

made 150 gs., and a red heifer calf out of the 270-gs. cow made 155 gs., the buyers being Messrs. Dean, Dowsby, Lincoln, who were also extensive buyers last week at the northern sales. They are very extensive breeders, both of Shorthorn cattle and Lincoln sheep. A two-year-old heifer of the Wild-Eyes tribe made 155 gs. Another of the Duchess race made 150 gs., and a Duchess-of-Cumberland heifer calf, 14th of the race, made 160 gs., to Mr. Cazalet, a well-known dairy Shorthorn breeder in Kent. These figures show that, given good cattle, well cared for, and not "run to seed," nothing can beat a "bit of Bates" when you come to the sale-ring. Style and milking qualities always count in the female, and that is as it should be.

Mr. Thornton has also had a series of quite successful sales in other parts of England. At The Duffryn, Newport, Mon., Mr. Richard Stratton has a fine old herd of the Moss Ross tribe. He sold 55 of these lately, making an average of over £36 each, which was quite good. Great Shorthorn sales are also to be held this week in Yorkshire, where Mr. Thornton conducts sales every year. The demand for good cattle continues very brisk, but anything of secondary character does not make much money.

The Northern Shorthorn week of 1907 will not soon be forgotten. Mr. Duthie broke all his previous records, making an average of £409 16s. 3d. for 17 bull calves, or not far short of ten times the average which he made in 1889. Twenty-eight bull calves in that year made an average of £45 each, and the averages have, with little intermission, steadily increased ever since. The highest figures this year were 750, 720, 700 and 530 guineas. Last year the highest figure was 850 guineas, but the average for 18 bull calves was £304 15s. 10d. Mr. Duthie and his neighbors may well be congratulated on a week of phenomenal trade. The four bull calves from the new Uppermill herd of Mr. John Marr, which were sold at the same time, made an average of 100 gs. each, but the next best sale of the series to Collynie was that of Mains of Sanquhar, Forres, on the Friday. There, the 56 head catalogued made the splendid average of £75 9s. 9d. There was a two-days' sale at Aberdeen intervening. On the first day 120 head made the average of £49 13s. 10d., and on the second 96 head made an average of £38 10s. 1d. At all of these sales, home buyers took the "plums." There were Argentine operators, but they either had not deep enough purses or were afraid of the vagaries of the tuberculin test in Buenos Ayres. Aberdeenshire breeders, as the readers of this letter are doubtless aware, have set themselves resolutely against recognizing or giving any guarantee that cattle will pass the test. Mr. Duthie has led them in this, and he certainly has lost nothing by assuming a resolute attitude.

On the first day at Aberdeen, Mr. A. T. Gordon, who was recently judging at Toronto, got as high as 180 gs. and 120 gs. for two-year-old heifers. Mr. Anderson, Saphock, Old Meldrum, who has an excellent herd, got 500 gs. for a yearling heifer, which, if not a record, is certainly a very high price. Mr. Bruce, Heatherwick, who also owns a fine old herd, got 110 gs. for a yearling heifer from an Irish buyer. On the second day, Mr. Anderson, Wardes, had 120 gs. for a two-year-old heifer. A new breeder, Mr. Corneliuss, from Cheshire, was a good buyer. He gave 260 gs. for a two-year-old heifer bred by Mr. Morrison, Phingask, Fraserburgh, and 300 gs. for a yearling heifer bred by Mr. Godfrey Hill, Little Haddo, Methlic. Generally after the first day at Collynie the chief demand was for heifers. Yearlings and two-year-olds of superior breeding and merit were making big prices.

The Messrs. Law, who are leaving Mains of Sanquhar, Forres, for another big farm in that neighborhood, had a capital sale the same week. Mr. Duthie gave 170 gs. and 150 gs. for a couple of cows. Mr. Crawford, C. Tyrone, gave 200 gs. for a third cow. A two-year-old heifer from Holl made 120 gs., the Messrs. Dean, Dowsby, being the buyers. A third Montrose breeder, Mr. H. M. S. MacKay, Bungle Lodge, made a notable contribution to this sale. He got 106 gs. for a two-year-old heifer, and 100 gs., 240 gs. and 200 gs. for yearling heifers, the two highest-priced heifers going to a Ross-shire breeder. Mr. John Gordon. Messrs. Dean gave 100 gs. for a bull calf bred at Mains of Sanquhar. In the afternoon of the same day another sale was held in the town of Forres, and an Irish breeder, Sir

H. H. Smiley, Ardmore, Laine, had the honor of selling heifers at long prices to three of the most-noted Aberdeenshire breeders. Mr. Duthie took one at 155 gs.; Mr. James Durno, Jackston, took a second at 130 gs., and Mr. James Durno, Westertown, took a third at 150 gs. The week was rounded off with a sale at Perth on the Saturday, at which 83 head from the principle breeders in Fife and Perth made an average of £28 10s. 3d. Colonel Munro, Mains of Murthly, who has a fine idea about a Shorthorn, sold a heifer for 160 gs. to Sir. H. H. Smiley, Larne, and Mr. Stephen Mitchell, of Boquhan, got 100 gs. for a two-year-old heifer.

Stockmen generally have had a splendid season. The worst thing about agriculture just now is the wet weather. September was a lovely, dry month, but deficient in hard, drying wind. October is half gone, and the rain has been falling almost every day. An immense amount of grain is still in the fields, and unless there be a cessation of the rainfall, the outlook for the grain-grower and potato-grower, in spite of good prices, is black enough. It is not ordinary rain; we are having downpours and floods which threaten to work disaster in many districts.

Several of the principle cheese shows are over. The summer was too damp for the cheesemaker, and the quality is not up to the mark. Whether any great improvement may be looked for in price cannot be foreshadowed, but meantime there is nothing wrong with the price in Scotland, although the English maker has had to take 10s. to 12s. less per cwt. of 112 pounds than he was getting a year ago. The Scots cheddar is expected to hold its own, because your Canadian make seems also to have suffered this year.

At the London Dairy Show, last week, great interest was taken in the mechanical milking of cows by the Lawrence-Kennedy machine. The practice demonstrations were eagerly followed, and the system of milking in this way is likely to become more general than it has been. The Lawrence-Kennedy machine is certainly a wonderful implement. Another machine is being projected from the ingenious workshop of Messrs. T. & R. Wallace, Castle-Douglas. It, too, has its advocates, and sooner or later—and sooner rather than later—we will see cows more and more milked in this way.

"SCOTLAND YET."

Dual Purpose Shorthorns.

The Farmer and Stockbreeder (British), commenting on the success which has attended recent Scottish Shorthorn sales, particularly that of the Collynie herd, sees in the increasing demand for Scotch blood a refutation of the claim that stockmen both in the British Isles and abroad are turning to the two purpose Shorthorns, and goes on to say:

"It is becoming more and more abundantly clear that in the pursuit after milk and flesh the two types cannot very well be run concurrently. The best that can be expected of a milking type of Shorthorn is that she will be able when dry to fatten readily, but to look for a herd of deep-milking Shorthorns with the fleshiness to be found in a herd given over to bull breeding is not to be expected. The Scotch Shorthorn is undoubtedly triumphant, and so long as it maintains its position, so long will the foreigner find it most to his profit to acquire the best stock that we produce. The foreign demand is not for milk, but for flesh, although those breeders, who are well acquainted with the circumstances surrounding Shorthorn breeding in this country, realize that the prosperity of the one type is ultimately visited upon the other. There is every reason, therefore, why breeders of all persuasions should welcome the high prices which have been paid in Scotland, and regard the record Collynie sale as a hopeful augury of the trade they are later on to experience."

There is little doubt but that at the present time in most live-stock countries the demand is for flesh not milk. The remarkable success which has attended the sales in question for years is ample proof of this. At the same time there is among American and Canadian live-stock men just now, a growing feeling that greater attention should be given to milking function in Shorthorns. Many of the foremost American breeders are questioning if it would not be advisable to turn to the older fashioned kind of deep-milking cattle, and if general indications speak for anything we

believe there will be a demand for the dual functioned kind on this continent quite equal to any demand that ever existed for the more heavily meated strains. Whether this change in ideal will benefit the breed as a breed is difficult to forecast. There are not wanting those who forebode evil from any movement so revolutionary in its aims. It is quite possible, however, that, like all changes that have been made previously, it will work toward the permanent betterment of the breed.

The Van Norman Cow Stall.

The stall illustrated in the accompanying diagram is described by a well known American authority on such subjects as the simplest, cheapest and most hygienic stall yet constructed. The ideal cow stall is one that will hold the animal securely, be easy to tie the animal into and to unfasten when turning it out. The arrangement of the fastener should be such that the maximum amount of liberty will be afforded, while at the same time the animal is prevented from getting its feet caught in it. Another requirement of a good cow stall is that it should keep the animal clean and absolutely prevent one animal from stepping on another. For this reason the stalls are built singly and the partitions between them carried clear back to the gutter. The manger should be large enough to hold all the rough fodder required by the cow, be so arranged as to prevent getting it under foot and should be cleaned of all refuse matter. The sloping bottom of the manger facilitates the sweeping out of refuse into the feeding passage, the floor of which is a foot higher than the bottom of the manger.

The stall may be constructed of one and one-half inch lumber dressed or rough. To build it place the 2"x6" A in position five feet or less from

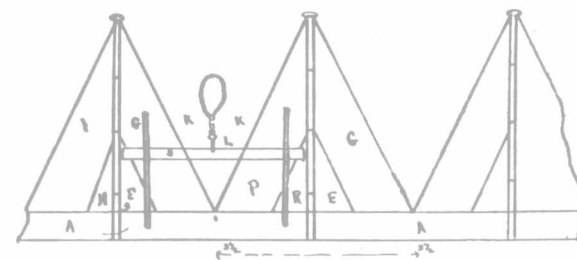


FIG. 1

the gutter. Five feet is the regular distance from the gutter to the manger. Then build the raised feeding floor setting the joist S two feet six inches in the clear from A; cut the plank B and fasten it in place, and successively planks C, D and E, keeping them in place temporarily with a cleat until F and G are secured. When properly fitted toenail G to A at I, and nail B, C, D and E to F and G; then toenail H and I, in place. The stall partitions are now securely in place and the operations for as many stalls as wanted. B, C, D and E may be left a little long and when in position draw a line from the upper point of the partition down to the edge of the gutter on one side and from the same point down to the floor of the feeding alley on the other. The ends of these planks B, C, D, E should be covered with a partition cap O, which holds them in place and gives a finished appearance to the stall. The fastener bar J should be one inch shorter than the distance between the partitions—the partitions by the way are built three feet six inches apart—made of 1"x3" light strong wood, round corners and slides behind the iron staples shown. These staples should be placed nine inches from the partition and the lower end near the floor. They are made of half-inch round iron, with nuts on the end. In the center of the sliding fastener J, place a clevis of one by one-eighth-inch strap iron in which a common chain tie is fastened. Bore the hole for clevis bolt just above the middle of the bar. Hang the bar far enough from the neck to allow the cow to stand in a natural position. If conditions are such that a feeding alley is impracticable, the front of the manger may be arranged as shown by the dotted lines in Fig. 2.

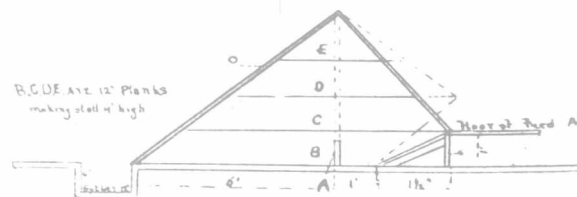


FIG. 2