

Admission of Store Cattle to England Delayed.

Excessive prices were never known to do a breed any particular good. It simply means the conservation, for breeding purposes, of all males and females, which can be recorded, regardless of their quality. When values range high the less extensive breeder and the farmer with grades content themselves with a herd header below their usual standard in order to keep within the price limit beyond which they seldom go. When confronted with the difficulty of obtaining a sire do not quibble over a few dollars and lower your standard. Your competitor may invest that extra \$50 or \$100, which you are unwilling to pay, and get it back many times while your sales decrease owing to the growing inferiority of your herd. The type and quality must be maintained even at enhanced prices. Select your breed and allow your personal likings to be gratified to a considerable extent. It would be unwise for the average man to invest heavily in any breed which he does not like, simply because he thinks it the most profitable. The most successful breeders cannot see anything attractive about animals which do not belong to the particular kind with which they work. They are wrapt up in their breed, so to speak, and are more successful on account of their admiration for it. Have a high standard or ideal and make your herd, of whatever breed you choose, attain to it.

In electing the directors of the Canadian Sheep and the Canadian Swine Breeders' Associations for the Province outside of Ontario, the vote was taken by mail and counted in the office of the Secretary of the Association, R. W. Wade, at the Parliament Buildings, Toronto. The returns are now in and the following are the directors to the Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association for 1948: Maritime Provinces, W. B. Bishop, 85 St. Germain St., St. John, N. B.; Quebec, A. Sylvestre, Clairvaux d'Bois, A. Denis, St. Norbert, Que., and J. Bryson, Lac Beauport, Montgodet, A. E. MacKay, Macdonald, Lac Beauport, J. E. Skinner, Edmon Road, Alberta, and F. A. Evans, Box 387, Lacorde, British Columbia, and F. L. A. Aitken.

"Sir Richard Winfrey replied: 'It is not the Government's intention to remove the present restrictions upon the importation of live cattle into this country. In the case of Canada no legislation will be introduced unless and until the importation of live cattle born and reared in that country is found to be both practicable and consistent with our domestic policy after the war. Before any legislation is proposed the Board would naturally take steps to obtain the views of breed societies upon this subject, and to impose whatever measures might be thought necessary to ensure that no appreciable risk of the introduction of disease should be run.'"

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":
Having read with interest several articles in your paper on the subject "Pure-breds vs. Grades," to-night after a day at the chores and about the stable I am going to give you a few of my ideas on that subject.

Some people seem to think that a pure-bred animal



Grand champion Shorthorn bull at the International, 1917. Exhibited by F. A. Gillespie & Son,
North Muskogee, Okla.

With certain breeds of horses the breeder can "grade up" by breeding to registered stallions till the offspring has sufficient top crosses of pure blood to make it eligible for registration. A man may improve the breeding of his cows from year to year by "grading up," but it is not possible to get enough pure-bred crosses to warrant the offspring a place in the records of the breed worked with. Why should this be? I cannot understand why it would not be a good plan for the farmer, and, at the same time, it would hold out some inducement for him to grade up and this would improve considerably upon the quality of the cattle, which is of such importance at a time like the present. Rules could be laid down as thought advisable.

Some people have an idea that the term "scrub" applies to all animals which are not eligible for registration, but I believe there are scrubs in all classes, whether it be pure-breds or not. I cannot understand why some breeders will cling to the old method of using a scrub sire. If a man cannot afford to buy a good sire, neither

I believe a good grade cow is worth more to the farmer and his country than an inferior pure-bred. But if a man will not take the necessary care of his breeding and the top crosses he makes he will never accomplish much. I believe it is each farmer's duty to do his bit by breeding each cow to a good bull of the same breed and avoiding mongrels.

York Co., Ont. **GRADE SHORTHORN BREEDER.**
[Note.—Grading up by the use of better bulls is highly commendable practice. Use nothing but the best. But after once thoroughly familiar with the breed and its management it is not a difficult undertaking to pick up one or two choice pure-bred females and gradually by careful mating replace the grades with pure-breds—better individuals and with pedigrees to back them up.—Editor.]

The Annual Meeting of the Experimental Union.

In addition to the reports on co-operative experiments the following subjects are to be discussed at the Meeting: "Ontario's Agriculture in the Present Crisis," "Root Seed Production in Canada," "Seed Potatoes from Northern Ontario," "Sources of Seed Supply for Ontario," "Agricultural Survey," "Co-operation in Wool Marketing," "Underdrainage and Tile Making," "Practical Suggestions in the Production of Food Materials for the Coming Year." All interested in Agriculture are invited to the Meeting. Cheap railway rates have been arranged on the Certificate plan. For fuller information and a copy of the program apply to Dr. C. A. Zavitz, Agricultural College, Guelph, Ontario.

The Annual meeting of the Dominion Grange was held in Toronto, Friday, December 21, with J. C. Dickson of Moorefield, Master, presiding. Secretary A. G. Burton of Port Stanley, reported twenty subordinate Granges chiefly in Elgin, Essex, Simcoe, Wellington and Ontario Counties.

The officers elected were as follows: Master, J. C. Dickson, Moorehead; Overseer, H. Bertram, Midhurst; Secretary-Treasurer, Neil Burton, Port Stanley; Assistant Secretary, Miss Hattie Robinson, St. Thomas; Chaplain, Wm. McCrae,*Guelph; Lecturer, A. Gifford, Meaford; Steward, W. Oke, Whitby; Assistant Steward, Henry Glendinning, Manilla; Stewardess, Miss Alice Palmer, Middlemarch; Gatekeeper, W. J. Goodfellow; Ceres, Miss Phelps, Whitby; Pomona, Miss Lena Hill, St. Thomas; Flora, Miss Thompson, Palmerston; Executive Committee, W. A. Wardell, St. Thomas; Judson Austin, Simcoe; Wm. McCrae, Guelph, Auditor, John Pritchard, Gorrle.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

We are so immensely pleased with your Christmas Number that I am writing this note to express our high appreciation of your work in issuing such an excellent number at a time when everything in the way of production is so heavily handicapped.

These are days when the quality of the printing paper calls for comment: yours would be in the substantial class at any time. The men in the printing office deserve commendation for the excellence and style of the letterpress. And the men in the editorial departments gave the other stuff that was worth setting up well, so as to reach your subscribers in such form as to lead them to believe really and truly that farming and farm literature were, at last, really coming to their own.

Heartiest congratulations then on the outstanding excellence of your Christmas Number in every respect, and best thanks from one subscriber, for giving us so much that is the very best at one time. May The Farmer's Advocate prosper!

Ontario Co., Ont. B. W. MACKAY.

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