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Stock Index
Over 110

Adjusted Labor
Income

Live Stock
Index

113

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161

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deep; the back level and the tail set on at a line nearly on a level with the back; the shoulders and hams carry considerable thickness and fullness, and the length and depth of side meat is very good. The length of leg is only moderate and the quality of bone and hair is fair." The breed is white in color, and mature stock will weigh around five hundred pounds. The quality of the pork compares favorably with other breeds. It is adapted to districts where plenty of feed is available. The breed has not been used extensively and its scope is limited. Other breeds which have become firmly established equal or surpass the Victoria as a commercial hog. Some claim that it is not so susceptible to skin disease as other white breeds. We do not remember having seen the breed at any of our Canadian shows.

The Essex breed originated in Essex County, England. The native type was a mixed color, flat-ribbed and rather coarse in bone. By selection and crossing with breeds of a black color, the white was entirely removed. The coarseness was to a large extent eliminated and the quality improved. The breed was first introduced into America early in the nineteenth century. It is small as compared with the Poland China, and it is not quite so well suited to serve conditions as some of the other breeds. Its early maturing quality is a factor in its favor. Essex pigs make satisfactory gains and produce meat of excellent flavor. The tendency to produce quite a large proportion of fat to lean is somewhat against it. The breed is prolific. Prof. Plumb describes them as "black in color, the head rather short, the face slightly dished, forehead broad, ears small, fine and carried erect; the jaw rather broad and full, the neck is short, the back very broad and somewhat short and strongly carried, while the sides are deep and short. The shoulders are well laid and thickly fleshed and the hams are thick and deep. The legs which tend to be rather short show bone of fine quality. In form the Essex is distinctly of the thick-fleshed, fat, chunky sort, and perhaps no other breed in England has been fattened to so high a degree." We believe that one or two herds of this breed have at one time or another been kept in Ontario.

1918 Market Receipts and Prices.

The summary of the 1918 Market Reports as issued by the Live Stock Branch Markets Intelligence Division and the comparison of receipts for the past three years from the principal markets give some interesting figures. In 1918, 302,856 cattle passed through the Toronto Union Stock Yards. This was about 10,000 more than in 1917 and nearly 33,000 more than in 1916. The top price for 1,200-lb. steers in 1916 was \$10.50; the next year it jumped to \$12.50 and in 1918 it reached \$16.50. In 1918 receipts there were but 7,188 heavy finished steers. There were 23,360 good steers weighing from 1,000 to 1,200 lbs. Good steers from 700 to 1,000 lbs. totalled 47,315, and good heifers numbered 24,899, at an average price of \$12.40. This is a large number of heifers to be passing through one market on the way to the shambles in a single year, especially at a time when there is a call for breeding stock. Good and common cows totalled over 60,000, and canners and cutters, 28,468. Veal calves numbered 53,576.

The hog receipts at the Union Stock Yards were considerably less than in 1917, the number 363,524, as compared with 445,312 in 1917, and 527,489 in 1916. Judging from these figures there must be a large number of hogs still in the country, if, as reports indicated, there was an increase of thirty per cent. in the number of pigs farrowed last spring. The top price for selects went from \$13.25 in 1916 to \$21.25 in 1918. The grades, as given by the Live Stock Branch, Markets Intelligence Division, for the hogs received on the Toronto market in 1918 are as follows: Selects, 332,890; heavies, 1,040 lights, 11,564; sows, 10,142; stags, 329; thus it will be seen that a vast majority of the hogs produced on Ontario farms passed into the top grade.

The 1918 receipts of sheep on the Toronto market were 169,420, which was several thousand higher than either of the past two years. This number was made up of 136,494 good lambs, the remainder being common lambs and heavy, light and common sheep. Toronto is the largest market for cattle, hogs and sheep, but

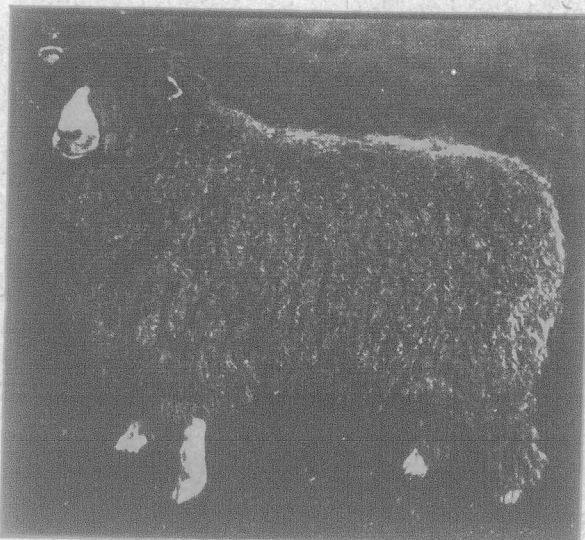
is surpassed by Montreal in the receipts of calves. Winnipeg is a close second to Toronto in the receipts of cattle and hogs, with Calgary third in both these classes of stock.

Community Breeding—A Means to An End.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The great war now ended has wrought havoc in the breeding stocks of Europe to a far greater extent than most of us know anything about. Necessity forced the slaughter of much of the live stock which hitherto was kept for breeding purposes, and which, as such, formed the source of supply for the newer, less-developed countries. With the advent of prospective peace, the world's greatest breeding ground finds itself sorely stripped of her good cattle. And so much so, that Europe will have to depend to some extent upon the American continent for the necessary high-class blood to lay a foundation for breeding work in years to come. This is our opportunity, and it is right now that Canadian breeders should be perfecting plans by which we can meet what is certain to be a steady demand.

It is the well-established breeder whose standard of stock is high, and whose financial resources are adequate for the pursuance of breeding live stock of the desired type, that will reap the benefits of the overseas demand.



Lincoln Ram.

Sold for 700 guineas in an English sale.

There are, however, a comparatively small number of breeders in our Dominion to-day who find themselves so situated. The matter thus evolves itself into one in which the less fortunate breeder must take a greater part.

There are in this land of ours a vast number of breeders whose attaining of success is largely barred by the inadequate source of capital at their disposal. Possessed of the essential knowledge of breeding and feeding management yet lacking the financial backing, the majority of our stockmen find themselves handicapped. We must, therefore, adopt a system of breeding which will "let in" the majority and thus involve a much greater number in the building up of a live-stock industry, appropriate in size and strength, to cater to the needs of Britain and the European countries.

The entire country believes that, as regards live stock, we will do wisely to increase our productive capacity to the fullest possible extent. To do this it is the writer's opinion that community breeding, often times spoken of, must become a reality. The purpose of community breeding is two fold. First, to improve the stock kept by the use of pure-bred sires of proven merit, and the keeping of pure-bred females as far as possible. Second, to put the live-stock business on a more substantial basis through co-operation. Local community breeders' associations formed throughout our province

can do much to establish a live-stock industry such as must materialize if we expect to take full advantage of the opportunity extended to Canada.

An association enables the breeders to co-operate in buying. A group of farmers can buy a sire in partnership and use him collectively. This is a great economy over the plan of several farmers buying their individual sires and using them on only ten or fifteen females. Moreover, if a large number of stock is to be bought for the community, a saving can be effected by having a representative committee purchase the animal. A body of people in the pursuit of the same end can profit not only by their own experiences, but also in the experiences of their associates. However well informed a man may be he is continually meeting problems that puzzle him. He needs to exchange views with his fellow-men to enlarge his perspective. Community breeding then has its educational value.

In the consideration of such a subject as community breeding, it is well for us to note what has actually been done by such a system. One of the very best illustrations of community breeding is to be seen in the Island of Jersey. In the year 1789 the dairy farmers of Jersey succeeded in passing a law which very explicitly prohibited the importation of any cattle whatsoever for breeding purposes. After 1789 the cattle which were sent to the Island were sent for beef purposes only. They had to be slaughtered within a few days after reaching the Island. What has been the result of such a consistent effort in community breeding? One result has been a steady demand for these community-bred cattle. Cattle breeders from all over the world, interested in dairy cattle, procured their stock from the Island.

Other breeds of live stock owe their origin and development to community breeding. For instance, in the Province of La Perche, in France, the community took an interest in the breeding of a certain type of horse. The famous Percheron, which resulted from this community breeding, is still eagerly sought by buyers from other countries.

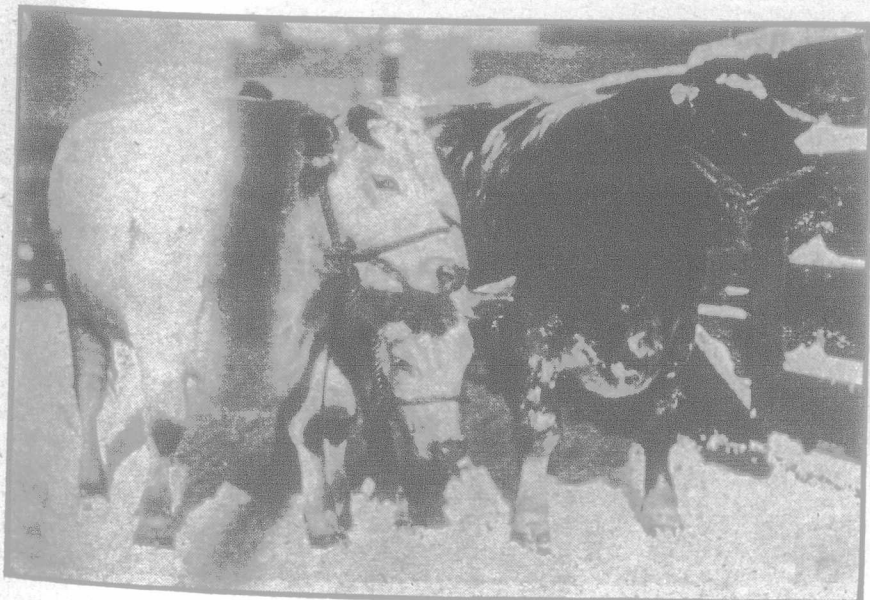
The Canada Food Board is quoted as saying: "By a careful study of figures and comparisons the enormous possibility for development of the Canadian live-stock industry on a broader basis is apparent. With the re-establishment of normal commercial communications with Europe on the restoration of peace, a tremendous demand upon the live-stock industry of this country will have to be anticipated and prepared for. Increased production of live stock is of vital importance to Canada and her future, and is the most valuable reconstruction work that can be done." Britain in 1917 is shown to have imported 1,077,154,000 lbs. of beef and 1,261,082,032 lbs. of hog products. Canada's contribution towards this demand was 29,580,000 lbs. of beef and 130,304,900 lbs. of hog products. This is surely an opportunity which we cannot afford to ignore or to waste.

Canada may easily place herself in the way of attaining a powerful place in the export live-stock business. But this we cannot achieve by haphazard breeding, which largely accounts for inferior and unprofitable stock. No matter in what industry an individual or country may be engaged, the producer of an article of quality, finish and uniformity is the one that readily finds a market at top prices. To produce the uniform, high quality carcass, or stock to provide for fundamental breeding purposes, we must use the sires and females that will "deliver the goods." To do this, and to do it throughout a widespread area, as would be consistent with the great overseas demand, we must enlist the services of the fellow "who would but can't." The farmers who would like to but cannot produce more stock of superior quality, due to financial limitations, must help each other. They must get together. Some form of community breeding must be adopted. Energetic work directed along these lines will not only bring substantial personal rewards, but will constitute an important factor in placing the live-stock production and trade of Canada on a sound and permanent basis.

Wellington Co., Ont.

BERT MAXWELL.

The season for scratches and leg trouble is approaching. Prevention is better than cure.



Grand Champion Trio of Steers at Toronto Fat Stock Show.

They weighed 3,840 pounds, and sold for 24 cents per pound.



Herefords.

The late Lord Rhonda's Hereford herd at pasture