

Results of Hog-Feeding Tests.

During the summer months the Ontario Department of Agriculture, through the various District Representatives, carried on, among the young farmers from the various short-course classes, competitions in "Feeding Hogs for Profit." These have been brought to a close and we believe have aroused no small amount of interest in hog feeding among the young men. There is something in the results for the older men too, and through the courtesy of I. B. Whale, B.S.A., Representative in Middlesex County, we are privileged to publish some of the figures regarding the competition as entered into by eight of the young men in the county where he is located. The pigs were all started in the race toward finished bacon at six weeks of age when they were valued at \$4.00 each, and the boys were allowed to select any breed or cross they preferred and to choose from the following feeds with the following set value per ton in all cases:

Ground oats, \$28.00; ground barley, \$28.00; ground peas, \$35.00; ground rye, \$28.00; ground wheat, \$35.00; bran, \$23.00; low-grade flour, \$32.00; shorts or middlings, \$28.00; tankage, \$46.00; green feed, \$2.00; skim-milk, \$5.00; buttermilk, \$6.00; whey, \$3.00; pasture, 75 cents per hog. The feeding period lasted sixteen weeks and when the test was concluded the hogs were valued at \$9.00 per cwt., fed and watered. The greatest profit per hog made by any feeder was \$9.39, and the lowest was \$1.00. The remaining six contestants submitted figures which ranged between the two extremes given and all recorded exactly the amounts of feed their pigs received.

The four pigs which returned a profit of \$9.39 each over and above the cost of feeding were given only shorts and whey during the first three weeks of their trial period in which time they consumed 120 lbs. of whey and 84 lbs. of shorts. They were then switched to a ration of equal quantities, by weight, of shorts and oat chop with whey added. After two weeks of such feeding or in their twelfth week they were turned to pasture and at the same time their quantity of chop was increased 2 lbs. and whey 10 lbs. During their 13th, 14th and 15th weeks they were fed oat chop and whey but in the 16th, 17th and 18th weeks they were again switched back to shorts and whey. At the beginning of the 19th week they were put on a ration of equal quantities by weight of oat chop and wheat chop and the whey was continued. This they received to the end of the twenty-second week or close of the feeding period. During the 16 weeks the four pigs consumed 381 lbs. shorts, 280 lbs. wheat chop, 449 lbs. oat chop, and 1,025 lbs. of whey. The total cost for these feeds according to the set values given to the contestants, is \$21.33 which includes \$3 for pasture and 30 cents for charcoal. Each pig, therefore, cost \$5.33 to feed for 16 weeks and each was worth \$4. at the beginning, making the total cost at the finish mount up to \$9.33. The average value of the finished hog at 9 cents per lb., fed and watered, was \$18.72, leaving a profit of \$9.39 each.

The lot of three pigs which returned a profit of \$1.00 each were fed chiefly on shorts. Throughout the 16 weeks they received 498 lbs. shorts, 156 lbs. oat chop, 85 lbs. clover and 367 lbs. milk. Each pig in this case would consume on the average 218 lbs. of grain and 122½ lbs. of milk. The pigs in the winning bunch would average 282 lbs. of grain and 256 lbs. of whey each. In addition to this they were on pasture for 11 weeks. The three pigs in the class which returned so small a profit totaled only 279 lbs. when 22 weeks old. The hogs were either poor feeders or they were not allowed enough feed.

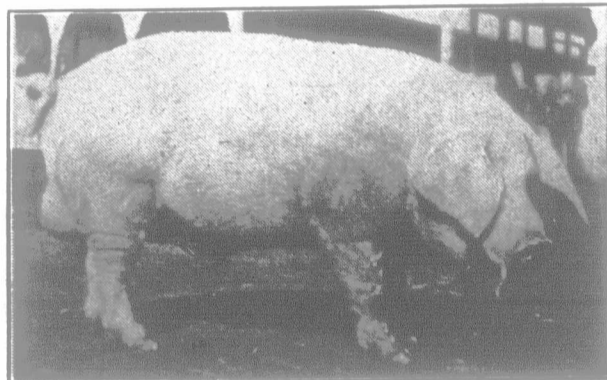
A lot of four pigs which returned a profit of \$6.25 cents each were fed middlings and milk up to the 18th week when oat chop was added. For two weeks oat chop and middlings were used but at the beginning of the 20th week the latter feed was dropped and oat chop was increased and continued to the end. In all the four pigs consumed 519 lbs. middlings, 312 lbs. oat chop and 655 lbs. milk. Each hog on the average would receive 207 lbs. grain and 163 lbs. milk.

One other bunch of hogs gave interesting results in that they cost the most of any of the eight in the test. These four pigs consumed enough grain, milk and pasture during the 16 weeks, to make a cost \$8.58 each. They consumed 428 lbs. grain, and 722 lbs. of milk each, and at the conclusion of the feeding period averaged 200 lbs. in weight. These pigs were fed oat and barley and chop, then oat and wheat chop. After this they received oats and corn, then oats and barley and were finished on barley and rye. There is a considerable difference between the amount of grain and milk consumed by this bunch and those which were mentioned second in this article. The bunch of pigs which came at the foot of the list, so far as profits are concerned, cost only \$3.37 each to feed while this lot which we have just described cost \$8.58 each. Neither those which were fed the cheapest nor the most expensively returned the greatest profits. The most remunerative feeding was done at a cost of \$5.33 each for the 16 weeks.

Readers should bear in mind the fact that these profits are actual profits. Many farmers charge up on those feeds which are purchased in the form of meal or condiments, but in this case all the milk, whey, home-grown grains and even pasture are considered at approximately their market value.

Cattle Prices and Live Stock News From England.

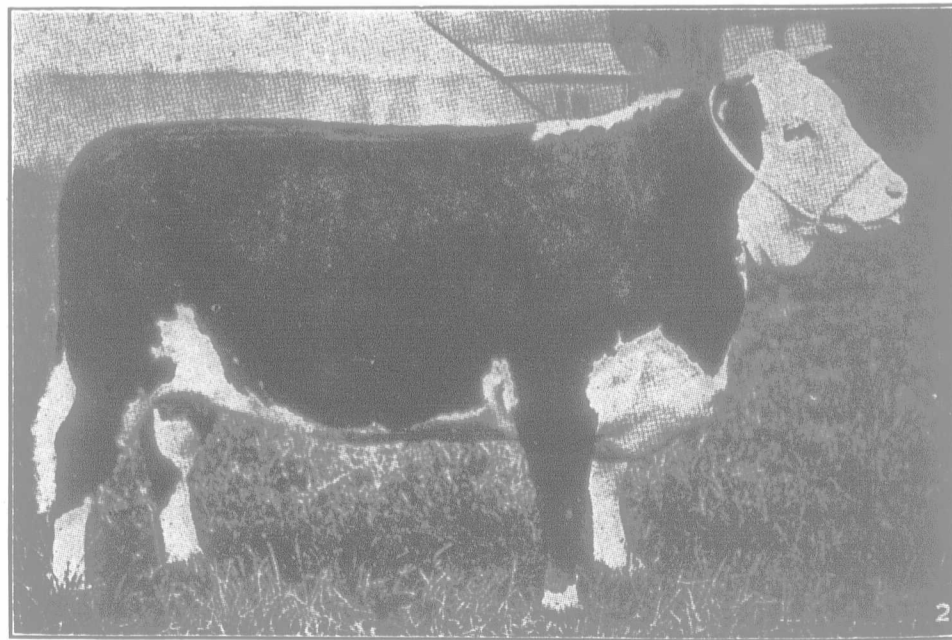
There was a rare snap about the sale of Cruickshank Shorthorn cattle, bred by W. M. Cazalet at Fairlawne, Shipbourne, Tonbridge, Kent; and sold by John Thornton & Co. on October 26. Heifers of such old-time tribes as Clipper, Secret, Butterfly, Goldie, Augusta, Broadhooks, Jilt, Mayflower, Missie and Roan



A Chester White Boar.

Champion at Toronto for D. De Coursey, Mitchell, Ont.

Lady were sold and they were also full of the blood of such noted Scots herds as Duthie's, Morrison's, Law's and Lord Lovat's. Captain R. J. L. Ogilby, an Irish breeder, spending a few days leave from the trenches in France, went up to 750 guineas for Fairlawne Clipper Queen, a light roan, out of Elvetham Clipper 3rd, and by Lord Lovat's bull Willie Campbell. This heifer, born May 3rd, 1913, has won at the Royal Show and at those exhibitions held in Lancashire, Norfolk and Leicester this year, and she came from a cow that cost 330 guineas and had thrown a bull that realized 400 guineas under the hammer at the Bristol Royal Show. Her back breeding runs to the Cinderella's and the Charmer's that made Amos Cruickshank's name famous among pioneer breeders. Capt. Ogilby also paid 330 guineas for the heifer calf Fairlawne Goldie 3rd, a dark roan by Collynie Grand Knight out of Gipsy Countess 3rd, and a big winner at south county shows. Here in back blood did the Cruickshank name crop up very frequently on the pedigree chart. All told, at this sale, 54 head averaged £114 4s. 9d. They aggregated £6,168 15s. Let it be



A Type of Hereford in Britain.

This female was sold to breeders in Argentina, where many high-priced animals are going.

added the 15 young bulls averaged £102 and the 39 heifers, many of which were yearlings fetched £118 apiece.

Next day the Edgcote Shorthorn Breeding Company at Banbury, Oxfordshire, held their fourth yearly sale and Argentine buyers were in great force. Sixteen out of the 36 young bulls offered went abroad and Edgcote Regalia, considered the best youngster ever bred by the Company realized 1,400 guineas, and again Captain Ogilby was the buyer. This bull is a handsome roan with a fine head and a grand loin, and is by Collynie Regal King out of Evelwyn, an Eliza cow. There were lots of bidders after him up to 1,000 guineas, and the gallant Irish

soldier beat off finally an Argentine who stopped at 1,300 guineas. The Casares family, who ship Shorthorns to the Argentine, bought many good looking sorts. Captain E. Brassey gave 650 guineas for a grand colored December calf by Ascott Clipper from a Missie cow, Mistletoe 41st. F. B. Wilkinson gave 400 guineas for an April calf by Collynie Marshall out of Clipper Belle, and a level and shapely sort. Now at this sale, which also represented the Cruickshank strains, 70 head sold at an average of £114 9s. 11d., and gave the breeders an aggregate of £8,014 13s. Here, however, the bull calves averaged £158 11s.

At a sale of beef cattle, bred on similar lines, at Darlington, Lord Lovat paid 420 guineas for a white bull calf of the Princess Royal tribe bred by C. H. Jolliffe.

Everyone might well ask how is it prices for beef stock have spurted so suddenly in England. There is a very good answer to the riddle and a rather extraordinary one. A few days before these particular sales were held, the Board of Trade announced that the Argentine Republic were agreeable to admit English cattle from subdivisions in all parts of Britain where such districts had been free from foot and mouth disease for a period of two months prior to the exportation of the cattle, and provided that the disease was not epidemic in other districts of the exporting area. Hitherto, the Argentine had not allowed cattle to land in its ports until a period of six months had elapsed since the last outbreak of the disease in the whole of Britain.

The concession was widely welcomed by British breeders of pure-bred stock (and as will be noted particularly the Shorthorn men), for the new regulations in effect meant no real hindrance to the English export trade, though a vagrant case of the dread disease might appear in some corner of the country. These regulations had just met a demand which breeders had been clamoring for for a long time, and they gave exporters greater confidence. So, they went forth to buy, when lo and behold, in Western England and in South Wales, suddenly an outbreak of foot and mouth disease was discovered by the Board of Agriculture and tackled with great promptitude. But the news of the disease reached the Argentine and that country wired to England 24 hours after the Edgcote sale that owing to the appearance of foot and mouth disease in Great Britain, the Argentine Government has decided to prohibit the importation of cattle from that country.

So, all the dreams have vanished; so, British breeders are down in the mouth again and Ireland—Ireland, undoubtedly the cause of all the trouble—escapes free! What a game!

Apropos of the "boom" in cattle prices in Britain, of which I have already written, it is perhaps worth while recording that Scotland has had a fine season with her sales of pedigree cattle. During the year 1,403 Shorthorns have been sold at public auction in Scotland for £72,783 18s., or at an average of £51 17s. 6d.; or 2s. 2d. less than the average of 1914. The 1915 bull average was £4 down on the year, but the cow average £13 up, while heifer calves in 1915 sold at £55 17s. per head against £46 in 1914.

Breeders of Aberdeen-Angus have done very well indeed. For the 1,613 head sold by auction in 1915 an average of £30 2s. 1d. was secured or an aggregate of £48,563 7s. 7d. The 1914 average was £29 6s. 11d.

Taking both breeds together, 3,016 head have averaged £40 4s. 8d.—exactly the figure of 1914—and the aggregate has meant

the turnover of £121,347 5s. 6d. So far as the Shorthorns are concerned, the year's average of £51 17s. 6d. is one of the best since 1906.

Aberdeen-Angus men should take heart of grace from the fact that their average of £30 2s. 1d. is the best since 1882.

In Lincolnshire recently that splendid dual-purpose breed, the Lincoln Red Shorthorn, sold at an average of £43 5s. 7d. for 41 head.

At Kingham, Gloucester, John Thornton & Co. have sold 498 head of utility Shorthorns this year at an average of £36 4s., or an aggregate of £18,027.

I have been going through the death roll of