

no registered animal in the immediate neighborhood. The next spring when the calves began to arrive Tom was disgusted with the appearance of them, and straightway decided that he would purchase a bull. The first problem was to raise the necessary money. The returns for the year had been consumed in paying the notes given for stock. He did not have much credit, and he knew that he could not appeal to father or neighbors for financial assistance, as they would not be in sympathy with the idea. With some timidity the manager of the local bank was visited, and after a thorough discussion of the matter a loan was secured on a personal note, and Tom set out to pick the herd sire. For some months pedigrees had been studied, and a knowledge of breed type, character, families, etc., obtained. Tom knew what he wanted, but when the animal which came nearest his ideal was selected the price was staggering. However, after further discussion with the banker the money was secured, and the animal transferred to his new home.

News spread rapidly in the community, as they do now, and it was not long before one after another of the neighbors crossed the fields to examine this pedigreed animal. The bull could not be adversely criticized. He was a right good individual. Comment centred mainly on the price and upon Tom's wisdom in paying such a figure, when a calf getter could be bought for a quarter the amount. Tom paid little attention to the talk and went calmly about his work. His father's scathing remarks were the hardest to bear. However, time was to prove the wisdom of Tom's selection. The first crop of calves were decidedly superior to the previous crop. Neighbors were forced to admit this but were slow to avail themselves of the use of this sire. The service fee of two dollars was too steep. When the steers were two years old the quality and finish was so superior to that of the neighbor's stock that the top price was paid, which was considerable above the ruling figure in the neighborhood.

When the first bull's heifers were of breeding age he was disposed of, and one even better put in his place. The calves from the heifers were a breedy, thrifty lot, and bore evidence to the advisability of using a high-quality sire and to the wisdom of Tom's constructive breeding policy. Inferior cows were culled out and sent to the shambles and heifers put in their place. Each bull purchased was better than the previous one. In ten years the herd was an outstanding one in the neighborhood, and was bringing in a much higher revenue. It was then that the first pure-bred females were purchased, and the same care was exercised in the selection as in the choice of a sire. Price never prevented him from securing the sire which he thought would improve the herd, even though he was obliged to go into debt to do so.

While at first the neighbors ridiculed, their scorn gradually subsided and the service of the bull was sought after. Although only one or two neighbors have gone into pure-breeds, the grade herds are of high quality, due to the foresightedness and constructive breeding policy of the aggressive neighbor. The investment paid big interest.

There are young men to-day who would like to improve their herds but are afraid to pay the price for a good bull. Those situated in a neighborhood where choice breeding stock is kept are fortunate, as they can usually secure the use of a good sire. Too many are content to drift along in the channel of least resistance, and after fifteen or twenty years farming the stock and crops raised show little or no improvement. While there are many choice herds of pedigreed cattle in Canada, there is need for many more. Too many scrub bulls are used on scrub females. Until better bulls are used improvement in the quality of females will be slow. From a straight business standpoint it pays to go in debt if necessary in order to get a sire that will improve the herd. Not only do well-bred animals look better but they are more economical feeders and bring higher prices on the market than the common kind. Too many of the latter are kept, but the common herds can be changed to high grades in a very few years if more attention is paid to the sire used. When buying

the next herd header forget about the present and look ten years to the future. If you haven't the ready cash to buy the quality of bull you know you should have, borrow the money as Tom did. You will be in a better position to buy the next bull.

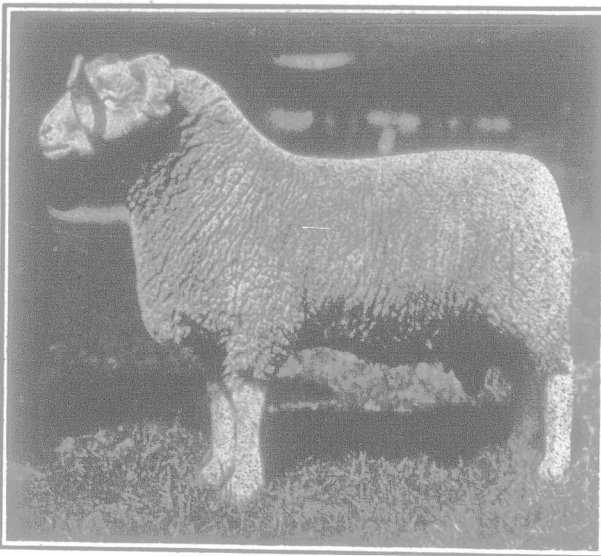
Sheep News From England.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Follett Bros., Duval, Sask., were chief buyers at the dispersal of the Oxford-Down flock belonging to J. T. Hobbs, at Maisey, Hampton. They paid £22 apiece for a pen of five ewe lambs, three of which were included in Hobbs' third-prize pen at the recent Royal Show at Cardiff.

At the Iwerne Hampshire-Down flock sale, J. E. Edwards, an American buyer, paid 280 guineas for a ram and took some two-teeth ewes at £40 and £13 apiece, and gave £33 for some four-teeth ewes.

The Suffolk breed is enjoying a run of prosperity. H. W. Daking, of Torpe-le-Soken, made £500 on a pen of ten well-matched ewes offered at the Society's sale



A Winning Dorset Ram.

First shearing and best ram at the Western Fair for W. E. Wright & Son, Glanworth.

held in Ipswich. All told Daking sold 240 ewes and they averaged £19 11s. 7d. apiece. S. R. Sherwood (Playford) was paid 390 guineas for a ram lamb, by a Scot. Fourteen rams of Sherwoods averaged £80 each. Prices at the annual sheep fairs are ruling high. At Britford, Jas. Flower, of Chilmark, got 240 guineas for the hire of one of his rams. Col. J. A. Morrison being the hirer. Other rams sold freely at £100 apiece. In Oxford Fair, rams of the Oxford breed made 150, 130 and 100 guineas, and a goodly trade was done.

ALBION.

Tonics and Conditioners.

If the hogs are housed properly and fed a ration suitable to their development, there will be little need for tonics or conditioners. Lack of any one nutrient necessary to the proper development of the system may so upset the digestive organs that a conditioner is necessary to bring the hog back to normal. Commercial tonics are on the market, and many of them have, no doubt, given results. A home-made conditioner may be compounded by mixing the following materials: Charcoal, one bushel; hardwood ashes, one bushel; salt, 8 pounds; air-slaked lime, 4 pounds; sulphur, 4 pounds; pulverized copperas 2 pounds. It is a good plan to mix the lime, sulphur and salt together before adding them to the charcoal and ashes.

The copperas dissolved in hot water should then be stirred into the above mixture. It is advisable to keep some of this material in a box before the hogs at all times, so that if the hogs desire some of it they may obtain it. Feeding the tonic with the grain forces some hogs to eat what they really do not need. Using a self-feeder having different compartments for the various feeds is found to be a great advantage. Hogs' tastes differ, and they will do best when they can obtain what suits them.

Intestinal Diseases of Swine.—Con.

Diarrhoea.

Diarrhoea consists in a frequent discharge of liquid or semi-liquid matter from the intestines. The conditions that cause this derangement are various and at times even opposite. A simple increase of the peristaltic action (normal backward action) of the bowels may produce a mild attack without other cause. It is caused by the consumption of irritant food, or food that quickly undergoes fermentation. A sudden change in the quality or nature or even in the quantity may cause it. It is often the result of some effete material in the blood or from increased activity of the liver or pancreas. Nursing pigs frequently suffer from diarrhoea caused by some substance the dam has eaten. It is claimed that it is often the result of dentition. Poor quality of the dam's milk, cold and damp quarters, sudden changes of temperature, green food given liberally to the nursing dam when she has not been accustomed to it not unfrequently causes the trouble.

Symptoms.—In simple diarrhoea there is a discharge of liquid feces without any constitutional disturbance. The feces may be voided without apparent pain or inconvenience to the patient. In other cases the discharges are frequent and painful, which causes the animal much distress: this form is usually accompanied by an increase of temperature, frequent pulse, rapid breathing and loss of appetite, a tucked up appearance of the abdomen, and the patient soon shows exhaustion. The pig sometimes suffers from a form of diarrhoea caused by derangement of the liver, and this may be of two kinds: first that caused by increased secretion of bile, in which form the feces are liquid and of a bright yellow color. At other times they are greenish, and the passage is accompanied by severe straining, pain and usually vomiting. In the second kind the feces are black or brown and foul-smelling. The appetite is usually impaired and there is considerable fever. All forms of diarrhoea, if not attended to are liable to be serious, and sometimes fatal.

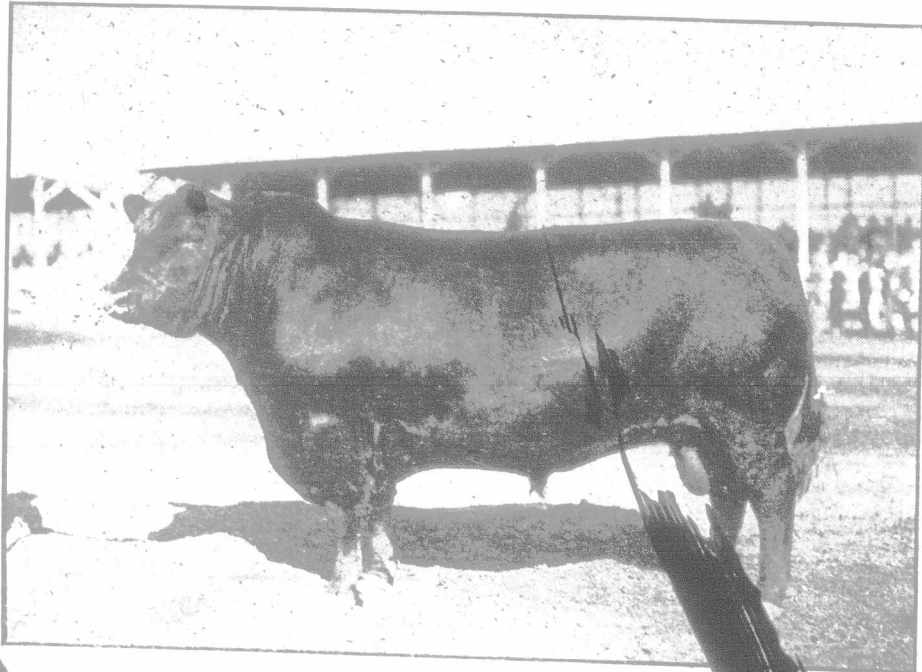
Treatment.—The treatment varies according to the nature of the derangement. In ordinary cases, due to increased peristaltic action 15 to 30 drops of laudanum (according to size of patient) in a little new milk administered every 3 hours will usually check the trouble. The administration of the drug must not be continued after diarrhoea ceases. The cause should be removed if possible and the animal carefully fed for a few days. If caused by change of food or too much food treat as above and feed lightly. If caused by derangement of the liver give 3 to 6 grams of calomel, and in 3 or 4 hours commence to treat as above.

In cases where the disease becomes chronic stimulants and tonics are indicated, as oil of turpentine 15 to 30 drops and a teaspoonful each of tincture of gentian and ginger in a little water 3 times daily.

Colic.

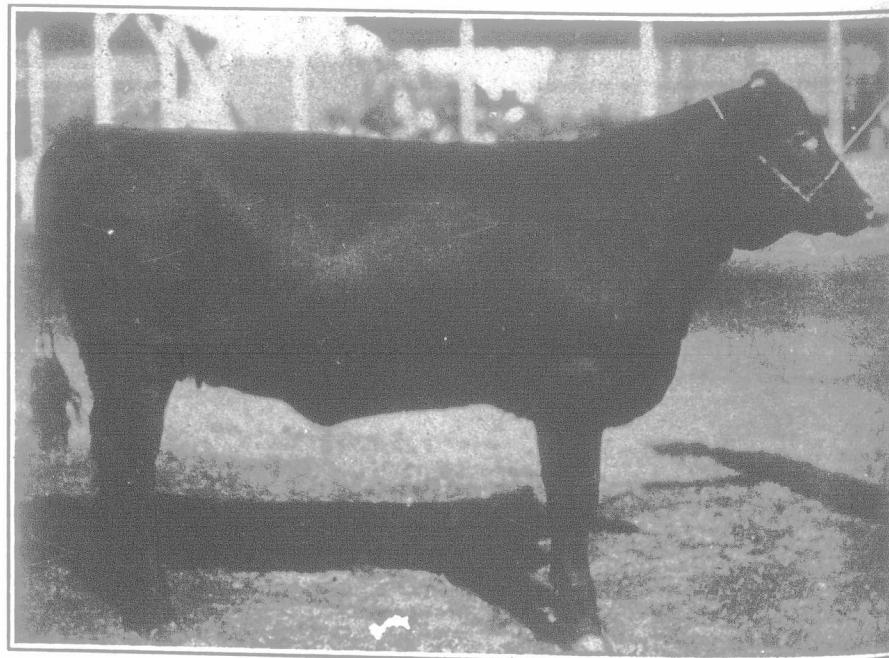
Colic is caused by change of food, food of an indigestible nature, cold, lying in wet beds, from constipation or obstruction in the intestines.

Symptoms.—The pain usually occurs in paroxysms with intermissions of ease. The patient is restless, shifts from place to place, sitting on his haunches, twisting his head from side to side, lying down, getting up, grunting or squealing. When the pain is severe the muscles of the abdomen become hard and may be rigid, pressure on the abdomen sometimes eases the pain.



Benedictine Monk.

Senior champion Aberdeen-Angus bull at Toronto. Exhibited by J. D. Larkin, Ont.



Rosewood 48th.

First in class of 14 junior-heifer Shorthorn calves at Toronto for A. G. Farrow, Oakville.