

## LIVE STOCK.

haul the grain from the fields to the thrasher, and generally from the thrasher to the elevator, although this latter could be accomplished by auto drays. But the tendency of the age is towards smaller farms, and more intensive agriculture. Farm work in Ontario, for instance, is work for the horses. Comparatively small fields eliminate the tractor. Cultivation of the land and of the growing crop, cutting and harvesting the crop and marketing the produce either in the raw state or as finished meat require horses. The horse is indispensable on the farm.

But city trade is also necessary to keep the horse market at its best, and all that is necessary to prove that the big drafter and the general-purpose horse have their work to do there, is to spend a day or two in a large city looking over the work being done by horses. The biggest transportation companies use some auto trucks, but they still retain a large number of heavy horses. That they do so after trying the truck is ample proof that the horse pays them well for some kinds of work. The truck and the horse each has its work. There are many places in which the horse is called upon to labor that the truck would not be a success, and for some things the truck is the more economical. We have a rapidly growing country, and business increases yearly by leaps and bounds. There is work for all classes of motive power.

Our climate with the heavy winter snows makes auto operation difficult, even on city streets in winter, and precludes it on country roads. The horse works from January to December, and is always reliable. Horses will pull a fair load even in deep mud, an auto truck may mire without a load. Excavating, drawing sand and gravel from pits for building purposes, short hauls and frequent stops with heavy loads, and countless other kinds of work are bound to maintain the horse's position. True, prices may fluctuate, have their ups and downs, and may at times go quite low, but what class of live stock is not subjected to declines and soarings in price. The auto and the motor truck have taken the places of many horses, and will continue to do so, but there are so many new places to be filled that the horse is sure to continue in demand. City and country must have horses.

## Aged Horses Serviceable.

The Horse World cites some interesting cases to prove that aged horses are most serviceable when rightly used. One of these refers to the old-time trotter Goldsmith Maid 2.14 that lowered the world's record six times, won 332 heats in 2.30 or better, and earned about \$325,000 during her career. She trotted her first race at eight years of age, and at nineteen equalled her best record. Continuing, the article says the annals of harness racing are full of instances only a little less notable, and in early days of the running turf, before colts were tried as yearlings and raced as two-year-olds, many of the best performances were made by horses in what would now be termed "old age." Eclipse was nine years old when he won the memorable match race against Henry for \$40,000 stakes at the Union Course, on Long Island, in 1823. Boston was the same age when he ran four-mile heats with Fashion over the same course for \$20,000 a side in the great sectional match of 1842. In the show ring harness and saddle horses have won their greatest victories and reached their best form when well past the age commonly believed to mark the zenith of power.

There are scores of other instances to prove the statement. The old assertion "an old horse for a hard road" is invariably proven true, provided, of course, the old animal has had good care, has not been overdone, and is in good condition. While it is good practice to work the colt and get him handy, it is never advisable to overdo it. A colt, no matter what the breed, which has its spirit broken by overworking never lasts long as a useful animal, and is generally an "old" horse at the comparatively early age of eight or nine years.

In the opinion of Prof. Warren, of the New York State College of Agriculture, the present era of high prices may, in ten or twenty years, bring about a period of over-production. In the meantime the farmer cannot reduce the townsman's cost of living. That is only to be accomplished by a more economical distribution of food products, unless the town family will adopt more economical ways of living.

The greatest amount of success in fattening pigs invariably comes when a variety of feed is fed.

A good farm scale is of great value in feeding live stock. It pays to know how much feed is being fed, and how large the daily gains are.

Discussing the founding of a herd of Shorthorn cattle for milk and beef, a writer in the Farmer and Stock Breeder advises the purchase of good-typed, well-conditioned young cows, giving not less than forty pounds of milk a day when fresh. Such cows, he reasons, should give six or seven thousand pounds a day during the milking period, which is fair work for a cow which also drops a good young bull or heifer calf. He also recommends Shorthorn breeders to pay some attention to improving the quality of the milk by selecting moderately high-testing cows.

Canada and particularly the live stock counties of the Province of Ontario might well take a lesson from the old land in the matter of annual county live-stock exhibitions. For many weeks during the summer season in England their shows are held following each other, and from all accounts numerous and exceedingly creditable are the exhibits. Our stockmen should put a little more spirit into the county fall shows. Let some of the smaller breeders get out their stock. The time is at hand to make preparations. All cannot win, but winning is not all the honor of exhibiting.

## When to Give the Calf Skim Milk

There are many different opinions held by breeders regarding the feeding of the young calf of the beef type. Some hold to nature's methods—the whole milk plan, the milk being drawn by the calf; others feed whole milk from a pail for some time; while others give only a very few feeds of whole milk, and place the calf on a skim milk ration at much too early an age. Experience has proven that unless the calf is of fancy breeding, and is being developed rapidly for sale as a breeder, or for showing purposes it does not pay to give a calf whole milk very long after birth. It has also been demonstrated time and again that if the calf is to make good gains and grow into a sturdy, thrifty youngster it is not advisable to confine him to a skim-milk ration until he is at least a few weeks old and then the change must be gradually brought about so as not to injure the calf's delicate digestive apparatus.

How long should a beef calf get whole milk? Many good authorities say that up to from four to five weeks of age all the milk given should be whole milk preferably fresh-drawn from the dam, and considering that the calf even at the expiration of this length of time is still very young, this does not seem to be too long a period. When the calf reaches four or five weeks of age small portions of sweet skim milk might be safely added to the whole milk, increasing the amount from feed to feed until in a few days sweet skim milk has entirely taken the place of the whole milk. It is necessary to do this with the average beef calf in order to keep down the

cost of raising the animal to a profitable age to market.

It is necessary to replace the fat lost in the feeding of skim milk by some means if the calf is to make the best possible growth. For this purpose nothing is better than linseed. As the calf grows a meal ration should be given, and one recommended in the old country where much good success is met with in calf rearing looks good. It is one part of pure ground flaxseed, two parts of oatmeal, and two parts of corn meal. A gruel is made of these by adding boiling water, after which the skim milk is poured in, the whole being fed warm. Good feeders in Britain give about one-quarter of a pound of this meal daily in the beginning, increasing the amount gradually until at the time skim milk is discontinued the calves are getting about one pound each at a feed. Too much importance cannot be attached to keeping the calf growing and in good condition, and while it is not generally profitable to feed whole milk for very long, it is necessary for a time, and after it is stopped some easily-digestible milk-fat substitute is advisable to keep the calf growing.

## Good Gains in Growing Stock.

Editor of "The Farmer's Advocate":

In a late number of the Advocate the profits of feeding light and heavy cattle without figures concludes that the most profit will be made from heavy cattle. This conclusion is contrary to laws of animal growth.

A colt full fed will make half his mature weight the first year. The second year half what he made the first year. The third half what he made the second. This law of animal growth will apply to cattle, sheep, and hogs.

The first of last winter we bought nine Shorthorn-grade calves, well bred, but very thin. Their average weight was 329 lbs. We fed oats and barley with a very small sprinkling of peas, ground fine with some bran and shorts added. This was fed night and morning, carefully mixed with corn silage and alfalfa hay. They were again weighed the middle of June. The average of the nine was 686 lbs. (28 lbs. each over double their weight).

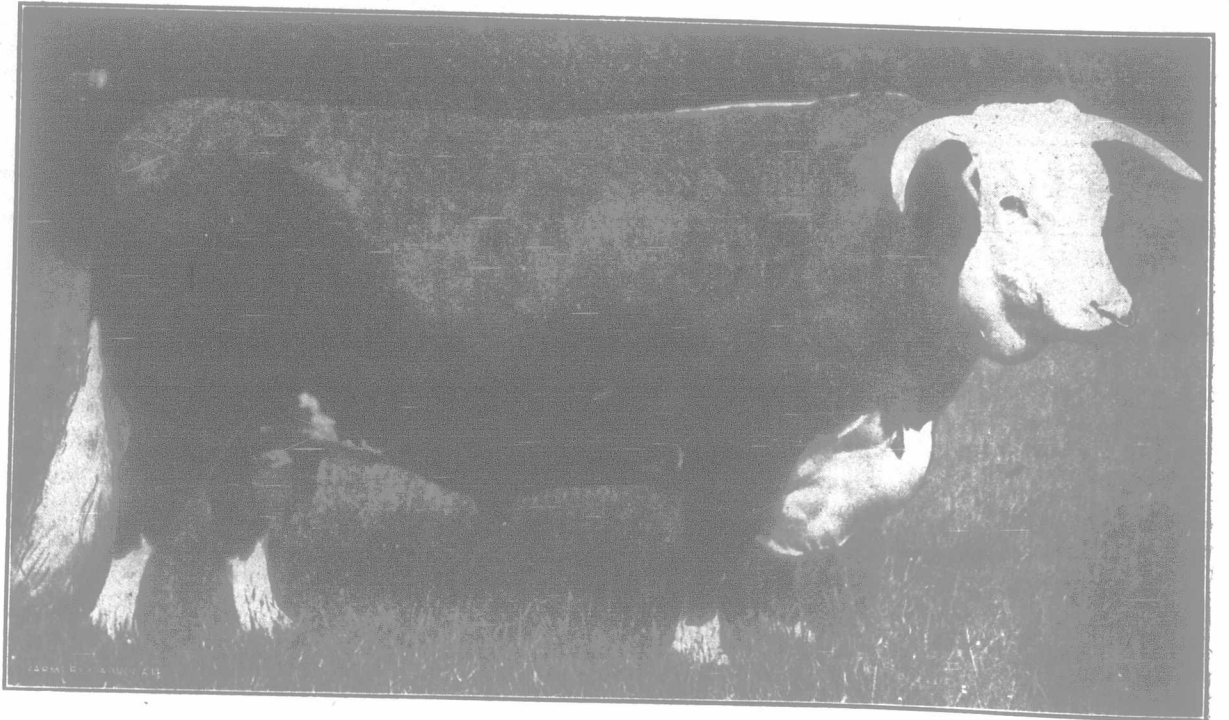
If a 1,200 lb. steer doubled his weight (2,400 in six months) feeding heavy cattle certainly would pay well. We bought an old cow for \$14. She nursed calves the summer and winter before. She had a few teeth left. She was nurse for a strong, thrifty calf. He took warm separated milk besides. At two weeks he weighed 107 lbs. Forty-one days after he tipped the scales at 214 lbs., having doubled his weight. At one year old he weighed 1,035 lbs. I suppose another year's feed he would have been 1,500 lbs.

I certainly think these facts clearly demonstrate the extreme folly of starving a calf, a yearling and a two-year-old to get a twelve-hundred steer to fat.

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[Note.—We presume the article referred to by our correspondent was one which appeared on page 1069 of our issue of June 12th. We realize that gains are made more rapidly in the young animal, and this is shown in a lengthy article on this subject which appeared on page 945 of our issue of May 22, as well as in many other articles which have appeared from time to time. In the article in question, the reference was made in connection with buying cattle in the fall to fatten,



Avondale.

First-prize aged Hereford bull at the Royal Counties Show in England. Owned by H. M. the King.