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finer" lot. They never go afield and do not seem to care what the world thinks of the breed, or what the world wants, so long as they can go on filling just local requirements, i. e., breeding geldings and farm working mares for their own use. The Suffolk horse is a good horse and deserves to be better known but the Council of the Society slumbereth on, oblivious to what they might achieve if they could open out the markets of Canada and the United States with good, sound and representative specimens of the breed.

A frenzied discussion is going on in Britain as to whether the Cruickshanks were great breeders, or whether they merely "carried on" with the Booth blood in the cattle they bought and worked out the lines that Booth set running. It is a fine debatable point. If you are English the answer is that the Cruickshanks did nothing brilliant; if you are Scotch, the reply is the Cruickshanks were the real saviours of the Shorthorn. The whole point to my mind turns on this one thing— if Amos Cruickshank had not bought from Wilkinson, of Lenton, the bull, Lancaster Comet, would the herd of the Scots brothers have achieved the fame it did? I say "No"—but there I'm English and "prahd" of it. Think it over, brother beef men in Canada, and write to The Farmer's Advocate about it!

ALBION.

Grade Up the Herds and Flocks.

The ambition of every farmer should be to improve his live stock. If this desire does not burn within his breast then he is not likely to accomplish much along live stock lines. The aim should be to improve and in order to do this there must be a goal in view. On some farms the stock is no better than what was kept on the same farm two or three decades ago. Then it was scrub grades, and to-day the animals kept fall in the same category. The idea seems to be prevalent with some folk that expensive pure-bred stock is necessary before improvement can be made, and because they lack the necessary funds to purchase foundation stock which they think they should have they rest on their oars and drift along from year to year. While some of the

to cull out inferior animals and breed only the best has prevented more than one stockman from achieving fame. By this process of grading up, improvement in the stock will be made at comparatively small cost. The greatest expense will be that of procuring a sire. If the right quality of individual can be secured, the price should not stand in the way of purchasing it. Too often the dollar is held so closely to the eye that future returns or prospects cannot be seen. A sire of poor breeding with lack of individuality is dear at any price while the bull which shows character, has the recognized type and conformation of the breed, and whose pedigree shows that his ancestors have proven good, may be worth his weight in gold.

Market Receipts and Prices.

During the month of June finished cattle reached an unprecedented price at the Toronto Union Stock Yards, but the hog market showed a slight weakening. According to the monthly market report issued by the Live Stock Branch, Markets Intelligence Division, the top price for heavy-finished steers at Toronto in May was \$17.00 per hundred, while in June it reached \$17.50. The average price in May was \$15.25, while in June it was \$15.92, an increase of nearly seventy cents per hundredweight. Good steers of 1,000 to 1,200 pounds in weight found ready sale at well over the \$15.00 mark. It is difficult to say whether or not the market will hold steady during the next few months when a considerable number of grass-finished cattle will find their way to the stock yards. In some districts the pastures appear to be fairly well stocked, while in others feeding cattle are scarce. Stockers and feeders held their own during June, but \$12.00 to \$13.50 per hundred weight for 800 to 1,000-pound cattle makes a stockman stop and think twice before purchasing to fill his pastures. At the Toronto stock yards 18,323 head of cattle were received in June, which was over 1,000 head in excess of the same month last year, and the price exceeded the 1917 price by about \$4.25 per hundredweight. The receipts of cattle at all of Canada's leading markets were in excess of the same month last year. During

them has steadily increased from year to year, and a larger amount passes into the higher grades than was formerly the case, thus showing that selling on a graded basis tends to improve quality.

In former years the Canadian wool manufacturers were not very keen on taking Canadian wool at prices asked by the wool grower, consequently a good deal of our clip crossed the line to the American market. Some Canadian manufacturers contended that they could not handle Canadian wool as well as what they imported. However, necessity is the mother of invention, and the need for wool has evidently been great enough to induce the manufacturer to alter his machinery or else to realize that his previous contention was without foundation, because it is understood that this year Canadian wool will be manufactured in Canadian mills, and the top market price was paid for it. Canadian wool is of high quality and more of it might advisedly be produced.

The Control of Flies on Cattle.

It is impossible to estimate the misery which flies inflict on the stock of the country during a single year, and aside from the pain which they cause they are carriers of disease, and, owing to the worrying of the stock cause a very great loss. This summer flies of various kinds are evidently very numerous and consequently more annoying than usual. From various parts of the country come reports of the herds stampeding when attacked by flies which some call the gad fly, others the warble fly, while some contend that the harm is done by the horn fly. Whichever fly is doing the damage, it appears to be pretty general over the entire Province. In the issue of the Farmer's Advocate of July 4, appeared an illustration of the horn fly and of the warble fly, together with the description of these and several other flies. Recipes for fly repellents were also published in the same issue. Reports indicate that the material used to repel the flies does not always prove effective. While it may keep off the ordinary stable fly, it does not always prevent some of the larger and more vicious flies from worrying and irritating the



Coquette McHenry, 40th

A pair of Angus heifers consigned to the International Aberdeen-Angus sale last December, by Escher & Ryan of Iowa, and purchased by H. Fraleigh, Forest, Ontario



Kacena

progeny may excel their dams and sires in quality, on the whole the scale of quality is not raised from generation to generation; consequently numerous herds of low quality and poor conformation are to be found grazing on Ontario pastures and occupying stalls in large Ontario stables. The value of breeding, quality and conformation was clearly shown at auction sales of the various breeds held during the past six months. If improvement were commenced in every herd in the country even one decade ago, it would have resulted in Canada's live stock being valued at a considerably higher figure than it now is.

The past is gone, we must build for the future, and where there has been no tendency toward improvement in the past it is high time that a start be made. The grade animals of mixed breeding to be found in many stables can be improved in quality in a comparatively short time by the use of registered, high-quality sires. The late Prof. Thomas Shaw claimed that "the common stock furnished excellent material as the basis for improvement, and the more mixed the blood elements the more quickly could the improvement be made." This followed from the fact that each additional blood element differing in character from the preceding reduces the power of that animal to transmit its own properties to the progeny, consequently when such an animal is mated with a sire of a pure breed the influence of the latter preponderates in effecting the change. The degree of such preponderance is proportionate to the degree in which the prepotency of the sire excels the prepotency of the dam. By using a choice specimen of the breed, improvement is surprisingly rapid when the foundation stock is composed of common females of mixed breeding."

The first cross will show marked improvement on the whole, but there will be a few inferior animals and it will be necessary to weed these out. A breeder intent on improving his herd will be most unsparing in weeding out animals which do not come up to his ideals. Failure

the month 21,682 hogs passed through the Union Stock Yards on their way to the packing houses. This was approximately 15,000 less than in May, 1918, and 5,000 less than in June, 1917. Most of the other markets showed a falling off in receipts compared with the previous month and with the same month, 1917. The number of sheep marketed throughout Canada, according to the report, is practically double that of the same month last year. For instance, at Toronto it was 5,082 for June, 1918, compared with 2,781 for June, 1917. At Montreal it was 1,665 compared with 799, while at Calgary 1,457 sheep were received in June, 1918, and 562 in the same month 1917. The price for sheep was considerably higher than for a similar period the previous year. It is believed that the number of sheep kept in the country is much greater than it was at the commencement of the war. The heavier market receipts are not necessarily an indication that flocks are being depleted.

Canada's Wool Clip Stays at Home.

The small flock owner as well as the rancher in all parts of the Dominion has marketed his wool through his provincial co-operative grading station, and had it sold by the Dominion Wool Growers' Association at, we understand, a very remunerative figure. The keen demand for wool to meet war needs has caused the price to soar, and the high price has induced an ever-increasing number of farmers to add sheep to the classes of stock kept or to considerably increase the flock. Sheep give a double revenue, and as they are not ravenous feeders on high-priced concentrates they are proving profitable to their owners. True, there are the dog nuisance and disease to contend with, but what line of business could a person engage in that was without drawbacks?

Since the Provincial wool grading stations were started in Canada the amount of wool marketed through

farm stock. Cows in milk fail rapidly in the milk flow, and beef animals fail to make economical gains when tormented from sunrise to sunset. The greatest annoyance is usually caused in mid-day when the sun is the hottest, and we have noticed our own herd start all of a sudden and race as hard as they could for the buildings. As to which variety of fly is actually causing the annoyance, we cannot definitely say. We have tried a number of fly repellents without satisfactory results and at present we are spraying the cattle night and morning with a solution of crude carbolic acid, care being taken not to apply it in sufficient quantity to cause burning. A large box stall is also left open during the day so that the stock may take refuge from the strong rays of the sun. When in the partially darkened buildings the flies are not nearly so troublesome as in the open.

John McKee, a prominent dairyman of Norwich, writes as follows: "Herds of cattle will fairly stampede and run for a great distance. This is causing a serious drop in milk production. The ordinary fly sprays do not appear to be of any use so far as the gad fly is concerned. I wish some effective remedy could be found, as the matter is becoming quite a serious one in this district."

Harry Smith, a well-known stockman of Hay, Ontario, writes: "I have done nothing to ward off the attacks of the gad fly, because I knew of nothing which promised relief. Destroying the fly while still in the grub stage of development appears to be the most promising method of keeping this fly in check." Other stockmen have expressed themselves in much the same terms as the above. Undoubtedly a heavy loss is being caused this year by flies. Reports from the grazing districts indicate that steers are making poor gains, owing largely to being continually tormented.

George W. Muir, Assistant Dominion Animal Husbandman of the Dominion Experimental Farms, Ottawa,