

Ontario Veterinary Association.

The annual meeting of the Ontario Veterinary Association was held on Wednesday, Dec. 23rd, in the lecture-room of the O. V. College, Toronto. The attendance was the largest in the history of the association, about 100 members, representing various parts of the Province, being present. Twenty-seven new members were enrolled, showing that the association has entered upon a new era, which speaks well for the future of the profession in the Province.

The President, Dr. J. H. Tennent, V.S., of London, in his annual address referred to the prosperous condition of the live-stock industry, and after indicating the immense value of the cattle stock, pure-bred and grade, of the country, pointed out that there was room for great improvement in many cases in the professional treatment of these animals. Too many practitioners who were thoroughly efficient in dealing with the horse were sadly deficient in the pathology and treatment of diseases of the ox. He gave a report of the annual meeting of the American Veterinary Association at Ottawa in September last. He closed by calling attention to the needs of the profession in the Province, and showed the need for a strong and united organization. The address was received with hearty approbation.

A letter was read from Hon. John Dryden, Provincial Minister of Agriculture, regretting his inability to be present.

Mayor Urquhart, of Toronto, gave the association an official welcome of the very heartiest character to the city. He pointed out that the wealth of Ontario was largely dependent upon its live stock, and showed the intimate relation existing between the veterinary profession and the condition of the herds of the country. All other sciences and professions were making great advances, and it becomes the veterinarian to keep pace with the times.

Dr. D. King Smith, V.S., gave a paper on the pathology of azoturia, and Dr. W. J. R. Fowler, V.S., followed with a paper giving the results of his experiments with the new drug, arecoline, a purgative injected hypodermically, producing the effect desired in from five to fifteen minutes, with no injurious subsequent results noticed as yet.

Dr. J. A. Tancock, V.S., of London, gave an excellent paper on shoeing, in which he described many injurious results to the feet and legs of horses arising from the improper dressing of the hoof and fitting of the shoe. In cases of obscure lameness, he said, the veterinarian should carefully examine the foot, and he urged that veterinary colleges should devote more time and care to the teaching of this subject. He also suggested that horseshoers should know more of the structure of the feet and limbs.

Dr. R. Barnes (Tennent & Barnes), of London, gave a paper on "Oxygen in the treatment of parturient paresis, or milk fever," in which he reviewed the method and the remarkably successful results attending its use during the past year. Forty-eight cases were treated since its introduction by them in the country, with forty-seven complete recoveries, the one loss resulting from mechanical congestion of the lungs. Dr. Barnes gave a practical demonstration of administering the gas. He indicated that the conditions of successful treatment were the absence of drenching, antiseptic care and prompt administration of the gas into the udder. The paper provoked a valuable discussion, and, subsequently, Dr. Barnes, at the request of Professor Smith, gave the paper and demonstration before the students of the Veterinary College.

Dr. J. H. Tennent next called attention to the advantages to be derived from raising the standard of veterinary education.

Dr. J. G. Rutherford, of Ottawa, Chief Veterinary Inspector for the Dominion, reported the results of the committee appointed at the time of the Ottawa meeting to confer with Professor Smith, who agreed to make the O.V.C. a three-year college, but asked that legislation be secured whereby the interests of the college and profession would be safeguarded against any other institutions not having an equal educational and legal status.

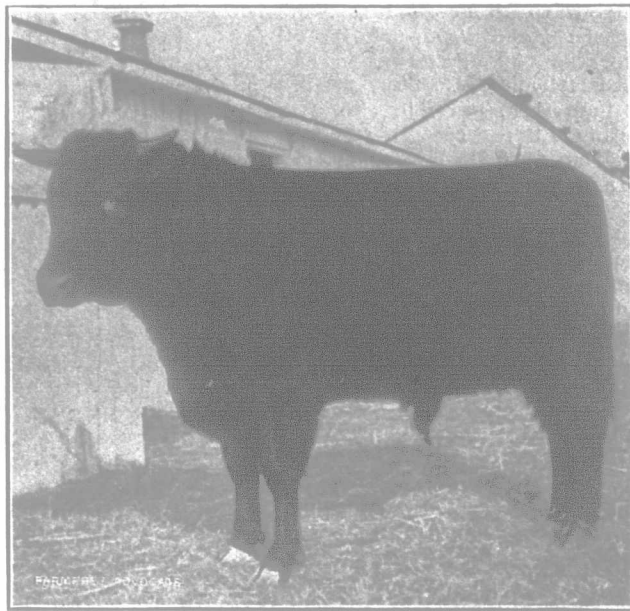
Dr. J. H. Reed, V.S., of Guelph, made a vigorous speech in favor of a higher standard of veterinary education, followed by several others in the same line.

A committee was appointed, consisting of Dr. Rutherford, Ottawa (treasurer); T. Allen, V.S., Brockville; Dr. J. F. Quinn, V.S., Brampton; Dr. J. H. Reed, V.S., Guelph, and Dr. J. H. Tennent, V.S., London, to take charge of the whole matter, perfecting organization and securing the necessary legislation. A subscription list was opened to provide the requisite funds, those present responding liberally. It is expected that the profession generally will aid in carrying out this important movement.

Officers were elected as follows: President, Dr. W. Lawson, Dundas; First Vice-President, Dr.

George, Ingersoll; Second Vice-President, Dr. Wilson, Aurora; Secretary-Treasurer, Dr. C. Heath, Sweetapple, Toronto. Delegates to Western Fair—Drs. O'Neil and Tancock, London. Delegates to Dominion Exposition—Colonel Lloyd and Prof. Smith. Directors—Drs. Gallanough, Barnes, Hutton, Vellam, Herrold, Duncombe, Jupp and Pickel. Auditors—Drs. Elliott and Reed.

The association was entertained to lunch by Professor Smith.



Victor of Dalmeny (imp.).

Red; calved June 15, 1902. Bred by Lord Rosebery. Sired by Golden Gift, bred by W. S. Marr, and got by Spicy Robin, sire of the champion Spicy Marquis. Property of W. D. Platt. To be sold at Hamilton, Ont., January 20th, 1904. (See ad., page 33.)

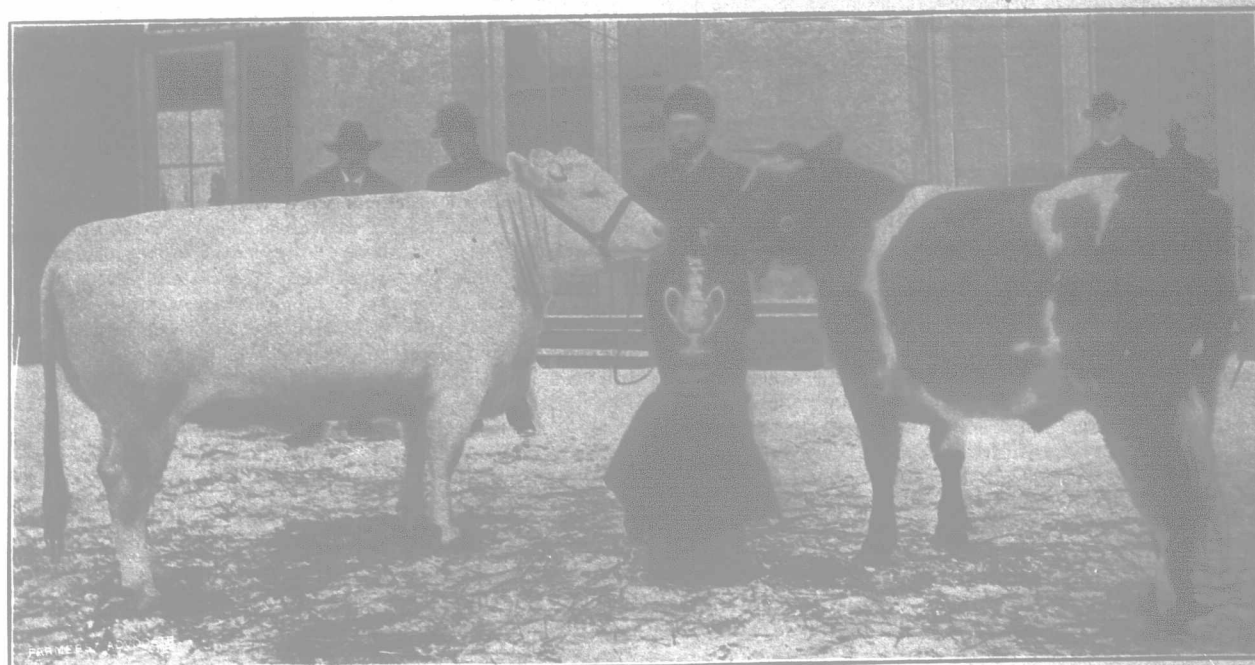
Feed vs. Breed.

Feed counts for a lot, but it cannot take the place of the natural ability to convert feed into beef—this must be bred in an animal. Thus it is that a good buyer of live stock must be an observer, and be practical in his knowledge of the essentials of a beef animal. Dairy-bred dogies are a class that should be avoided when the purpose is to grow beef at a profit. They are almost invariably short and sharp in the rump and bare and narrow in the back. These are serious faults, as they reduce the extent of the best cuts.

The best is none too good in any case, and the importance of good blood should never be lost sight of, neither in selecting steers for the range nor breeding stock to reinforce the herd.

A striking example of the value of a high-class female for breeding is seen in the 16-year-old Clydesdale mare, Her Ain Sel, recently sold at Col. Hallowsay's sale, whose progeny has brought the grand total of twenty-one thousand dollars, and she is said to be again in foal. These may appear like large figures, but they stand out as a striking testimony, showing the worth of good blood when combined with individual merit. Feed is important, but breed counts in beef manufacture.

To read without thinking is like eating without chewing. Read less and think more.



White Lilly and Champion Knight.

Grade Shorthorns. Two-year-old heifer and yearling steer. First in their classes, any grade or cross, and winners of the silver cup, value \$80, for the best pair of cattle at the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, Guelph, 1903. Bred and exhibited by James Leask, Greenbank, Ont.

Science of Breeding.

That experienced breeder and ever-versatile writer, Mr. Richard Gibson, of Delaware, Ontario, in a recent contribution to the American Sheep-breeder, says in part:

There is a mystery in breeding no one has yet solved. It is hidden under various terms by physiological students.

Bakewell came nearest to solving the problem, for his master mind not only conceived but made the Leicester sheep, and he also improved and laid the foundation for the present Shire horse and Large White or Yorkshire swine, while his Long-horn cattle were the most popular of the beef breeds during his lifetime. A mystery while alive, his mantle descended upon none of his pupils, though men who afterward made their mark, the most they could tell of Dishley was that "there was an old black ram kept in a back pen."

As I have before written, the shortest and most reliable cut to success is by the continued use of the smoothest, thickest-fleshed, typical rams of the breed. Beware of the big fellows, also the blubbery, big rumple sort. And, then, don't try see-sawing backwards and forth, one year conceive in the mind that a big-fronted ram is necessary; the next, one with a big leg. Then it is discovered that breeding for these two ends has left the middle slack, another season discloses the fact type is lacking or fleece off. So this scientific breeder continues "looping the loop," and when he gets round he is about where he started.

As well try and make a student a scholar by teaching him Latin one year, Greek the next, then English to even up, and mathematics any odd time. They all nick in nicely with each other when studied together, but one end at a time won't work.

So, my young friends, take the advice of an old man, breed from the most evenly-fleshed, most symmetrical ram showing breed type that can be found, and if the first trial is not as successful as desired, try again, with, if possible, a better ram, but bear in mind these ewe lambs from the first ram, though not perhaps to one's liking, still knowing their sire, they will be apt to respond to the next mating, and so on by the continual use of ideal, symmetrical rams, the nearer the goal will be found.

Breeding is truly a great art. Even the most highly-gifted scientist makes mistakes. The wisest men are often the fathers of fools; the athlete may have weaklings for sons. But the sheep-breeder, his selection may produce better, and increasingly better results year by year, by following in this line "best to the best."

When the same care is taken in the selection of mates in the human family, there will be found fewer misfits, and we shall not find good grain producing wild oats any more than that the physical development of man's posterity shall be uncertain or problematical.

I have a wood-cut from London Punch, about thirty years old. Scene, a park, in which was grazing "Sixth Duke of Geneva." A noble lord smoking his cigar, soliloquizes:

"Oh, a truly noble animal!"

The bull—"Yes, my lord, and if the same care had been taken of your ancestors as has been taken in the selection of mine, you would be a truly noble animal also."