

The top-price ram was 500 gns., and went to Mr. F. Miller, for the Argentine. An offer of 750 gns. for this ram was refused previous to the sale. Mr. E. N. Casares gave 420 gns. for the next, and he also took five others at prices from this down to 17 gns., which was the lowest price of the sale. Mr. F. Miller gave 150 gns. for a second ram, and he also took another at 80 gns., one at 60 gns., one at 65 gns., one at 42 gns., one at 45 gns., and one at 50 gns.

The home buyers secured a very choice ram in the one that Messrs. Wright gave 210 gns. for, and Messrs. T. C. B. Dixon gave 105 gns. for another. The average of this notable lot of yearling rams was £90 7s. 6d., the highest average that Mr. Dudding has ever realized, and one that distinctly shows how greatly the merit and quality of the Riby rams is appreciated by the Argentine buyer, and also how very much keener the demand is at the present time than it was two years ago, when the last home sale was held. We may mention that the 37 rams then offered averaged £27.

W. W. C.

Importation of Canadian Cattle to Great Britain.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

No doubt your Canadian daily newspapers publish reports of the debates in our British Parliament at Westminster; but the following, as it appears in July 18th issue of the Daily News (London) may not be seen by many of your readers:

"Sir John Leng asked the Colonial Secretary whether he had observed that the Canadian Minister of Agriculture, speaking on Friday at the House of Commons at Ottawa, declared that the embargo on the importation of Canadian cattle into the United Kingdom is detrimental to Canadian trade, and a financial injury to the people of the Dominion; that he did not hesitate to declare the embargo an unfriendly act to Canada, and that it shows a lack of consideration for those bonds of Imperial unity which should be as dear to the mother country as to Canada; and whether, as the Canadian Minister added that nothing would appeal more to the Canadian people than if the motherland were to remove the present stigma from Canadian cattle, he will bring these statements under the consideration of the Government, with a view to meeting the representations of the Dominion Parliament?"

Mr. Lyttleton—"I have seen a telegraphic report of the speech referred to by the hon. member, but I regret that I can add nothing to the reply which I gave to his question on this subject on June 7th."

Sir Gilbert Parker—"Was this embargo imposed not merely for the purpose of excluding disease, but as an acceptable form of protection for British cattle-owners?"

Mr. Spear—"Before it was put on, did we not constantly have outbreaks of foot-and-mouth disease and pleuro-pneumonia among our cattle?"

Mr. Lyttleton—"That questions should have been addressed to the Minister for Agriculture."

In a short editorial on this subject, the whole of which need not be quoted, the Daily News says:

"The Government . . . exclude live Canadian cattle, on the pretense that disease might come in with live cattle. The real reason, however, was that touched on by Sir Gilbert Parker. The idea is to protect the British cattle-raiser, not against the foreigner, be it noticed, but against the colonial. There can be no doubt on this point; for no disease exists in Canada. None existed in 1903, when the subject was last raised. It is protection pure and simple. The incident shows the hollowiness of this cant of Imperialism. The Government talk in one breath about grasping the hands across the sea, and in the next refuse to remove an embargo on Canadian cattle, so irrational and indefensible, on the grounds they allege, that the Canadian Minister of Agriculture denounces it as an unfriendly act, and the Canadian manufacturers now in England declare it to be the most serious injustice existing between the two countries."

But, sir, may I add that the real factor in the case is not any consideration for the British farmer on the part of the present Government, but the interest of the great Tory landowners in rigidly safeguarding everything which tends to keep their rents up to a high level. It is just as well that Canadians, our sons and cousins, farming in your splendid country, should know who their friends and who their enemies are.

Stafford, Eng. A. PEARCE SANDERS.

[Note.—Judged by the tenor of the London News' article above quoted and other indications, there is an effort on foot in some quarters to get the embargo question into British politics. It is remarkable, however, that a paper of world-wide repute, like the News, should so misrepresent the embargo as it does in the following sentence: "The idea is to protect the British cattle-raiser, not against the foreigner, be it noticed, but against the colonial." The regulation is against all countries alike, and chiefly for the direct benefit of Ireland.—Editor.]

A correspondent, in the English Agricultural Gazette, relates a case where soot sown thickly on rows of potatoes before covering protected them completely from wireworm, while part of a row, where no soot was applied, were very badly affected.

Milk Fever: Its Cause and Cure.

A reader from Cardwell, Ont., asks us to print an article on milk fever, for the benefit of new subscribers. He cites the case of a neighbor who claims that cows must be milked out immediately after calving to prevent milk fever, and hopes we will throw some light on the causes, symptoms, prevention and cure of this fatal complaint.

It is a disease peculiar to the cow, and attacks only heavy milkers. A cow in high condition before calving is subject to it. Regarding its pathology we are unable to say much, since very little is known. Schmidt's theory, upon which the Schmidt treatment was based, was that a morbid process goes on in the udder by which poisonous material is produced, which is absorbed. Nothing definite is known, however, about the cause. Veterinarians have agreed to disagree.

The symptoms are unmistakable. Usually the first seen is a slight unsteadiness of gait, crossing of the hind legs, and a swaying motion when walking. Later the head droops; no notice is taken of the calf. There is stamping of the feet and whisking of the tail, paralysis comes on, the cow becomes stupid and the eyes dull, and may lie on the breast bone with the head around to the flank, or else flat on the side. Breathing is loud, the urine and feces are retained, the patient ceases to chew her cud, the milk flow is much lessened, and in bad cases bloating may occur. Falling treatment, death usually occurs within a few days after the attack. The sooner the attack comes on after the calving the poorer the chances of recovery.

PREVENTION AND TREATMENT.

A great deal of stress used to be laid on prevention, and to this end many dairymen partially starved their best cows while dry, so as to keep down their condition. One very important point is not to milk the cow out dry for two or three days after calving.

As for treatment, a few years ago a great discovery was heralded in the Schmidt cure, which consists of the injection of a solution of iodide of potassium into the udder through the teats. By this means careful practitioners had as high as eighty per cent. of cures, which was justly considered a boon, but this has since been entirely superseded by the oxygen or air treatment, with which there is no loss.

Two years ago last winter one of the editors of this paper, perusing a foreign exchange, noticed an article, translated from the French, giving an account of the method of M. Knusel, a veterinary surgeon at Lucerne, in curing milk fever by the injection of pure oxygen into the udder. The article was brought to the notice of Drs. Tennent & Barnes, veterinarians, of London, Ont., who, after careful test, employed it with remarkable success in a large number of cases. An account of some of their first cases, with particulars, was printed in the "Farmer's Advocate" of June 1st, 1903, and attracted wide attention. Subsequently, Dr. Barnes read a paper before the Ontario Veterinary Medical Association, setting forth this new method, with the results obtained in his experience. Since then it has been given much prominence in every agricultural journal on the continent, and innumerable cases have been recorded to attest the efficiency of the treatment, while not an instance of failure has come to our knowledge, where the requirements have been observed. It soon transpired that pure oxygen and a special apparatus was not necessary—common air injected with a bicycle pump and a teat tube answered almost equally well. The plan is to pump each quarter full of air and tie a tape about the teat to prevent its escape. Usually a second injection is unnecessary, the patient rising and resuming her cud within a few hours. The one caution is to avoid drenching, as this is positively harmful. At first veterinarians persisted in administering something internally. Merely to pump air into the udder was altogether too simple for a professional man; any farmer could do that! Experience finally taught them that the air treatment could not be relied upon unless used exclusively. Drenching endangered the patient.

The air cure is now used also for garget, and proves remarkably successful. The loss it has saved dairymen and breeders from the two affections is incalculable. Had the "Farmer's Advocate" done nothing else but introduced this boon into America, it would have ingratiated itself with Canadian and American stockmen. It is gratifying to realize that we have been instrumental in placing in the hands of the veterinary profession and stockmen a remedy which renders the long-dreaded scourge of the dairyman rather less to be feared than ordinary caked udder. For simplicity, cheapness and effectiveness, the air treatment is far and away the best thing known in veterinary science, and when an equally efficacious remedy is discovered for contagious abortion the dairyman's millennium will be at hand.

Showing Cattle.

As is the case with all our national industries, great changes have taken place in the systems of management pursued by cattle-breeders, and under present circumstances a very large majority are now showing a portion of the stock they breed. No doubt a small proportion only of the herds in the kingdom are represented at the breeding shows during the summer seasons, but in these days the only market a breeder can get for the majority of his bull calves is one of the many auction sales and shows that have been multiplying year by year throughout the length and breadth of the kingdom. So much is this now the case that it may be assumed that every cattle-breeder must consider cattle-showing to be part and parcel of his business as a cattle-breeder.

Without attempting to consider whether preparing animals for shows may or may not be for the benefit of the breeds, as breeds, of which there are a large number having each an important part to play in the rural economy of the country, it cannot be denied that the very life of a herd, in the majority of cases, depends upon the successful management in the show-yard preparation of animals put before the public.

Take, say, two equally well-bred bull calves, sired by the same bull, and from dams of like pedigree and equal individual merit, and when, say, fifteen months old, put them before the public at any one of our well-established shows and sales. Suppose one has been what is termed "well done," kept on full milk during the first six months of his life, and afterwards, along with other good things carefully fed to him, he has had a certain allowance of milk up to the day of the sale. In the case of the other, he may have suckled his dam or got a portion of milk for several months, and in the autumn, after being weaned, had what might be termed a fair choice of good, suitable food for a young, growing animal; in other words, he has been reared up to the sale day in what many breeders would term "a natural way." In the show and sale ring, the first-named animal will not only attract the attention of the judges, but will be keenly bid for by the public, while the other receives little attention from either, and is knocked down at a very inferior price. A great authority on the subject has said, "Much of the goodness of an animal goes in at its mouth," and in no case is this more true than in that of young bulls.

Connected with showing there is and has been much said regarding the overfeeding of exhibits, and doubtless not without cause. While this is at once acknowledged, we must never forget that it is only the good animals that can look well when highly fed. The oft-repeated statement that animals owe their position in the award lists to excessive feeding, can in fewer cases be accepted than many imagine. All the feeding on earth can never make a winner in good company out of an inferior animal. Many fail to discriminate between flesh or muscle and fat, and in consequence speak of fleshless, fat animals as being shown in a more natural condition than others that carry more flesh and less fat. We have seen that cattle-showing is a business that the majority of breeders must of necessity go in for, and such being the case, it need hardly be said that an animal destined to make a name for itself is one that must be kept going from the time it is born. It is well to bear in mind that there is always room at the top, and the top can seldom if ever be attained if a young animal receives a check and loses what is known as its calf flesh.

In this short paper there is no intention to formulate a course of feeding, but it may be stated that the only royal road to success in the show-yard is the exercise of careful, systematic management, giving every attention to the individualities of the different animals under preparation.

In this matter the owners are very much in the hands of their cattlemen, who, as a class, are painstaking and interested in their work. Doubtless, some of them err in being overanxious, and their attempts to force matters in the way of feeding often end in surfeit and the disarrangement of digestion. Cleaned-up troughs and mangers at stated intervals daily must be insisted upon. It is almost unnecessary to say that careful attention to the feet of animals and daily exercise is all-important if cattle are expected to look their best in the sale or show ring.

It is a true saying that "Many a prize has been lost and won in the ring through the way animals have been handled when before the judges," and many men who are masters of the art of bringing out their stock give points away when they lead them into the ring. Some men never can be taught the art of showing the animals under their care to the best advantage, and although coached to try to hide a weakness, often break down at the most important and critical moment of the fight. On the other hand, it is quite a treat to see the majority of the cattlemen at our important shows handle their pets while under adjudication. Every movement has been rehearsed times without number in the home paddock, until every switch of the light