classes for geldings brought out many excellent animals.

A good sized crowd was present during the adjudication of the championships, and a great deal of interest was shown, and varied were the speculations and opinions on the comparative merits of the various competitors for the chief honors of the show. To Yorkshire went the society's 100 guineas gold challenge cup for the best stallion in the show, the honor being achieved by Mr. Grandage's Gaer Conqueror. The champion was bred by the late Peter Stubs, his sire being Montford Jupiter, dam Blaisdon Jewel. The reserve for championship was Lord Rothschild's Birdsall Menestral. The £20 cup for stallions in senior classes also fell to Gaer Conqueror, and Birdsall Menestral was again reserve. Slipton King, shown by Sir B. Sheffield, took the £20 cup offered in the junior stallion classes, with Lord Winterstoke's Rickford Coming King as reserve.

For the best mare in the show the society's 50 guineas gold challenge cup was awarded to Sir W. Greenwell's Eureka. The reserve was M. Michaelis' Pailton Sorais. Eureka also took the £20 cup for mares. The £20 cup for best filly went to J. G. Williams' Bardon Forest Princess, and the reserve to Mr. Ewart's Dunsmore Chessie.

For the sale, about 220 stallions were entered and though many were unsold, bidding was brisk in many cases. The 84 sold averaged £116 7s. The highest price was 320 gs., and two two-year-olds brought 300 gs. each.

The annual meeting of the Shire Horse Society revealed a prosperous condition of affairs. The increase of membership over last year is 108, and there has been an addition of £1,069 to the funds. The export trade showed a large increase, 677 export certificates having been granted against 389 in the previous year. The Prince of Wales will be the president for the current year. The question of the use of unsound stallions was raised, and a member moved a resolution that if in three months' time the council thould have taken no action in the matter, the secretary should be asked to take a poll of the members on the subject. In discussion it was claimed that nothing short of an act of parliament, making it an indictable offence to travel an animal unless it had a veterinary certificate, would be of any benefit. The resolution was lost, only three voting for it.

F. DEWHIRST.

In selecting the sire, the weaker points of the mare must be recognized, and a horse selected that is particularly good in these points. We cannot expect a good colt if we put a small, light-boned mare to a horse of the same description. We cannot expect a colt with excellent feet if both parents are deficient in these points. If the mare is weak in her hocks or her knees or fetlocks, we must try to get a horse particularly strong in those points which the mare is deficient in. Therein lies the benefit of having a choice of sires.

STOCK

Ration for Cows and Calves

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE :

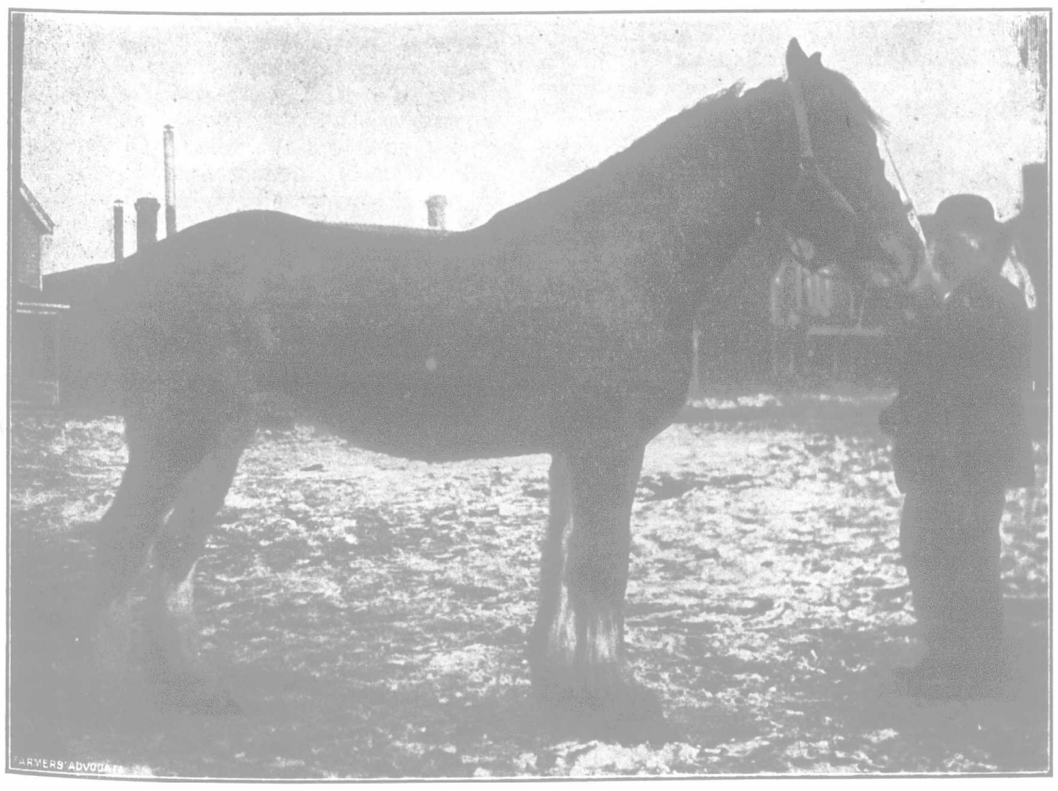
I have a cow just freshened that is giving 30 to 32 lbs. of milk per day. Her ration consists of all the prairie hay she can eat (spear grass hay pretty green), and with 8 lbs. of bran per day. Bran is worth $1.30 per cwt. I fancy the present flow of milk will not keep up unless other feeds are given, and would like to know what other feeds I can add. Roots or ensilage are not available. I can get chopped oats at $1.45 per cwt., and shorts at $1.40. What amount of feed should I give her in order to keep up the flow of milk, possibly increase it, and will it pay to buy said feeds at quoted prices? Butter is worth 30 cents per pound. I cannot say what percentage of butter-fat is contained in the milk. I have other cows due to freshen next month, which give about the same weight of milk per day.

What would you advise adding to skim milk for calves to take the place of fat contained in fresh milk so as to keep calves in good condition?

Sask. G. U.

Bran is much better value at these prices than either oat chop or shorts. Generally speaking, it is about the best grain feed for dairy cows. Prairie hay is not a milk producing fodder of much value, unless used in conjunction with more nutritious and succulent feeds. The trouble in this case is that the ration lacks succulence, and no succulent feeds, such as roots or silage are available. To overcome this some farmers follow the practice of cutting the fodder, damping it sufficiently to cause the meal portion of the ration to adhere to the roughage, mix in a little salt and cover up the mixture in a box for some hours before feeding. This improves the succulence of the ration and induces the cows to eat more of it. In this connection see article "To cut or Not to Cut" in our issue of January 5, 1910. If you have no succulent feeds this method is as good as can be advised. You would be well advised to grow some roots next season, mangels preferably. They make a valuable adjunct to a winter ration.

Theoretically, it should be possible to substitute some other form of fat for the butter-fat removed in skimming milk and the calf fed on the skim milk, and such substitute should thrive as well as one fed on whole milk. But, in practice, it does not always work out that way. In practice it is difficult to make conditions sufficiently favorable to obtain the same thrift. However, most calves are raised on skim milk from a very early age, and a number of satisfactory substitutes for the butter-fat have been experimented with and are generally used. Flaxseed jelly is one of the best of these. Make a jelly by pouring hot water on flaxseed meal and start the calf with about a tablespoonful of jelly to each feed. This quantity may be increased gradually until the calf is receiving, say half a pound of the jelly per day at the age of six weeks. Give the calf the whole new milk for a few days, gradually adding skim milk and then the flaxseed. A calf's stomach is not in a condition to digest solids until it is ten days or two weeks of age. It is better, if possible, to feed new milk until this age, as the stomach is liable to be upset if too abrupt changes are made in the diet, or too early feeding of solids practiced. Your other question is answered in the Questions and Answers column.



GOOD TYPE OF HORSE TO BRING TO THE PRAIRIES.

Do Not Abandon the Shorthorn Bull!

Farmers in the Western provinces, particularly Alberta and Saskatchewan, will do well to consider the advice given by interested parties, whether institute speakers or not, to purchase and use sires from any of the dairy breeds on their grade herds, when they are heavily charged with Shorthorn blood. It is entirely another matter if any farmer's grade herd is already three-quarter-bred Jersey, Ayrshire, Holstein or Guernsey. There may be certain districts in Northern Alberta or Saskatchewan, where dairying is a specialty of the farmers, and even there it is doubtful, extremely so, whether they be well-advised to intermingle the blood of the dairy breeds into their grade herds with Shorthorn foundation. There is no breed of cattle that can improve the Shorthorn; any improvement necessary can or will be made within the breed. No doubt many farmers are just now wavering, as a result of energetic commendable campaigning by the advocates of the dairy breeds, but to such I would say : "Before heeding or taking their advice to run the risk of spoiling the dual-purpose characteristics of your herds, investigate the milking powers of the Shorthorn."

I have no fear of the results of such an investigation, if fairly and thoroughly made. Authentic records of performance by pure-bred Shorthorns may be had from the Macdonald Agricultural College, St. Anne's, Que., Missouri Agricultural College, Iowa Agricultural College and the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa. At the latter farm, a pure-bred Shorthorn cow, Illumineta 3rd, bred on the farm from imported stock, gave over 9,000 pounds of milk in 312 days, and stood second in the herd for profitable production, cost of feed considered (vide Report 1908 — of the Agriculturist). Many herds of Shorthorns in Great Britain are noted for their milk-producing capabilities and their winnings in competition with the dairy breeds at the London dairy show. Such cows as Lady Somerset Waterloo, 1,102 gallons milk in a year ; Darlington Cranford 5th, average for *three* years 10,038 pounds of milk per year ; Joyous, 10,786 pounds milk in one year, also winner in the milking trials London to any show, 1904. Several herds, including the one from which the above records are given, supply milk by contract to London (Eng.) firms. The farm is 2,200 acres, on which 500 Shorthorns are kept, 200 cows being in milk the whole year round to fill the contracts referred to. Let me mention Tulip 5th, 10,577 pounds milk ; Primula 70th, 13,783 pounds milk, second in butter test, third in inspection class and fourth in milking trials at the Tring Show, 1908 ; her record was made between April 1, 1908, and March 5, 1909. Blossom 5th gave in 1905, 10,475 pounds of milk ; she had 9 calves, her average yield being 8,356 pounds of milk. Her daughter, Blossom 10th, is at Macdonald College.