

naturally a little "grimpy" in connection with this question. Scotland has been immune from the disease for fully four years, and the best vindication of the policy of the past six months is the fact that while the disease was introduced from Ireland into Northumberland and Cumberland, it has never once appeared on the Scots side of the border. There could not possibly be a better vindication of the policy of the Central Board and the Local Authorities, or a better proof that the existing method of dealing with such diseases is by far the most effective.

Interesting debates have taken place as to the measure of loss through an outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease. An exhaustive review of the European situation has been published by Professor Bang, whose name is a guarantee for sobriety of statement and sound reasoning. Up to 1875 the prevailing idea was that foot-and-mouth disease in cattle was one of the ordinary trade risks; it was not seriously regarded, and the approved way of dealing with an outbreak was to leave it alone and let it run its course. Admittedly the disease is not deadly, but the question arose: Is it not far too costly to be allowed to run its course in this fashion? On all hands it came to be recognised that this was the sound view to take, and in all European countries an attempt to control and stamp it out when it appeared became general. Success has only been moderate, and indeed it can hardly be said that there has been any real permanent success except in Great Britain and Ireland. Their insular position has been a great factor in bringing about this success. On the continent other conditions prevail. Denmark made a brave fight to obtain and maintain immunity, but proximity to Germany has been a factor against success. From time to time great waves of the disease have flowed over central Europe, and in 1911 one of these periodic waves of unusual virulence was experienced. The losses occurring to Germany were enormous. In 1892 there was a similar wave, and Germany was then estimated to have lost £5,000,000. The economic loss sustained per milch cow, in cases where the disease has been allowed to run its course, have been estimated in Denmark at 34s. per cow, in Germany at 50s. per cow, and in Holland at 40s. per cow. In 1892 the number of cattle attacked by it in Germany was 1,504,000, and in 1899, 1,885,000. It does not appear from these figures that it is at all a safe course to allow such a disease to take its full sway. Costly, although the policy of stamping out may be, it is a much more rational proceeding than the alternative policy of allowing the disease to run its course. This is specially true in a country like Great Britain and Ireland, where, as has been abundantly proved, immunity can be secured, and should be the rule, and not at all the exception.

The autumn cheese shows are all over, and the results have been a notable victory for our Scots maker, William Barron, Craigton, Castle Douglas. He secured the highest honors in the Cheddar classes both at London and at Kilmarnock. He rents one of the dairies of H. W. B. Crawford, Chapinanton, Castle Douglas, and comes of a family noted as cheese makers. It is doubtful whether this success would have been achieved by Scots Cheddars at London had the judging bench there been composed, as it has often been, of English cheese merchants. The victory was secured by the umpire's vote as between a tie on the part of an English cheese merchant, R. J. Drummond, the head of the Scottish National Dairy School at Kilmarnock. The umpire was W. Benson, another head of a dairy school, and not a merchant. The great point aimed at is to secure a footing for Scots made Cheddars in the English markets. It has

always appeared to me that the only way to secure this is for the Scots maker to produce the cheese which the Englishman is willing to eat. To produce a very fine cheese, made according to ideal principles, which does not meet the Englishman's taste, and to take champion honors with such a cheese at London, is after all somewhat of a barren honor. Even in Scotland there are misgivings about the kind of cheese made, according to the dairy school standard, what the public want and what the dairy schools sometimes say they ought to want are not exactly the same thing. We used to have a most toothsome kind of white cheese called Dunlop. It was an ideal tasting cheese, and one could eat a considerable quantity of it with much relish. Kintyre, in Argyllshire, had for years the reputation of sending the finest cheese of this brand into the Glasgow market. Complaints were made at the Kintyre show this year that the introduction of dairy school methods had not altogether been a success, and that the time-honored Dunlop of the peninsula was in danger of being supplanted by a brand which was only middling Dunlop, and not good Cheddar. What some teachers among us do not seem to understand is that they are not paid for educating the public taste in cheese, but for making a cheese which meets the public taste.

Harvest is not yet over in the later parts of the country. This is an untoward fact, and the weather is at the moment anything but favorable for completing the work. It is now the twenty-third day of November, and it makes one shiver to hear that there are still, in the uplands, breadths of oats uncut. Of course these oats will never ripen now, and it is more than doubtful whether they can possibly be saved. Few things are so misleading as harvest estimates or harvest reports. In the Lothians some farmers completed harvest this year in the three weeks of good weather enjoyed in September. Others were not quite so fortunate, but got all safely housed in the earlier days of October. Those who missed that "tid", as we call it here, have been in sorry case, and unhappily they are generally the people who can least afford such losses. meantime the small holders in some of the Highland districts are crying out that something should be done for them, and they do not find the wheels of the creative machine working as rapidly as they anticipated. The new Land Court is, however, getting over the ground, and in the course of its inquiries many things are being brought to light which possibly some would prefer had been forgotten. The evidence is conclusive enough that in very many cases throughout the country the tenant was frequently rented on his own improvements. He toiled late and early bringing rough land into cultivation, only to find in the end of the day as the fruit of his toil, that he had improved another man's property, and would have the inestimable privilege of paying therefor. The day of retribution has come, but, unfortunately the reward does not come to the individual who toiled, nor the punishment to the man who reaped the unlawful gains.

Death has been very busy among prominent stock owners this year, and since I last wrote two notable men have gone over to the majority. One of these was Mr. John Twentymen, a celebrated breeder of Border Leicester sheep when he farmed in Cumberland. He was the first who prominently and successfully resisted the theory that a Mertoun-bred ram was of necessity an invaluable asset. Mr. Twentymen maintained that unless a Border Leicester ram carried mutton and was well clad with profitable wool he could not produce sheep having these properties. He denied that a Mertoun ram could lack these

properties, and yet reproduce them in his stock simply because he was bred at Mertoun. In fact Mr. Twentymen was a wholesome purifying influence among Leicester breeders, and there can be no doubt that to him and the late Matthew Templeton breeders to-day are indebted for saving the breed from the fate that befel the Mertoun flock. Mr. Twentymen some years ago left Cumberland and migrated south to Hampshire where he latterly farmed near Winchester. He was a virile force in the army of agricultural progress. The "black" men have lost a most energetic and enthusiastic breeder in T. Hudson Brainbridge, of Ushott Manor, Newcastle-on-Tyne. He was one of the notable men of Northumbria who rose from the ranks and was never ashamed to acknowledge the fact. He forged ahead in his own business until his warehouses became one of the sights of Newcastle. In 1898 he turned his attention, as a hobby, to Aberdeen-Angus cattle, and soon was in the running as one of the most successful breeders. Whatever Mr. Bainbridge set himself to do, he did with all his might. Half measures in business, religion, politics, or pastime, he did not understand. He was a first-rate sportsman, delighting to win, but frank and rejoicing with the victor when he was beaten. Everybody in Newcastle-on-Tyne knew Tom Bainbridge, and he took a special delight in acting as host to teachers and students from the agricultural colleges.

Shorthorns keep their heads over all other cattle. Periodic sales of surplus stock are held at the Royal Farms, at Windsor. The first since King George came to the throne, and William McWilliam became manager of the Royal herds, took place on 22nd October. Messrs. John Thornton & Co., London, were the auctioneers, and a fine demand was experienced. The average, £120 16s. 9d. for 36 head was by far the highest ever recorded at these Royal auctions, and some notable prices were obtained for Cruickshank cows. A Clipper made 500 guineas, the buyer being Mr. Burnyeat, who is founding a heard near to Cockermonth. Others made 300 guineas and 250 guineas. The sale was a fine tribute to the skill with which the traditions of the Royal herds are being maintained by Mr. McWilliam, who is a son of the famous breeder James McWilliam, Garbity, of Stonytown, Keith.

I cannot very well close without a word about Clydesdales. 1912 has not seen such a large export trade as 1911, but the figure is high and considerably over 1,300 head. The average price is very much higher than was recorded in 1911. Not for many years has so large a number of really first-class Clydesdales been exported. In the front rank must be placed the two shipments of splendid mares made for the Colony Farm, Coquitlam, B. C., and the high-class purchases of R. A. Fairbairn, Westfield, N. J. By the time this appears in print the International at Chicago will have become a thing of the past, and possibly also the great show at Guelph. No doubt the Clydesdales will have made an excellent appearance in both places, as I hear some of these great mares are to be exhibited. At the latest meeting of the Council of the Clydesdale Horse Society, 150 new members were enrolled, and a vote of the Council nominating judges for the Royal Show at Bristol in the first week of July, 1913, the following six had the highest number of votes: David Kerr, Marshalland, Beith; George Bean, West Balloch, Montrose; James Fleming, Friock Malg, Arbroath; Robert Park, Brunstane, Portobello; Peter Dewar, Arnprior, Port of Monteith; James Pickens, Torrs, Kirkcudbright. The last named gentleman is at present in Canada. In New Zealand the recently organized Clydesdale Horse Society has held its first annual general meeting and the prospects of the breed there appear to be bright.

SCOTLAND YET.

How to Get Better Feeding Cattle.

It seems that England, even though she has some of the best dual-purpose cows in the world, has a scarcity of store and feeding cattle, and that the slaughter of too great a percentage of the calves is responsible for it. America is faced to face with the same problem. A writer in the November Journal of the Board of Agriculture says that the whole thing hinges on being able to obtain the right kind of calves, and it cannot be too strongly urged that anyone taking up calf rearing should be careful to secure a regular supply of calves of the right breeding. The writer continues: "A dairy farmer who rears heifer calves naturally has to attach prime importance to milk, but this is much more likely to be secured by using a pedigree bull of which the dam, grandams, and great grandams are known to have been good milkers, than by the use of a non-pedigree animal of which the known breeding goes back perhaps no further than dam and sire. There are, however, many dairy farmers who keep a bull merely to maintain the flow of milk of their cows without any intention of rearing calves at all. In such a case there could be no objection to using a good bull of a purely



Grand Champion Car Lot, Aberdeen-Angus- Yearlings, Chicago International, 1912.

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