

legs"; the animal on the cultivated farm develops short legs and a heavy carcass. The walking will be reduced both with respect to getting feed and with respect to getting water, and, as has already been pointed out, the long distances that cattle back on the bench have to walk for water keeps them poor.

A second important gain will be with respect to breeding. When a man has his stock within his own fence, he can save them from the injury of being bred to scrub sires, and the scrub sire is the active one, whether in grade bull or Indian cayuse, and gets most of the females. On both sides then—that of feeding and that of breeding—the gain to the ranching business and to the country is to be enhanced by the change that is overtaking the business. The total output will be increased and the quality will be improved. The dogie business is not a temporary feature, for stupid and mulish and awkward as the dogie may be dubbed by the traditional cow-puncher, he is a good spec., and can be turned into good dollars by the more careful methods that are going to make all kinds of ranch enterprise solid and safe. It is only natural to look for an increase in labor in the business. Increased labor and increased art are indissociably connected with the progress of any business. There must come not only increased labor, but increased knowledge, knowledge connected with feeding and the properties of foods, connected with cultivation, with breeding, and, perhaps, with disease. The *laissez faire* system develops hardiness and good constitution in stock, for it is the survival of the fittest, and bringing stock under the hand of man invariably develops some weaknesses.

J. McCAIG.

Stock Judging Competitions.

Directors in charge, Messrs. Andrew Graham, Chester Thompson, R. I. M. Power, and G. H. Greig.

1. Competition restricted to farmers, or farmers' sons not over 25 years of age, resident in Canada.

2. Judging to be done by score-card or otherwise, together with such written explanations as may be required by the official judges.

3. Competitors will be judged on the following basis: Correct placing, 45 points; reasons for placing, 40 points; style of doing work, 10 points; time occupied in judging, 5 points; total 100 points.

Class 41.—To take place in the stock-judging pavilion, on Thursday, July 23rd, at 9.30 a.m.:

	1st	2nd	3rd
Sec. A.—Judging heavy horses.....	\$10	\$8	\$5
Sec. B.—Judging beef cattle.....	10	8	5
Sec. C.—Judging dairy cattle.....	10	8	5
Sec. D.—Judging mutton sheep.....	8	5	2
Sec. E.—Judging bacon swine.....	10	8	5
Sec. F.—Sweepstakes for the farmer or farmer's son making the highest total score in the above sections.....	Gold Medal		
Donated by the "Farmer's Advocate."			

Feeding Experiments.

For several years the Central Experimental Farm at Ottawa has been conducting experiments in the feeding of high grade steers to determine the relative cost of meat from feeding light and fairly heavy meal rations. The calves are taken as soon as a few weeks old and separated into two even lots. The difference in their feeding commences from the first, and is continued during the entire time of their growing and fattening periods, except that for the last three or four months, the finishing stage, the meal ration is increased for the light ration lot. As several of these experiments necessarily run concurrently, the animals can be seen in several stages of growth. In every case those getting a liberal supply of grain are healthier looking, and are more thrifty, and quite prepare a person for the result of the whole test, one of which has just been completed. The steers on the heavier grain ration made their growth about half a cent a pound cheaper, and when finished were worth fully a cent a pound more than those on the light ration. The whole is an excellent object lesson in favor of liberal feeding from birth to maturity, and one seeing it cannot help being impressed with the fact. It helps to prove that it is most profitable to keep animals at all ages in a vigorous, growing condition, rather than to attempt to hold them over from fall until the following season without gain.

Another experiment with animals loose and tied, gives results considerably in favor of loose feeding. Such an experiment, however, must be conducted a number of times before the results become valuable, and after all a feeder must be guided largely by his own conditions, which will almost always differ somewhat from those of experiment stations.

In order to determine the best proportion of green feed and grain to be fed hogs for the most profitable returns, an experiment on quite an extensive scale is just being started. As the hogs have been out but a week or two, and have not yet got accustomed to their quarters, it is too early to forecast results, which should be interesting later on.

Angora Goats.

In response to enquiries regarding Angora goats, we publish herewith a synopsis of a lengthy article which recently appeared in "Wool Markets and Sheep":

The Angora goat loves and thrives best in dry, rough, hilly country, with plenty of brush, and the more variety of vegetation the better. They will live on, perhaps, the nearest to nothing of any domestic animal in existence, but under such conditions they will not thrive or grow a full growth of mohair. On 160 acres of scrubby and weedy land, 160 goats will do well, but on open prairie sheep will be found more profitable. The Angora goat likes leaves of young shrubs, preferring such food to herbs, although almost all is ferring that comes to his mill. Some kinds of weeds they pick up with special relish, but there are some varieties which they do not favor. Amongst these are the black persimmon and the pecan.

The goats should be shorn twice a year, in March and September, and each well-conditioned goat will produce about three pounds at each clipping.

The bucks should be turned with the does on the 20th of October. The kids will begin to drop about the 20th of March, and spring shearing should be completed before kidding commences. Twins are rare in an Angora flock.

The function of kidding is not more troublesome than lambing is with sheep. The pregnant goats should be put on fresh pasture, and a day after they kid they may be brought back to the main flock. The kids should be allowed to go with the mothers only at night, when they can get all the milk they require. When about ten days old they should be placed in a separate pasture field, where they will soon learn to eat grass.

To train the goats to come home at sundown, they should be driven slowly and gently home for a few evenings, to a large clean pen, where a few salt licks have been previously laid. The mothers will fight to the death to protect their young, and unless several wolves attack them at once they are generally successful.

The matter of fencing is a difficult and rather expensive one. Not less than six barbed wires, drawn very tight, with the posts not far apart, will hold them in, and where wolves have to be kept out ten wires are necessary.

Goat meat is considered a great delicacy, and those accustomed to using it prefer it to mutton. Only in wet, cold weather, do they require shelter, but then they should be protected by a thoroughly rain-proof roof. Only in cases of severe snow or sleet storms do they require hand feeding, when corn and cottonseed will be found to be the best feed. Disease among Angora goats is practically unknown.

Type in Judging.

The judges selected by Fair Associations to award the prizes for the various breeds of live stock are, of course, expected to do so on the basis of individual excellence and conformity to approved breed type. They are supposed, by their awards, to set the standard of type and quality, and it follows that much care and discrimination should be exercised in the selection of judges who have had considerable experience in handling the class of stock they are appointed to pass judgment upon, and who are known to be up-to-date in their conceptions of what is ideal conformation, type and quality in the class, and of its suitability for the improvement of the breed. While desirable type may to a considerable extent be capable of description in words, there are some features of character in breeding stock that cannot be so described that the inexperienced can readily comprehend them. Yet the men who have bred and handled first-class stock, and with their eyes and ears open have associated with experienced breeders, and for years have closely watched the judging in the ring at leading shows, become tolerably well agreed as to the ideal or representative type of the breed with which they are conversant, or in which they are especially interested.

Judges are properly expected to show consistency in their placing of the competing animals in any class, and in so far as the material before them admits should keep this point in view, but in this regard fault is sometimes found by on-lookers with a judge for what appears a want of consistency, when in reality the fault is in the material and not in the judge. If there are not a sufficient number of good animals of the approved type to fill the prize list, the judge is surely justified in placing a good one of a different type ahead of an inferior one of the desirable type, even at the risk of a lack of uniformity in the winning list. Ringside observers may, therefore, well exercise a reasonable amount of charity in their criticism, since the judge being in closer touch with the competing animals, and acknowledging his responsibility, is likely to have good reasons for his ratings, which, if reported as afforded, he could probably explain to the satisfaction of reasonable people. As animal conformation in

most points to the desirable type, may have some unsoundness or some outstanding defects, such as a decided lack of the indications of a vigorous constitution, or of the subtle, indescribable something, known as character, that indicates a notable, impressive sire or a matronly mother, and which, in the judge's opinion, seriously discounts its value from the standpoint of a breeder, and justifies him in giving it a lower place in the list than those not having the intuitions of a close judge might consider it entitled to.

The difficulty of securing uniformity or apparent consistency in the character of the prize animals, even when good material is plentiful, is increased where more than one judge officiates, as there is generally the possibility that they may differ to some extent in their views as to ideal type, and in that case there must of necessity be present to some extent the element of compromise, if awards are made throughout without the services of a referee being required, and since it is pleasant to work together agreeably, it follows that in practice, where two are bracketed, they almost invariably manage to make their awards unanimous, and the question whether either one of them acting singly would have made the same rating remains unsolved. For this reason, if for no other, there is strong ground for a preference for the single judge system, where competent men can be secured, but there is yet, we concede, a good deal of difference of opinion as to the best composition of the bench, and a good deal of hesitancy to accept the single judge system, although it is growing in favor both in America and Great Britain. It is highly improbable that the point will ever be reached when either one or two or more judges will succeed in satisfying all exhibitors, and the best that can be done, under any circumstances, is to choose men who have a good knowledge of the stock they are required to adjudicate upon, who are up-to-date in their ideas, and are known to be disposed to do right.

Brandon Steer Feeding Experiment.

FODDER CORN COMPARED WITH BROME HAY AS A CATTLE FEED.

Of the ten steers selected for this test, two were Aberdeen-Angus grades and the balance Shorthorn grades; all were two and one-half years old when the test began.

After two weeks of preparatory feeding, they were divided into two groups, as nearly uniform as possible. One of the groups of five were fed on the following daily rations:

Fodder corn	20 lbs.
Turnips	10 lbs.
Mixed grain chop	6 to 10 lbs.
Bran	5 lbs.

The other group of five animals were fed on the same rations, with the exception that Brome grass hay was substituted for fodder corn. The Brome was well cured, quite bright and free from dust. The fodder corn was Pearce's Prolific, cut in the early milk stage and cured in stooks in the field, and hauled in and cut into one-inch lengths as required.

RESULTS.

The group fed on fodder corn made a gain of 1,010 pounds in the 16 weeks, and the group fed on Brome hay gained only 935 pounds. A difference of 75 pounds in favor of the corn-fed steers. One of the steers fed on corn suffered somewhat from cow-pox, otherwise the difference would have been greater.

Uncommon Lambs.

Mr. Alex. Gamley, well known to many of our readers as a breeder of Leicester sheep, lives a few miles from Brandon. Recently, like many of his brother farmers, he hired an Englishman to help him on the farm, and towards evening Mr. Gamley, after pointing where the sheep were feeding and showing him young helper their quarters for the night, told him to house them and then come in for supper. Mr. Gamley, who, by the way, is a bachelor, went to prepare the evening meal, and when it was ready he looked out to see what was detaining his hired man, but, as he could not see him, concluded to begin his supper, expecting his companion to arrive at any moment. Mr. Gamley got through eating, and still no Englishman appeared, so he put on his hat and went out to see what was the cause of the delay. Before he reached the stable he met his hired man, hat in hand, coat over his arm, perspiring freely and breathing these long, deep breaths which only come through extra exertion of some kind. "Did you have any trouble with the sheep?" asked Mr. Gamley. To which the reply came: "No, not with the sheep, but I had an awful time with the lambs. They are so wild I could scarcely get them in." "The lambs?" exclaimed Mr. Gamley, in surprise. "Why, there won't be any for nearly a month," said he, "but you are mistaken," said the Englishman, "there are eleven, and I had an awful time to catch them." With that Mr. Gamley hurried out to the true facts, and when he looked into the pen, behold, eleven jack rabbits had been penned up with his sheep.