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us. Be this as it may, every farmer can at least protect his own cattle.

"So soon as the small warbles are felt under the hand, no time should be lost in killing them. Chemists now sell a cheap smear for this purpose. Each warble or maggot has a breathing pore through the hide; it is as fine as a hair of the head, so that if the animal's hair is parted over the warble, a small piece of the smear put on top, the hair put back, the breathing pore is stopped, and the maggot is suffocated. The trouble is well repaid in the future better thriving of the animals, and they are spared much suffering."

Lessons for the Meat Producer from the Shows of 1904.

Mr. J. J. Ferguson, of the Animal Food Dept., Swift & Co., Chicago, in a recent address delivered before the Illinois Live-stock Breeders' Association, said in substance:

A review of the commercial live-stock situation of the past year is a story of many contradictions and some surprises. Feeds off the farm were unusually high, while products of cattle, sheep and swine were offered on depressed markets, preventing the packer from paying such prices for finished steers, hogs and muttons as would justify the farmer and stockman putting these on the market in a properly finished condition. At times prime steers were almost an unknown quantity. The great American hog has a more assured position. Lard is a potent factor in regulating the hog market. During 1904, as never before, the keenest competition was developed from the various vegetable compounds and lard substitutes which are now being manufactured so cheaply from cotton seed, peanut and other vegetable oils. Then, further, the steadily increasing demand for lighter hams and bacons is having a very noticeable effect in the marketing of hogs of lighter weights. While the farmer sold his hogs at comparatively low prices, he did not use the regular amount of feed in securing a high finish, consequently his returns were fairly satisfactory. The year just closed was a banner one for the men who were "long" on sheep and lambs. Anything in the shape of a reasonably good native was readily picked up at satisfactory prices. With lambs at eight cents a pound, the sheep feeder should feel very prosperous.

Total values of live stock handled during 1904 by the Union Stock-yard & Transit Co., Chicago, is officially reported as follows:

Cattle	\$149,192,290 00
Calves	2,274,677 00
Hogs	79,626,206 00

The value of all live stock received at Union Stock-yards for the same year amounted to \$264,120,607.00, showing a decline from previous year of \$24,028,100.00. The last dozen years have seen marked changes in the character of the demand from the consuming public. Lighter and leaner meats have been wanted more and more, until at the present time we find a wide spread between the kind of steer, hog or wether which tops the market and the kind that made the records a decade ago. Lighter, leaner cuts of meat could come only from lighter, earlier-matured animals. The producer has been slow to realize the changed condition and to conform thereto. Following the market brings increased profits.

The yearly fat-stock shows of the country offer a fairly safe indication as to the trend of the time on market cattle, sheep and swine. Looking into what is now ancient history, we find that in 1893 the grand championship of the Chicago fat-stock show was won by the peerless bullock, Clarence Kirklevington, a steer which weighed 2,400 lbs., dressed out 1,659½ lbs. of heavily tallowed carcass. Coming down the years to 1900, when the first International Live-stock Exposition was held, we find the demands of the public, and in conformity thereto, the ideas of the packer, had so changed that the grand championship went without question to Advance, a smooth, well-finished steer, which weighed only 1,430 lbs., and which proved in the packing-house to be an economical cutter, free from surplus fat or tallow.

At the last exposition, first place in the slaughter test went to Funk's Choice, a grade Aberdeen-Angus steer, weighing 1,285 lbs., and dressing out 824 lbs., or 66.7% of smooth carcass. The proportion of edible meat was unusually large.

Since 1900 the International Live-stock Exposition has been an accurate gauge of the trend of the times, and has accomplished much in convincing the producers that lighter weights were wanted, both in the showing and in the pens of the packer. With all, except breeding classes, show-yard decisions should conform closely to market demands. Harmful results follow decisions of a judge not closely in touch with market demands and values. [Note.—But the farmer and feeder demand an animal that will combine constitutional vigor, and one that will feed advantageously.—Ed.]

The year just closed is rich in lessons from the two greatest live-stock shows ever seen on this continent.

In my report as Secretary of one of the juries on live stock at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition, I stated: "At this Exposition, to an extent never before attempted, were the decisions based not only upon breed type and excellence, but also upon market demands of the time. The ultimate aim of swine husbandry is meat production; consequently, pure-bred swine, to be of direct financial benefit to the farmer

and stockman, should also be strong in desirable market type and quality. In too many instances we find breed quality and market quality widely different." These remarks are equally applicable to beef and cattle classes. The work both at St. Louis and at Dexter Park the past season not only placed the mark of approval or disapproval on the breeder's work, but took a free step forward in establishing upon a permanent basis, standards of excellence and type which will serve as guides for many years to come.

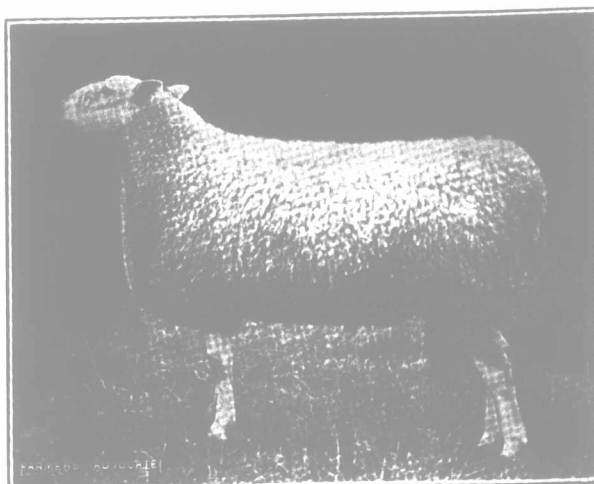
If the ultimate destination of every hog and every animal of the beef and mutton breeds is the block, carcass tests and slaughter tests should be made the leading feature of our fat-stock shows. I am free to state that, up to the present time, carcass contests as conducted at our leading expositions have been but of little practical benefit to the greatest number of stockmen and farmers. We know, in most instances, decisions on animals alive and in the cooler of the packing-house have been so much at variance that the average



English Leicester Ewe.

layman is only more confused by accumulation of data. Long experience has made the cattle, sheep and hog buyers of the packing-house economical and closely discriminating buyers of live stock. Is it not possible that some system can be devised which will enable experienced judges to more closely follow the rules which govern the practical packing-house buyer in his daily operations. I believe a further step in advance is desirable.

A show steer two or three years old has served his purpose. The packer has finally and firmly decided he will not pay exorbitant prices for prizewinning animals. Market quality should be the chief factor in placing awards on finished stock. I believe it is practicable to devise and operate a judging system under which the quality of a steer in the ring would be estimated at its proper worth, and the carcass quality of the same steer rated at its true value in the cooler, and that the final grading position of this steer should depend upon his relative position, as shown by a summary of these two ratings. Our large live-stock shows are the greatest incentive to progress in the live-stock business. But we have passed the point where the red and purple ribbons and championship banners satisfy. We want to know more of the why and wherefore of the showing, through information from the commercial end of the live-stock business.



Border Leicester Ram.

Grub in Head.

I saw in the issue of the "Farmer's Advocate" for February 9th, a question about sheep dying. About eight years ago, in the fall of the year, I noticed one of my ewes blind. In the winter, several more got partially blind. I shut them in a pen by themselves. Toward spring they recovered their sight. They were healthy and strong, to all appearance, at the time of the blindness. Not a weak sheep in the flock; always ready for feed and water. When it came lambing time, I began to lose the ewes. I lost four by death from disease, and, of course, their

lambs went also—four pairs of twins. That spring I had hired a boy, a cousin of mine, to work for me. He said, I believe your sheep have grub in the head. He said when his father was alive their sheep got affected. I said, what did you do for them? He said, we rubbed turpentine around their nose, and it gave them relief. I said I would use the syringe. So we held the sheep's heads well up and injected some turpentine into each nostril. It made them cough and sneeze. I never saw such a discharge as came from each sheep. It came from the top of their heads, for when we applied the turpentine their noses were as clean as if they had been washed. I never lost a sheep after I applied the turpentine. The ewes lambed right along. All but one gave birth to twins. I am satisfied I would have lost every sheep if I had not applied the turpentine. C. C. Haldimand Co., Ont.

The English Leicester.

The English Leicester is one of the oldest of the improved breeds of sheep in Britain, and is so named from the county in England in which it originated. It was formerly frequently spoken of as the Dishley breed, from the home of Robert Bakewell, its originator, who lived at Dishley Hall, in Leicestershire. It was more commonly known as the New Leicester. The improved Leicester was built on a foundation of the old long-wooled sheep of the neighborhood, which were large, coarse, long and thin in the carcass, flat-sided, carrying a coarse fleece, and were withal slow feeders. Bakewell commenced the work of improvement in 1755, and continued it until his death, leaving an animal as nearly perfect in form and feeding qualities as could well be conceived. His plan seems to have been that of rigid selection of the best, and a judicious system of in-and-inbreeding, using for breeding purposes only those conforming most nearly to his ideal, and breeding from sires strong in the qualities in which the ewes mated with them were lacking. So rapidly was improvement effected, and so generally recognized, that while in 1760 his annual letting of rams for the season realized for him only \$5 each, in 1784 he received \$525 for the use of a ram; in 1786 one ram was let for \$1,575, and in 1789 it is said he received \$6,300 for the use of three rams which were triplets, \$10,500 for seven others, and \$15,750 for the use of the remainder of his stock of rams, \$2,200 being paid by each of two breeders for the use of one ram for their flocks alone. Mr. Bakewell reserving one third of his use for himself, making the yearly value of this one ram equal to \$6,600. These were certainly boom times. After his death, Bakewell's system of close-breeding was followed by his successors, but with the effect of reducing the value of the breed to the farmer, the sheep becoming disposed to run to the production of fat rather than flesh, and to become more delicate in constitution. The breed, however, has been well maintained by many judicious breeders, and has been instrumental in the improvement of nearly all the other long-wooled breeds.

The English Leicester differs from the Scotch or Border Leicester in being shorter in body and legs than the latter, with a stronger neck and heavier fore quarters, and a somewhat heavier and more dense fleece. The color of the face is generally of a bluish tint, with often a small tuft of wool on the forehead. The Border Leicester is upstanding, clean legged, and the head and legs are perfectly white. What accounts for this difference does not clearly appear, as the champions of either class will not admit that any other breeds have been used in developing their peculiarities, though sly hints by breeders of other classes as to certain crosses having been used are not wanting. It is quite possible that difference of environment, soil, treatment, etc., may reasonably account for the differing types, which are so distinct that the Royal Agricultural Society of England gives a separate class in their prize-list for Border Leicesters, as differentiated from the English Leicester.

Simple Treatment for Abortion.

Prof. A. T. Peters, Animal Pathologist of the University of Nebraska, writes Austin Leonard, kindly sent me their method of treating cows that have aborted. They have found it very satisfactory. It is substantially as follows:

"Irrigate the vagina with a lukewarm three per cent. solution of permanganate of potash; then a solution of yeast is injected into the vagina, which is prepared in the following manner: One cake of compressed yeast is dissolved in a teacupful of water, and allowed to stand to ferment. To this ferment is added from a pint to a pint and a half of water. This is injected into the vagina, and it has a tendency to stop the discharge from the vagina better than any chemical that has so far been used. It also has the great advantage that it does not produce any irritation which may occur by the strong use of carbolic acid and other disinfectant." This treatment will cost about three cents per cow.