

obtained, I believe, excellent results from the above ration.

I had no intention of touching on the question of feeding at all, but I have found it necessary to do so in order to better illustrate my arguments. One salient feature of the above course is that it would enable us to go into a system of rotation. This will soon be necessary when the land fails to grow wheat in paying quantities. Another advantage would be that of taking a great deal of our crop to market on four legs, after leaving behind a grand legacy in the shape of a doubly enriched manure pile, which, at the lowest possible estimate, would be a good offset for the labor bestowed in caring and feeding during our long winter. In dealing with this subject I have found it simply impossible to go into details; even now its discussion must be curtailed by reason of so many other subjects engaging our attention in so short a time. In conclusion, I would say if you have only a scrub calf, feed it well, give it a good warm bed; if you see it is not growing as it should, alter its diet, give a little chop feed and ground linseed now and again. Remember a good bull is half the herd. That however good your cows, a scrub will bring their offspring down to his own mean level. That where you have one poor calf you can weed it out, whereas, if all be poor you will soon be poor, too. Read good agricultural papers, attend our farmers' meetings regularly and punctually, giving your attention to the subject under discussion. We are not here to criticise your style. We want your experience and advice in your own way, remembering that every step we advance in our pursuits brings us nearer the goal we all desire to reach.

American Berkshire Association.

At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the American Berkshire Association, held in the Illinois National Bank, Springfield, Ill., on the 15th of June, communications were read from absent members and patrons of the American Berkshire Record in regard to the death of Phil. M. Springer, Secretary of the Association, expressing regrets at the loss sustained by the breeders of Berkshires and other pure-bred live stock. A committee was appointed to draft resolutions in respect to the memory of the late Secretary, and it was ordered that in the next published volume of the American Berkshire Record one page be set aside in memoriam and one page for a likeness of the deceased.

Financial and other matters pertaining to the business of the Association were found in a satisfactory condition.

John G. Springer, who for a number of years has been associated with his brother, Phil M. Springer, as clerk in the office of the Association, was elected to fill the unexpired term as Secretary and member of the Executive Committee, left vacant by the latter's death.

Machine Oils, Belting, Threshers' Supplies, Etc.

All who wish to buy machine oil, grain scales, road carts, threshers' supplies, belting, etc., we would refer to the advertisement of S. Mills & Co., 94 John street south, Hamilton. We have bought considerable goods of these gentlemen and so far they have proved satisfactory. Considering the quality of the goods, the prices are low.

Western Fair, London, September 17th to 26th, 1891.

The Directors of the Western Fair Association, through their Secretary, Mr. Thomas A. Browne, forward the following summary of how they propose to cater to their exhibitors and visitors for the year 1891. The Directors have so arranged the prize list for this year as to assist in the improvement of live stock, and have decided that only registered animals in all the principal breeds shall be permitted to contest for prizes, and feel that all breeders and stock raisers will heartily agree with their action. In the horse department the so-called agricultural stallions have been struck out, on the recommendation of the horse committee, as worthless for breeding purposes, and, therefore, should not be encouraged. Also that all stallions two year's old and upwards must be registered in their respective stud books in order to be eligible to compete or win a prize. Two specials have been received in the department; one from the Clydesdale Association for the best brood mare, and the other from the Ontario Agriculture and Arts Association for the best stallion in Blood, Carriage, Roadster and Hackney classes, owned in East Middlesex. In the cattle department the prize list remains much the same as last year, except the special prize given by the American Shorthorn Breeders' Association, of \$150 (divided) for the best three-year-old Shorthorn cow making the most butter in two days' test on the grounds, and another of \$50, by this Association, for the same test, open to any breed. These prizes should be an incentive to dairy breeders to come out in large numbers, and be an interesting and instructive feature of the fair. In the sheep department we have adopted many of the suggestions of the Dominion Sheep Breeders' Association, and have added the pen sections to each class; also reserve number and commended cards as the fourth and fifth awards. A special has also been received from the Shropshire Association of England, to be divided in this class; also a medal from the Ontario Agriculture and Arts Association for the best pen of registered sheep in East Middlesex.

Through the suggestion of the Dominion Swine Breeders' Association there has been a separate class opened for the Chester Whites and Poland Chinas, instead of showing along with the Yorkshires, as formerly, so the two additional classes have been made.

In the poultry department the prizes have been reduced to two (first and second) in each section throughout, and an increase made to the first prizes in the chicks, turkey, geese and duck sections, making them equal to that of the fowls.

Slight changes have also been made for the improvement of the agricultural and horticultural products' department, by striking out some sections and adding others of more modern date, and be in keeping with the advancement in quality of grain, vegetables, fruits, etc. In the dairy department special inducements are being offered, and a large amount has been added by interested persons to be divided into prizes in the cheese and butter sections, viz.: The Western Dairymen's and Ontario Creameries' Associations give \$100 and \$25 respectively; Toronto, Montreal and Molsons banks, \$75; cheese buyers, \$50; D. H. Gowing, \$50; D. H. Burrell & Co., \$25; Cornish, Curtis & Green, \$20; J. S. Pearce & Co., \$20. The above were presented

through the instrumentality of Mr. J. S. Pearce. More suitable quarters will be provided to keep and display the dairy products—a place where they will be fresh and cool, and where people can get a better view. This exhibit will greatly exceed anything of the kind heretofore displayed at any of our exhibitions.

The process of manufacture in the main building last year proved such an attraction to our many visitors that a special effort is being made to extend and improve the feature.

As you are aware, the demand for seating accommodation last year was much in excess of our facilities, and the Board have commenced to build a long stretch of extra seating, which will add about 3,000 seats to our present stands. It is the aim of the Association to do everything within their means to improve the Western Fair, please their exhibitors and visitors, and impress upon the world at large the importance of London as the centre of a business, agricultural and stock-raising country, and ask the hearty co-operation of everyone having the best wishes of the city of London and its surrounding country at heart, and a cordial invitation to visit us next September between the 17th and 26th.

Chatty Letter from the States.

Among recent notable sales of live stock were some 1,416 lb. steers at \$6.30; 1,270 to 1,364 lb. stillers at \$5.85 to \$5.90, and six fancy Shorthorn heifers, 773 lbs., \$5.40; 768 lb. yearling steers \$5.05; 90 lb. Texas grass sheep at \$4.75 to \$4.90; 79 lb. Kentucky sheep, \$5.30, and 115 lb. Illinois sheep, \$5.70. While there is no boom in the live stock market there is a good healthy feeling all around, and prices are good compared with last year. There are a good many persons who have for some months been looking for a tremendous boom. It may come, but if the ideas of live stock men had not been worked up so high they would certainly be in very good spirits over the present condition of the markets. Prices are fairly remunerative, and prospects are that they will not be less so for a good while to come. Calves are being slaughtered at a rate that ought to bring about a cattle famine. Six thousand a week at one market, against less than 4,000 a year ago, is quite an increase, and yet they sell well. For some years past the tendency has been among cattle and sheep men to get out of breeding and raising young stock, and handle only well-grown animals ready to fatten for market. This tendency can only have the effect of causing, sooner or later, a reaction in favor of breeding on business principles. Such breeding will pay handsomely in the future. The decrease of cattle receipts at Chicago for the first six months amounted to about 200,000 head, and as the decrease in June has been at the rate of 20,000 per week it looks as if the year's marketing would show at least 500,000 of a falling off.

At the Woodburn sale of Shorthorns the cows sold at an average of \$289.44 per head, and the bulls at \$372.20. It was the general feeling that the tide had turned, and there was more spirit and life in the bidding than we have seen at a fine cattle sale for several years. It is a long lane that has no turn, but the law of depression in the market for good, well-bred Shorthorns has commenced to turn. The market for such stock, however, is bad, and it must be confessed that many breeding herds of considerable note contain "pedigreed scrubs."