

Aberdeen-Angus are Carrying On



JAMES BOWMAN.

The Aberdeen-Angus breed originated in the north-eastern counties of Scotland, Forfarshire, formerly Angusshire, Kincardineshire, Aberdeen-shire and Banff. The climate generally is very invigorating in the extreme north. As the writer passed through and wandered amongst the glossy blacks on the hills of Bonnie Scotland he thought, "No wonder that men

who can make a living on these rugged hills and in this climate can make good in any part of the world, and the constitution which it has given to Aberdeen-Angus in making history today." From the earliest times Aberdeenshire, and particularly the part called Buchan, has been noted for its cattle. The name itself has its derivation in the fact that it paid tribute to the Romans in oxen, Buchan being derived from the Latin words, bos ox and caen—head or poll. What will the Germans develop while they are paying for this war?

There are records of Polled cattle being purchased in 1752 and in 1775. There were two sorts spoken of, the small and lean fleshed and a larger sort, some black and some brindled. The smaller were said to be the more prepotent. They were mostly black in color, but some were red, some yellow and some silver yellow. Hon. M. H. Cochrane, Hillhurst, Que., at one time had a herd of Red Polled cattle containing 11 females, but the blacks are the general favorites and we think it is best for the sake of uniformity. "All that you wish that's good and comely shines forth supreme in Black and Humly."

The "Colling" of the Angus Breed

The earliest real improver of Aberdeen-Angus cattle was Hugh Watson, of Kellor, Forfar, Scotland, the "Colling" of this breed. He was born in 1789, became tenant in Kellor 1808 and remained there 36 years before he died in 1865. His father and grandfather were lovers of good cattle and when Hugh went to Kellor he took six cows and a bull with him, all black. He also purchased other good heifers and a black bull named "Tarny Jock." His daughter states that he did not start his great work in earnest until 1816, when he paid a visit to England and saw the great work that was being done there with Shorthorns. (What a lesson this is for farmers to practice with their boys to see improvements).

Mr. Watson's most noted cow was old "Grannie," which lived 36 years and had 25 calves; her last calf in her 29th year was a bull of merit. (She holds the world's record for age and breeding).

McCombie and Grant

Next followed William McCombie, who came from six generations of good cattle

The Making of the Breed—Its Introduction, Growth and Status in Canada—By Jas. Bowman, Guelph, Ont.

men. He loved his cattle, mated and cared for them till he moulded them into the bonnie blacks that won the grand champion herd prize, won over all breeds, at the International Show at Paris, France, in 1878. He was a great believer in individual merit, coupled with superior pedigree, and emphasized the value of the sire. He bred "Pride of Aberdeen," 581, the foundation of the famous "Pride" family. She was also a great show cow. He also bought "Queen Mother," 348, and founded the great "Queen" family. He also bred "Trojan," the bull which Sir Geo. Macpherson Grant bred to "Erica," thus founding the "Erica" family.

The late Sir Geo. Macpherson Grant, of Ballandalloch, made a great success in breeding Aberdeen-Angus. How many years the Ballandalloch bulls have topped the sales in Scotland! Among them was the noted "Prince Ito," which sold at Chicago for \$9,100; "Emulus," "Ermine

record at the provincial and other shows. Hon. J. H. Pope, Dominion minister of agriculture, founded a herd also, in 1887, numbering 15 heifers and a bull. The Model Farm herd of Geo. Whitfield, Rougemont, Quebec, was headed by the sire "Judge" from Ballandalloch, which sire afterwards went to Heatherton herd. Hay & Paton, New Lowell, also had a good herd and took many prizes under the management of Mr. Davidson. Davidson Stephen Hall, of Washington, also had a good herd which gave a good account at shows under the management of his son Walter. This herd has just lately been dispersed.

Canada's Two Leading Angus Herds

The writer founded a herd in 1891 by purchasing the good cow "Nyra II," 18920, and bred at O.A.C., Guelph, and her daughter "Nyra III," both of which cows were shown with their bull calves, by "Jus" (Imp.), 180, at Toronto Exposition in 1893, and we have never missed a year at that show since, with no particular boom, but a steady healthy growth which made 1918 our best year at that show. We have shown since 1893 at the largest fairs from Halifax, N.S., to Edmonton, Alta. Our herd produced "Elm Park Lad," grand champion carcass at Chicago, shown by Michigan Agricultural College, 1912, as well as more champions at Dominion fairs, held in different parts of the Dominion, than any other competitor.

Jas. D. McGregor of Brantford, has shown from 1908 to 1918 at large Canadian shows, twice at Chicago International Show, where he won many of the principal prizes in breeding classes and the grand champion steer prize two years in succession. I may say that I think these events have given a greater impetus to Angus cattle in Canada than any other, even since Angus cattle have come to this country, and it was very gratifying indeed to see the way the buyers appreciated this, when Mr. McGregor held his big sale at Brandon last July, when 430 cattle averaged \$800 each.

Among the other breeders who are doing good work at present are John Lowe, of Elora, who won the grand champion prize with a yearling steer in 1912, at the Guelph provincial winter fair, and Jas. Leask in 1916 and 1917; Thos. B. Broadfoot, of Fergus, is breeding some good ones. About 1912, John D. Larkin, of Queenston, Ont., imported about 150 head and started showing in 1914. This herd is improving rapidly and we look for good things from it in the future under the guiding hand of H. H. Larkin. G. C. Channon, of Oakwood, is coming rapidly to the front with

some good cattle and will have to be reckoned with in the future.

In Western Canada there appears to be a great field for developing the breed. At Winnipeg, Mr. Parish is starting a promising herd, with J. Brown as manager. Other Manitoba breeders are: Clifford, Austin; Curran, Emerson; Hyme, Souris; Turner, Carrol; and Collyer, Wewyn. In Saskatchewan there are: Browne Bros., Newdorp; Lawley, Melita; Jas. Good and Son, Filmore; Buffam, Regina; Woods, Warman; and Juggins, Lloydminster. Alberta breeders include: J. J. Bell & Sons, Islay; Clemens, Sedgewick; Richardson, Bowden; Elliot, South Edmonton; Messervey, Loughheed; Hutchinson, Duhamel; and R. & G. Pritchard, Camrose.

Any man who has met this lot of men will know that in the future with the many others too numerous to mention there will be something doing among the beef producers with the push and management that they will put into the business. And as visitors to the Western shows pass through the stables it is quite a common thing to hear them say, "These are the cattle for this country."

The 1917 Record

Following the 1917 International the impression seems to have got around that "the Aberdeen-Angus didn't win anything. As a matter of fact the breed cleaned up in the stockyard events as never before. Not only was the grand champion carlot Aberdeen-Angus, but the reserve grand champion carlot, and the reserve to the reserve grand champion carlot, the three best carloads of fat cattle in the show, were all Aberdeen-Angus! And the grand champion carlot of feeders were Aberdeen-Angus, being range bred and fed! And the grand champion carlot of short-feds were Aberdeen-Angus! Never was there such a sweeping victory by one breed over all others at this show.

In Canada, Aberdeen-Angus cattle are going ahead with the small farmer and breeder wherever seen. The winning of two International Show grand championships at Chicago by Canadian bred and fed steers were the greatest events that ever happened to advance a breed in any country. In the last five years we have seen something occur that is nowhere else seen on the face of the civilized world, I believe. Aberdeen-Angus cattle have been selling above Shorthorns and Herefords in the Canadian West. That speaks volumes for the Aberdeen-Angus as the farmers' beef animal. Its values are based on the solid foundation of the open markets for beef steers, and its values for pure-breds do not soar to fictitious levels to drop down again with the first depression.

At Calgary recently the grand champion calf club animal was an Aberdeen-Angus, which sold at the record price of 36 cents a pound. At the Brandon Winter Fair the grand champion steer and the grand champion steer herd has been Aberdeen-Angus for the first five years. At Guelph the Aberdeen-Angus steers were grand champion over all breeds in 1908, 1912, 1913, 1915, 1916, and 1917. At Toronto the same breed won similar honors in 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, and 1917. Further

Continued on Page 20



"Eurotas of Glenearnock." Bred in Western Canada. Sold by J. D. McGregor to the U.S. and afterwards brought back to Canada.

Bearer," "Eblito," "Eland's Laggiti," "Judge Justice," and many others.

Introduction into America

The Aberdeen-Angus first appeared in strength in America in 1873, although the cow "Duchess" was imported in 1850. Three bulls of the breed were sent to Kansas to improve the range herds of that section in 1876. Professor Brown, of the O.A.C. at Guelph, brought out the first of the breed to Canada, a bull and two heifers, following the success of the breed at the Paris Exposition in 1878, when the Aberdeen-Angus won both group prizes over all breeds. Its popularity spread and exportations to Canada and the United States followed continually for a number of years.

Hon. M. H. Cochrane founded one of the most valuable herds in this hemisphere by purchases first made in 1881. Mossom Boyd, Bobcaygeon, Ont., established a herd in 1881, founded upon old family material, which made a marked impression in Ontario, and had a splendid



The Personification of Uniformity, Character, Type and Thrift. A Prize-winning Aged Aberdeen-Angus Herd at the International, Chicago.



Illustrating the Uniformity and Quality of the "Doddies" on the Market. A Grand Champion Carload lot of Steers at the International.

PRIOR the on a to the Lake Superior tributary the Assiniboine War these once more their furs days of I was neglect of the West of the immigrants in the long Saskatchewan miles, ob portages, danger related to the cost of

But in fur trade being attended by North-West organization that Nor

The Fo

The first was Ale years 17 opened Kaministiquia Lake St. Curry, followed as far as erected Cedar I His progress to return was followed up the reached able to

The led to Montreal hitherto ment were d with o reputed traders require warfar was s forces to en had a winter

The Thi in 177 from follow and t on th a post link Chur appr