

**Editorial Notes.**

In other columns will be found an article entitled "How to Get There," by Mr. J. C. Snell. This article is full of valuable suggestions, and should not only be read, but should be put into practice by every farmer in Canada.

Mr. Snell, with many others, does not believe in putting all his eggs in one basket, but insists that each department shall be made a specialty, and that to obtain good results and fair profits all the products of the farm must be good in quality and well prepared. This is the only way to make farming pay and enjoy a comfortable home.

From a series of carefully conducted experiments, the officers of the Massachusetts State Experimental Station have concluded that the old process linseed oil cake meal, at \$27 per ton, and the new process linseed meal, at \$26 per ton, when fed to dairy stock under corresponding circumstances, that equal weights of either may be fed without affecting the financial statement; that is, one is as profitable to feed as the other. In case the new process meal is used, the net cost of the milk is somewhat less, on account of the large amount of fertilizing element the meal contains, which increases the value of the manure obtained. This advantage is, in a majority of instances, to some extent, compensated for by a somewhat more liberal yield of milk obtained when the old process meal is fed. Each of these foods may justly claim a front rank among the concentrated foods to be fed dairy stock.

Many farmers believe anything is good enough to sire a calf that is "only to be killed for veal." This is a great mistake. A really good, well-bred calf, that has been well fed, will bring from \$10 to \$15, while scrub of the same age will only sell for \$5 to \$7, and go begging at that. In 1887 one of our staff fattened four calves for "the Easter Market." One of them was nearly a pure-bred Shorthorn; he was got by an imported Cruickshank bull, noted as the sire of many thick-fleshed animals; two of the others were high-grade Shorthorns, the dams being well-bred cows; their sire was a pure-bred Shorthorn, but rather leggy and thin-fleshed; the fourth was a native calf, his dam being a "Canadian," his sire of the same sort. The last cow was bought when in calf. All the calves were steers and were of nearly the same age, and were sold the same week. The first calf sold readily for \$22.50, and won sweepstakes at an Easter fat stock show; the next two were sold for \$17.50 each, and the other, the "scrub calf," sold for \$10 to the party who bought the last two. The last calf was somewhat difficult to sell, and was only taken at the above price, in order to secure the others. The cost of feeding each of the last three was about the same. The conclusion is, the better bred a beast is, when good breeding means good quality, the more profitable in every respect.

The able article on sheep breeding, written by Mr. John Jackson, one of Canada's oldest, most experienced, successful and noted breeders, deserves the careful study of every farmer in Canada. The article is able and very interesting, yet we differ in some points from the thoughts expressed by Mr. Jackson. He claims that heavy soils will give the best returns. We think as good, if not better, can be obtained from a flock pastured on fine rolling loams. Even light

sand or rolling stony land can be made very profitable if turned into sheep pastures. Hundreds of acres of such land throughout Canada is specially adapted to sheep farming, and could be made more profitable if used for that purpose than by any other system of farming. It is generally admitted that it costs somewhat less to produce a pound of beef than a pound of mutton, yet the labor is lighter and more pleasant, and the wool when sold and placed as an offset against the cost of feed, reduces the cost of production materially. The risk in sheep breeding is also much less than in horse or cattle breeding. Sowing and feeding off rape, also soiling and feeding indoors will considerably lessen the cost of production. Mr. Jackson advises all to select the breed which suits them best, and keep on using males of that breeding. This is sound doctrine, and should be followed in all the flocks, herds and studs of Canada. Mr. Jackson might have gone further and said, after determining what breed you will keep—determining what type is most profitable—always breed and select in such a way as to establish that type. This can only be done by using caution and judgment in selecting sires. Do not be content with a sire, simply because he has the qualities you desire to stamp on his offspring, but be sure his dams and sires, for generations, had the same qualities.

**American Cattle in England.**

The United States authorities have not enjoyed smooth sailing in their effort to capture equal privileges with Canada for their export beeves in British ports. Tuberculosis has continued to seriously ravage herds in the east, while the northern outbreaks of Texas fever are very destructive. On the heels of these troubles came a bulletin from Dr. Paul Paguin, the celebrated State Veterinarian of Missouri, describing an outbreak of some disease pronouncing itself in sores of the mouth and feet. As far as he could learn, the symptoms corresponded with the dreaded "foot and mouth disease" of Europe, and his bulletin was headed accordingly. The publication naturally caused consternation at Washington and among the United States officials in England. Secretary Rusk ordered the bulletin to be suppressed, and a veterinary official from Washington was hurried off to the scene of the disorder. Secretary Rusk next cables to Britain that the malady is not foot and mouth disease, and is not contagious. Dr. Paguin is reported to concur in that view, which seems to have been very suddenly arrived at. The dispatch, however, contained no information as to the real nature of the malady. Dr. Paguin has been fiercely berated for his action in calling public attention to the matter as he did, by those who are trying to persuade the British authorities that the United States has a clean health bill. A recent cable from England announces that the Central Chamber of Agriculture has adopted a resolution declaring that in view of the pleuropneumonia in New Jersey, it is imperative that the regulations regarding the importation of American cattle be maintained. Readers of the *ADVOCATE* will be pleased to learn that Canadian beeves still hold the vantage ground.

Every animal has a constitutional limit, beyond which no process of feeding can force them to a greater production or usefulness; hence a cow constitutionally capable of giving a small quantity, or milk of poor quality, cannot be fed to pass her individual capability.

**Farmers' Institutes.**

Nearly all the residents of Ontario know that the Farmers' Institutes are supported partially by a grant from the public treasury. Each member is requested to pay a small yearly fee—twenty-five cents being the usual yearly amount. This is a very insignificant sum, even if it were twice as great. Every farmer in the Province should become a member, and attend the meetings as often as possible. Heretofore farmers have found it wise and profitable to support the Institutes, which are simply Farmers' Clubs, assisted by a small Government grant, which, with the amount collected from the members, is enough to put each Club or Institute on a good working basis. Their central organization, known as the Central Farmers' Institute, by wise management, should be a power in the land, and benefit the condition of the farmers. The farmers throughout Ontario may, if they will, control this organization. Farmers are generally very apathetic concerning legislation. This ought not to be; they are the foundation on which the success of all other industries depend. If the agriculturists of the Dominion are unsuccessful, all trade becomes stagnant. The needs of the farmers can and should be made known through the Central Institute. Each of the smaller Institutes should fully discuss the questions of vital interest to their section and those of interest to farmers generally. In sending their representatives to the Central body, they should instruct them how to vote as the representatives from their separate Institute. The Hon. John Dryden, Ontario's Minister of Agriculture, has for years taken great interest in Institute work, and declares his intention of endeavoring to make the Institutes, if possible, more interesting and helpful in future than they have been in the past. It is his intention to obtain the names of all the members of the various Institutes and send to each a copy of each of the bulletins issued by his department. This should be worth many times the cost of membership to every farmer who unites.

**Cheshire Hogs.**

A subscriber asks, Do you know anything about Cheshire hogs?

We have never seen anything of this race. With one exception, none of the modern works on agriculture or live stock mention this breed. On page 57 of his work on the pig, Joseph Harris writes this of this breed:—

"We have so-called 'Cheshire' pigs in America, but there is no such breed raised or known in Cheshire, and has not been for twenty years or more. Culley, in his work entitled 'Observations on Live Stock,' published in 1807, gives a well authenticated account of a Cheshire pig which measured from the nose to the end of the tail 9 ft. 8 in., and in height 4 ft. 5½ in.; when alive it weighed 1,410 lbs., and dressed 1,215 lbs.; the age is not given. It was probably as fat as it could be made, and yet it only dressed 80½ per cent. of its live weight. The breed, if we may call it a breed, was evidently very large and coarse. It is described as remarkably long, standing very high on long, bony legs, head large, ears long and hanging, back much curved and narrow, sides flat and deep, color white, blue and white, or black and white. This breed has become extinct." If any of our readers can throw any more light on this question we would be glad to hear from them.