

In order to have success in the fattening of cattle the following properties are necessary: Animals of a beefing tendency, size, early maturity, quality, the laying on of the flesh on the most valuable parts, and a good utilization of the food consumed. We will now see how the shorthorn conforms to this scale.

In regard to a beefing tendency the facts of history given above show that this is possessed and that it is hereditary to a marked extent, a fact which renders them of still greater value, as in crossing with grade animals they stamp their characteristics upon the progeny. As to size they are a large breed and have the faculty of attaining heavy-weights at an early age. Large animals are not desired now for purposes of export, and Shorthorn grade bullocks at the age of about two and a half years, weighing from 1200 to 1500 pounds, answer the purpose well. The quality of the meat is good, although not equal to that of the Galloway, or West Highland. Butchers frequently remark that they like to have animals which carry their meat mostly on the "upper deck," meaning those whose loins and backs are broad and full. As to the fulfilment of this property, the Shorthorns will, in nearly every case, lead. As to the use they make of their food, it may be said that under right conditions they are ahead of all the breeds of cattle. They do well on our Western ranches and are good grazers, but are not quite equal to the Hereford for this purpose. In Ontario, where cattle are grazed in the summer and stabled in the winter, they answer the purpose well, and if given good attention can be very profitably turned off as prime animals at the end of the second winter. As to the weights to which Shorthorns attain at different ages, nothing need be said here, as every reader of the agricultural press, who has taken any interest in beef cattle during the last ten years, will be conversant with them.

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The dude is not of much practical use, but he makes an excellent background when you stand him up beside a real man.

If you are leaving college without the intention of going to some other, you have admitted that you are a failure, either because you don't care, or because you are an ambitious fool, or because you are too lazy.

To Tell the Age of Horses.

To tell the age of any horse,
Inspect the lower jaw, of course;
The sixth front tooth the tale will tell,
And every doubt and fear dispel.
Two middle "nippers" you behold
Before the colt is two weeks old,
Before eight weeks two more will come;
Eight months the "corners" cut the gum.
The outside grooves will disappear
From middle two in just one year.
In two years from the second pair;
In three the "corners," too, are bare.
At two the middle "nippers" drop;
At three the second pair can't stop.
When four years old the third pair goes;
At five a full new set he shows.
The deep black spots will pass from view,
At six years from the middle too.
The second pair at seven years;
At eight the spot each "corner" clears.
From middle "nippers," upper jaw,
At nine the black spots will withdraw.
The second pair at ten are white;
Eleven finds the "corners" light.
As time goes on, the horsemen know,
The oval teeth three-sided grow;
They longer get, project before,
Till twenty, when we know no more.

Toronto Truth.



Correspondence

South-Western Alberta.

What is South-western Alberta? Well, a strip of country, bounded on the west by the Rockies, and running parallel to them, averaging some twenty miles in width, extending from the International Boundary line northward to Willow creek. (About seventy miles.)

Why twenty miles in width only? Because within this limit the rain fall is greater than it is further east, where droughts are by no means uncommon.

It is a district with both scenery and climate especially its own. The peaks and ranges of the Rocky Mountains, hereabouts, average 6000 feet in height above the sea level, but as