

young heifers at present, in fact there is a shortage in the western provinces, both of high grades and pure bred cattle. Dairying is steadily increasing in our prairie provinces owing to the growing demand for dairy products in western cities, also because of the uncertainty of grain farming, and the lack of fertilizing matter, and because dairying brings the farmer a constant and sure remuneration for his labor. When money becomes easier there will be a load rail from the west for dairy cattle, and at prices that will pay the breeders to raise them.

Business With U. S.

I think, too, we may do a considerable business with the United States, as dairymen across the line have taken our milk cows in large numbers prior to the regulation which came into effect on July first which may be only a temporary enactment. I am confident there will be a re-adjustment of the United States regulations in the early future. If so, there will be an interchange of live stock as heretofore. I do not anticipate that prices for good dairy stock will become abnormally high, but there is every reason to believe that profitable

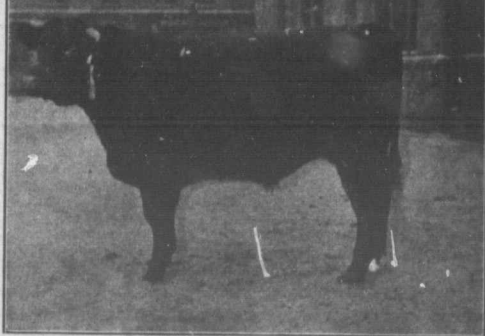
prices will be realized by the breeders. The prices of registered cattle usually fluctuates more than do the price of grade stock, and should we not see excessive prices paid for this class of stock for several years our cattle breeders must not be discouraged but be content with prices that will justify raising them in large numbers for which there will be a ready market.

The breeder of registered dairy cattle must make records of milk and fat. Indications point to the fact that for foundation stock farmers want females, and especially sires, from ancestry with a record. The registered cow of the future must show that she is capable of large production and if she has a yearly record to her credit so much the better. We must learn to realize that "performance" is of as great importance as "form."

To attempt to say whether the war will affect our dairy cattle trade is more speculation. The devastation of Belgium has already destroyed the dairy business of that country. It is reported that the restaurants and hotels of Paris cannot get milk and cream to supply their tables, the cows being commandeered to feed the army. If this is true now, we may imagine what serious conditions will prevail before the war is over. Who knows but that these countries, and even Great Britain, the country that has supplied the world with foundation herds and flocks, may want dairy cattle to replenish their herds. If so, Canada can, will, and must, do her share in supplying stock from her many choice herds. This is not improbable, and in fact it is altogether likely that our dairy cattle will be wanted in Europe when the war is over.

The adage "Foresight breeds success" applies to the present situation. It is for the dairy farmers of eastern Canada to observe the signs of the times, and prepare to supply not only the West, but Europe if necessary, with Canadian bred dairy stock. Dairy farmers should look

upon it as doing their part in this time when the voice of our country calls, for every Canadian to do his duty. A spirit of true patriotism should prompt our dairy farmers to keep their herd up to the maximum standard in quantity and quality. Only then will we be able to meet any emergency that may arise. I consider the outlook for the dairy farmers of Eastern Canada was never better. My reason for saying so, is because of the increased demand for dairy products, for high grade cows, for pure bred sires, and all at good prices, also because of the in-



The Pick of the Show as a "Dairy Animal"

This is Daisy, the champion beef animal at the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair this month. This yearling steer, exhibited by Pritchard Bros., Fergus, was preferred above all other animals of any age, breed or sex. Doesn't he look like a choice a piece of beef as one could desire?

creased interest in cooperative cow testing and Record of Performance work, and the probability of supplying Europe with choice breeding stock in the not far distant future. Optimism and patriotism should go hand in hand in stimulat-



A Choice Specimen of a Great Draft Breed

Lemoir, champion Percheron stallion at the recent Winter Fair at Guelph, exhibited by Hodgkinson & Tiedale, Beaverton, Ont., is the type of Percheron we like to have in this country now that the supplies of breeding stock in France are endangered by war.

Note the compact, blocky build characteristic of the breed.

—Photos by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

ing the dairy farmers of Canada to do their best at this most critical time in the history of the British nation.

A good New Year's resolution—Subscribe now.

Shoeing the Farm Horse

S. R. J. Middleton Co., Ont.

"MANY are the ills of the horse for which the blacksmith is accountable. The first sentence in an address once delivered by that famous horseman, Oliver R. Gleason, first called my attention to the importance of good shoeing, and has remained with me ever since. Mr. Gleason said: 'Most diseases of the feet and every stumble are either directly or indirectly the result of bad shoeing.' He then went on to state that contracted or misshapen feet may be due to diseases, natural deformity, or to accident, but that at least 95 per cent. of hoof ailments are due to carelessness or ignorance on the part of the blacksmith.

I would not hold the blacksmith altogether accountable. Many farmers of my acquaintance like to see what they call a "good job" done on their horses' feet. If their blacksmith does not cut and rasp until the floor is littered with parings, they don't think he is earning their money. Blacksmiths have told me that they have to do work that they knew is not right in order to hold custom. I wonder if these men who demand a "good job" have ever made a study of the anatomy of the feet. The foot is really wonderful; each joint amply lubricated, every contingency liberally provided for, and a hard outer shell added to protect the inner delicate mechanism from injury. Man cannot improve much on nature, and the best shoer is the one who interferes least with the hoof as nature made it.

When the colt goes to the blacksmith shop for the first time, it should not only be handled gently, but the greatest care is necessary in shoeing if the hoof is to retain the proper shape. Possibly the hoof has grown too long or is unevenly worn. All that is necessary is to cut away the extra length or growth of hoof on a level with the sole of the foot, and this should be done without straining and wrenching with a long-handled pair of cutting pincers, as too many blacksmiths are prone to do.

I have observed that blacksmiths have two common methods of fitting the foot to the shoe: By "burning the shoe on" and by excessive rasping. The good blacksmith fits the shoe to the foot. Proper shoeing constitutes making a shoe that nearly fits the exact circle of the foot. Under no circumstance should the shoe be placed in contact with the foot when hot enough to burn. When fitted properly the shoe is nailed on with as small nails as are consistent with the width of the shoe. They are driven no higher than are needed to give a firm and substantial grip when clinched. It is not necessary for a nail to be driven into the "quick" in order to make a horse slightly lame. If it even goes near the quick a horse will have a sore foot, especially if it is driven on hard stone roads or on pavements.

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