the pigs come in June. The sows are out all winter, during the forepart of gestation, and the weather is later on good enough to ensure exercise, the latter part of the pregnancy. Pigs are fed off to weigh two hundred and fifty pounds, and no winter feeding is attempted; self feeders and plenty of water in summer-time do the work cheaply. No old sows are kept; after one or two litters they go to the packers. A fine horse barn was seen 90x32 with a cement floor. Eight farm horse teams are used for the daily work during seeding. Some grass is sown annually and if two crops of wheat are taken, then the one of oats is followed by a manured fallow sown to rape and pastured by the cattle as long as they can stay out. The next spring, it is sown to wheat, after a light plowing necessitated by the tramping, and we are reliably informed that as high as fifty-two bushels per acre of One Northern has been obtained after such treatment. The system instituted by Mr. Clark in 1889, the year he came to the country, not over rich, has demonstrated its value by the growth of the holding from one quarter to five sections. A large area is to be sown to potatoes, thirty to forty acres for which an Aspinwall planter has been commandeered.

Do not Let Go of Stockers too Readily.

Already the men of foresight are scouring Manitoba for stockers, ones and twos, and the prices being paid from information received, are not in line with the enhancement in finished beef values. Cattlemen and others who have studied the situation do not hesitate to predict a shortage of beeves, and it is evident from the movement just started that those who look ahead are profiting by it and picking up stockers at low prices, \$10 to \$12 for year-olds. Sell your cattle by weight and you are more likely to get value. Even say a year-old only weighs five hundred pounds, sold at 24c. the price is \$12.50. Think the matter over and do not let your cattle be stolen from you.

Let Championships be Earned, Not Given.

"A society's first duty is to keep the show-yard as far as possible in consonance with the aims of the breeder." This sentence from an editorial by an esteemed contemporary points out the duty very plainly of societies holding shows for live stock. If such a rule were observed we should not see the game played by which an exhibitor may show two animals of the same type and class to cinch two championships. To be brief, it is an injustice to the society, to other breeders and to the visitors to permit a man to show an animal for a championship that has not worked its way right up through its class in competition with others. At some fairs we have seen this done and while such shows get large grants, mainly because of their educational influence, that effect is lost because the real championship is never decided. For the benefit of the public we hold such should be decided and uncertainty removed.

An instance comes to mind where a breeder and dealer showed two animals of the same class. One he let work its way through the classes, to a minor championship; then withdrew it and showed the other for the grand championship. The society lost money by it; the public was not

given the educational training that would have resulted had both animals been made to show together in minor and grand championships, and the only possible benefit was that the exhibitor could say of each animal it was a champion, a form of procedure he followed solely to help the sale of either. No one would object to helping a man push the sales of his live stock, but we contend the rules of the various agricultural societies. Should, in all fairness to other exhibitors and the public, contain a clause to the effect that championship competitions are only open to animals which have at the show of that year competed in the other sections of the class open to them. The various live stock associations should take this matter up.

On Feeding Range Steers.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

With regard to the article in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE of May 1st, "Colorado and Alberta Steer Feeding," would say that we are as feeders a long way behind our neighbors to the south, even if we had the feed stuff to hand. The prices ruling for beef steers in the spring or any other time are a long way from being commensurate with the value of feed and labor required. As Mr. Tees remarks, there is very little inducement to feed much grain. That is one of the things I hope to see explained shortly—the difference in the prices going on this side the line, from that on the south. Now as to Mr. Tees' line of management, I would venture to say that if he had let the calves run with the cow till the latter end of November, then put them in the yard right away and fed them all the hay they could eat till there was a bit for them in the spring, they would have been bigger steers. Our bunch that went off this spring were by a purebred Shorthorn bull, one of the right stamp, low down, thick, sappy, easy handling sort, extra well sprung in the ribs the kind that are hard to get hold of, from a lot of grade cows, our own rearing from purebred bulls (Shorthorn). We wean the calves about the first of December, give them all the hay they can eat. We always give the calves the best of the hay; that is, the earliest cut stuff, keeping them in as long as possible in the spring, so that they can get a bit when turned out and have a chance to go right ahead. Their second winter is spent with the bunch. In an ordinary winter they are out all the time. One small feed of hay per day is all they get. They generally come through in thrifty condition, so that we can either ship them in the fall, as threes, or hold them over till the spring, when they are four-year-olds. When we feed them ourselves we have hay in the rack all the time, putting fresh stuff in three times a day. I don't like to keep them waiting for it, as they soon give uneasy if we are not on time. We keep water running through the yard, salt before them all the time, a big shed, open poles in front, where they go in on stormy days. We never dehorn; not feeding grain they don't crowd so much, having plenty of room and getting plenty of hay. They seem to do well enough.

Owing to the deep snow coming last November we had to feed the whole bunch right from the start two months and a half before our usual time. As a result we had to arrange with a neighbor, Mr. Wilson, to feed this last bunch. He did very well by them; fed them three times a day, salt and sulphur before them all the time, all the shelter they had being some small willow brush. The severe cold never seemed to

trouble them a bit. It was just a question of lots of good hay, so that they came out right side up averaging 1540 lbs., one of them going 1710 lbs. One thing in their favor, they were in splendid shape when put in, in the fall. They brought 4½ c. per lb. I wonder what would have happened if the Chicago price had held. I should like to remark before closing that if the farmers and feeders were to put the young things up to feed right from their dams their would be more profit and better cattle. As things are, they are just allowed to exist, just struggle along anyhow, and as a consequence they can never be such good cattle as they might have been, instead of going off at two years, dawdling on till four or five.

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Where some Shorthorn Families came from.

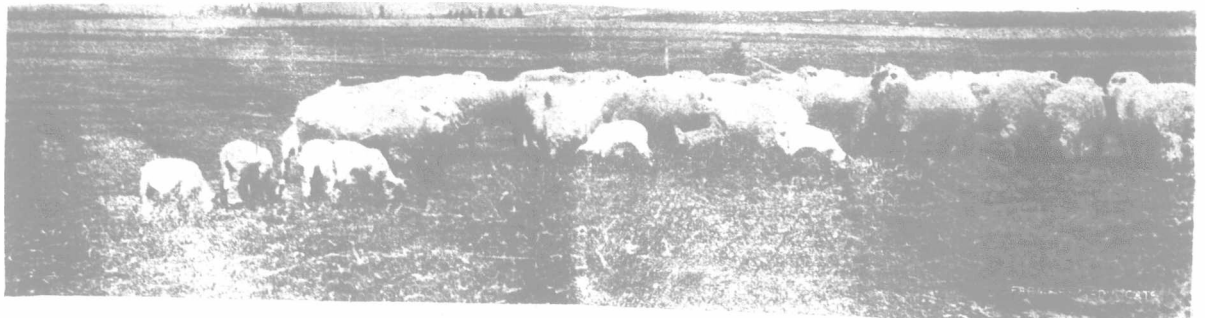
The novice at Shorthorn breeding is often perplexed by the family idea which he finds some difficulty in co-ordinating with the pedigrees as laid before him. The family idea does not really mean so much as some would have us believe, because the old adage, there is a black sheep in every flock, applies to cattle as to men and sheep. Some of the leading families may be mentioned and the herds in which they are strongest. Missies, Nonpareils, Roan Ladys, Princess Royals, Claras, were to be found at Uppermill, the famous breeding farm of the Marrs, father and son, now occupied by Jno. Marr, a nephew of the elder Marr. At the Duthie farms, Tillycairn and Collynie, are to be found Village Maids, and many other of the following Cruickshank families, Butterflies, Lancasters, Orange Blossoms, Minases, Clarets, Duchesses of Gloucester, Clementinas, etc. Bruce of Inverquhomery had the Augustas and Rosewoods; Lord Lovat the Broadhooks and Julias; Deane Willis, Victorias, Crocuses, Lavenders and many other Cruickshank families. Gordon of Newton has the Clippers, but it will be found that the families mentioned are now distributed into many Scotch, English and Irish herds.

A liberal sprinkling of the blood of the families mentioned is to be found in many Canadian herds, especially of those who have been importing of late years. Other well-known families are Brawith Buds, Wimples, Emmas, Bessies, Marigolds, Goldies and Lady Dorothis. The defect of the family idea is that speaking generally it only takes cognizance of the influence of one side of the breeding, that of the dam, hence is only of partial value, and alone is not to be depended upon as a basis on which to purchase an animal.

Principles of Breeding.

But few occupations possess the exquisite fascination of animal husbandry. The breeder is brought into immediate relation with nature, and has the opportunity to watch the unfolding and operation of the laws of heredity. If ambitious, there is no impossible achievement in developing perfection in quality of the different breeds of domestic animals. There is always a rich pecuniary reward to encourage the supreme effort of the breeder in the improvement of any class of live stock. The breeder may commence experimentation as a mere child in understanding of the fundamental laws of methodical selection and breeding.

The common-sense law that "like produces like or the likeness of some ancestor," is the basic principle on which the evolution of breeds has been consummated, and at no stage in breeding



SHROPSHIRE FLOCK AT BAIRD'S BURN STOCK FARM
Property of John A. Baird, Esq.