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Pedigree Names.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

At this season of the year which is the time of the greatest increase in live stock, the selection of a suitable name or names for the unregistered stock throughout the country is a problem for the different breeders, and no doubt causes them considerable worry. The ambition of many breeders seems to be to get a name that nobody can pronounce or remember. Perhaps by giving it a foreign sounding name, they are trying to make it sound distinguished, or as though the animal had been imported. This is especially true with Holstein cattle, where it seems to be the style to register an animal under three or four old Dutch names.

The use of family names, especially of record-making strains, is greatly abused. Many inferior animals whose pedigrees trace back to some of the ancestors of a record-making cow, are given names so they appear to have close blood connection, and when their pedigrees are traced out only the smallest percentage of the same blood is found. There are many calves every year that are named under this system.

The use of family names should be confined at least to the direct descendants of the animals whose progeny form the family. Even by confining the family name to the direct descendants, it is impossible to keep the strain pure, unless inbreeding is practiced. And when an infusion of blood from another strain is necessary, what is the use of a successful breeder trying to build up a family whose name wherever seen will stand for quality when some breeder of low grade stock tacks the name on all his young stock? Therefore the old family names are of very little significance to the general public. There is little doubt that it is almost impossible for the different breeding associations to control the injudicious use of family names, therefore the problem is one for the breeder himself to solve.

Every breeder that develops an animal of exceptional merit has been a great stimulus to the agriculture of the country

and his name should go down in history. Instead of that the name of the animal is remembered, and the name of the breeder is often soon forgotten. It is for this reason a breeder of pure-bred cattle should use his own name for any of his cattle that give promise of high quality. This would serve two purposes, first as a guarantee to the intending purchaser of its quality, and second, he would be brought more before the public as a breeder of good stock, for whenever the animal's name appeared in print, people at the same time would know who the breeder was. While some men would object to such a seemingly loose way of using their name, the sooner some such method is used the better it will be for everybody concerned.

It would be wise to go a step farther and have the name of the strain each breeder is developing protected by legislation against its use by other breeders. Each breeder would have his name registered the same as the brands used by the ranchers. By this method it would serve as a trade mark by which breeders would become known to other stockmen, and the name of the animals would mean something to the public who do not have access to all the records necessary for tracing out an animal's pedigree. This would be a distinct advantage because under the present system the animal's name when seen in any newspaper or magazine generally conveys no information to the reader.

The writing of a pedigree has become an art, and men have become so proficient that by bringing out the strong points and making the poor individuals in the animal's ancestry appear as obscure as possible that animals of ordinary merit appear as though they had more good breeding behind them than they really have.

Too much cannot be said in favor of a breeder using his own name so that whenever the animal's name appears in print, people will recognize who it was bred by. Men who do not do this are neglecting a great opportunity that leads to success. A good example of this is the wonderful cow, May Echo

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THE GREAT SCOTCH SHORTHORN SALE AT ELORA, ONT., ON**Saturday, June 10th, 1916**

J. A. Watt, Elora, Ont.; J. M. Gardhouse, Weston, Ont.,
and Robert Miller, Stouffville, Ont., will sell as above

75 Scotch Shorthorns

Ten bulls and 65 females. All good ages, all well bred, all good specimens
of the breed. Carefully selected from the three herds represented.

This sale is one of a circuit started in Illinois and Ohio and ending at Elora. Some of the best herds in the United States are making the list, and they are making the greatest efforts of their lives to furnish offerings that will be sensational and make new marks in Shorthorn history. The three men making this sale feel the responsibility that is resting on them to make a showing that will be a credit to Canada in comparison. They are therefore drawing their herds harder than ever before, and the result will be that the public will have an unprecedented chance of getting the best at auction prices.

There will be Clippers, Lavenders, Princess Royals, Love-lys, Wimples, Minas, Kilblean Beautys, Jenny Linds, Rosebuds,

Claras, Clarets, Marr Madges, Red Roses, Cecillas, Missies, Jealousys, Matchlesses, Nonpareils, Glosters, Roan Ladys, Brawith Buds, Rosemarys, Primroses, Mysies, Mayflowers, Boyne Ladys, Stamfords and others. All you could ask in breeding. Strong show cattle that have won and will win again. Great breeding bulls and an array of breeding cows with calves at foot, such as has not been seen in Canada before. It is a great offering, such cattle are scarce in any country, and they are getting scarcer.

If interested in good cattle, you should write for the catalogue, mentioning this paper, and attend this sale.

COL. CAREY M. JONES and CAPTAIN ROBSON, Auctioneers

ROBERT MILLER,**Stouffville, Ontario, Manager of Sale**