

cated. A few stones in their box or a thousand and one other devices in vogue will prevent this to some extent and oblige them to get it more slowly. When the whole grain is thoroughly masticated the saliva which accompanies it into the stomach aids digestion very materially and offsets the hardship or labor suffered by the animal in breaking up and chewing the hard kernels.

Colts and old horses generally do best on ground grain, but for the mature animal with a good set of teeth grinding is of little value.

LIVE STOCK.

Light and Ventilation.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I am glad to note you are inviting a discussion of light and ventilation. I don't believe your valuable columns could be devoted to a better work than urging better light and ventilation, both in the stable and the home. From the best information we have, disease among our live stock is on the increase, and I do not wonder at it. Our own common sense, as well as the teaching of our ablest authorities on disease and health, tells us that sunlight is the greatest microbe and bacteria destroyer that exists and it costs nothing and without a supply of fresh air always available to be taken into our lungs and the lungs of our live stock (upon which we are largely dependent for our daily food) disease and physical infirmities are bound to increase. From careful observations as I travel from place to place, I will venture to state that the average stable hasn't more than one-quarter light enough. Some of the newer stables are fairly well lighted, but I think I am quite within the mark when I say that not ten per cent. of the newer stables are sufficiently lighted. One of the difficulties seems to be that very many are building their buildings too wide to properly light them in the centre. I think 40 feet to 44 feet is as wide as can be properly lighted and quite as wide as is convenient for storing grain and hay, threshing, etc. I also think for a stable, say 40 feet by 60 feet, there should be at least 120 square feet of glass to light it properly, and then the upper part of box stalls and mangers should be of iron or wire so as not to shut the light out from any part.

While light is very important, fresh air is still more important. Unless there is a constant supply available at all times, the stock are taking into their systems the poisons that they have just cast off, which is bound to produce bad results. If we would be a healthy and robust race, we must attend to these matters. Diseased meat and unhealthy milk are the forerunners of disease and misery in the homes throughout our lands. The cheapest things we have within our reach are sunlight and fresh air. Let us see to it that we secure our fair share. Farmers who have their massive stone stables wonder how to get more light, but they wouldn't find it such a difficult job if they went at it with hammer, chisel and sledge. They could soon make openings under the windows that are already in existence, where they would soon have a space for a frame 3 feet or 3½ feet by 4 feet. Another advantage with plenty of light and ventilation is, that lice and ringworm give but little trouble.

R. H. HARDING.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

Our English Correspondence.

BRITAIN'S GREAT MEAT IMPORT TRADE.

Compared with 1912, in 1913 the frozen carcasses imported into the United Kingdom show an increase of 10.5 per cent. in mutton, 4.2 per cent. in lamb, and a reduction of 3 per cent. in beef. The cause of the last named decline is accounted for to a great extent by the further development of the trade in chilled beef. The total imports of chilled and frozen meat was 720,661 tons worth £26,662,896. The eventual disappearance of the United States as a source of supply to the British market had been anticipated some long time ago, but the actual cessation of exports in 1913 came with dramatic suddenness.

Britain's export trade in pedigree stock has been a wonderful one in 1913, and Canada has played a right royal part in buying in the very best of markets. All told, we have sold out of Britain stock worth £2,236,883. Of that total £1,783,215 must go to horses, which numbered 68,636, and hence were worth £25,597 each. That is a low price, but it must be understood that it includes thousands of worn-out horses sold to Belgium at an average of £11.81 each. These poor things made excellent cheap food for the penurious classes on the continent. The better class of horses sold to France, for instance, averaged £78.14.1.

We sold 4,580 head of cattle of the declared value of £274,297, or an average of £60.05 each. The Canadian demand in 1913 was about

on an average with previous years, 139 head being shipped at £34.65 each. In 1912, 185 head went out at the then very good price of £75.12.9 a head. In 1911, the total was 136 and the average value £38.10.7. In 1910, the 212 sent out were worth £34.15.5 each.

All told, we sold 6,538 sheep in 1913 worth £99,449, or an average of £14.2.9 each. Canada's little lot were 424 worth £6.16.10 each, as against 21 in 1912 worth only £2.7.7 each. In 1911 she bought 374 for £6.2.1 apiece, but in 1915 took 381 at £5.8.1 each.

Of pigs we sold 1,355 head for £18,063, an average of £13.6.6. Canada took 37 head for £7.2.8 each, as against 11 in 1912 at £16.7.3; 22 in 1911 worth £15 each, and 21 in 1910 sold at £7.15.3 each.

Canada in 1913 sold us 169 horses valued at £3,120. In 1912 the figures were 151 worth £3,800.

A strong move is being made in Herefordshire and Shropshire to boom the white-face cattle of that area as milkers. Of course we all appreciate the success of the Hereford breed in the way of meat getting, which in the past has gone against the idea of the type being used for dairy purposes, but nevertheless Hereford cows may be bred to become goodly milkers. In producing a milking strain it is absolutely necessary that

significant, it may be added that the applications for Shorthorn bulls considerably exceeded in number those received for all other breeds put together. In England, during the past two or three years, record prices for bulls and for cows of the milking Shorthorn strain have been paid, both for home use and for export purposes. In conversation a month ago with a man who may perhaps be considered as the leading breeder of milking Shorthorns in the United States, the statement was made that his business had been growing far beyond the possibilities of his herd, and that even at stiff prices he was unable to supply the demand for young breeding bulls.

What is the significance of these facts? If the market wants and will pay for beef, why this cry for milk? The reason is not far to seek. It is from the man who raises the steers that the demand comes. If this man has to debit his six-months-old calf with the keep of its dam, where is the profit to be obtained? It costs at least \$50.00 to feed a cow for a year; add to this the service of the bull, risk and other incidental items and a calf becomes a pretty expensive commodity when its mother weans it. That is the crux of the whole situation. The day of the free range is over. The future of beef making depends upon the profit which can be made out of it by the man on the fenced farm. On high-priced

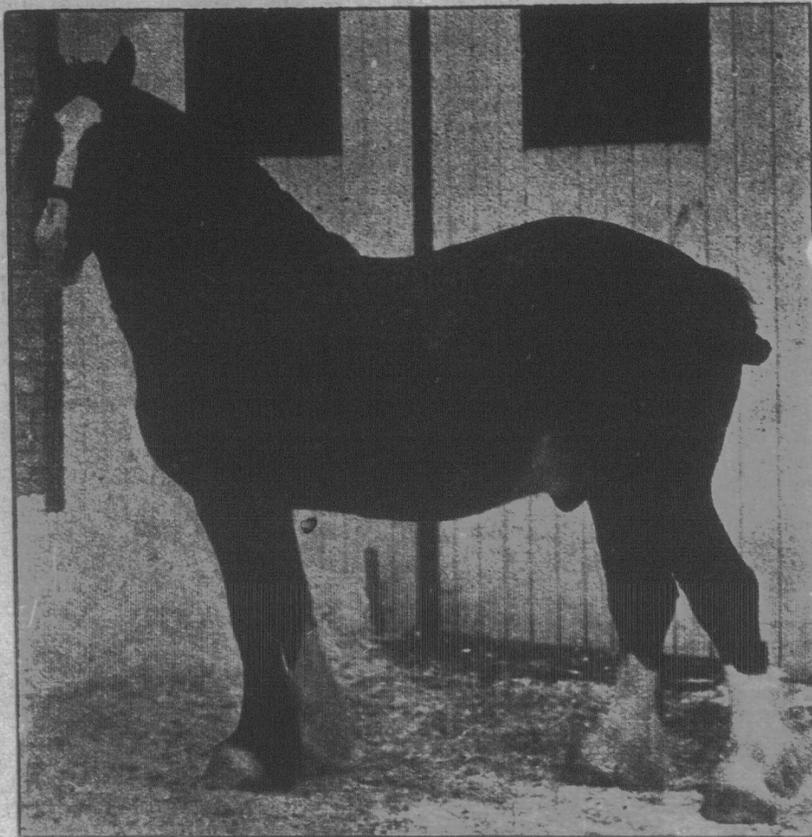
land no dividend can be secured with cows that do no more than raise their own calves. If breeders of pure-bred cattle do not heed the judgment of the country upon this question and set their hands earnestly and consistently to the task that is now thrust upon them, we shall find the business of high-class beef making demoralized through the farmers resorting to the use of dairy sires to cross upon their cows. This is no vain statement. The practice is already being illustrated in several districts in Ontario to-day.

What then is there to do? There are many bulls now being offered for sale with sharp shoulders and lean thighs which are thought to approach the type of dairy sires. They are being advertised as dairy Shorthorns. Will they fill the bill? By no means. You cannot make a dairy Shorthorn sire out of an ill-doing calf. It is a question of

breeding, not of feeding—though one might venture the statement that, in the case of some of the bulls now being registered, it is a matter both of the one and of the other.

Shall we then cast aside the tradition of generations and make of the Shorthorn a dairy breed? By no means again. We have already sufficient dairy breeds in Canada and to attempt to compete with the Holstein, the Ayrshire, the Jersey or others would be both unnecessary and unwise. I have myself had some little experience with a dairy Shorthorn herd and am inclined to think that, in comparison with the specialized dairy breeds, the Shorthorn will always prove a disappointment. We will admit what is being done in England. The Shorthorn is there bred for dairy purposes, and, in many cases, for dairy purposes only. I have seen herds in that country where the emphasis placed on high records, the general type of the cows and the object for which they were bred—milk for the London and other urban markets—clearly indicated that dairy interests predominated in the course which was being pursued. We do not, I think, want that in this country. We want rather a cow that will make beef making possible.

This last is a sentence which may be misinterpreted and misconstrued, but I think the meaning is clear. Let me illustrate it, however, by reference to a comment made by a contemporary breeder on a visit to Mr. Thos. Bates, of Kirklevington fame. This breeder was shown the butter put up for the Newcastle market, and, thrown off his guard, was surprised into the re-



Cumberland Gem.

A 1,980-lb. Clydesdale stallion, by Sir Everest, dam Sapp of Preston Hows. This good horse, owned by T. J. Berry, Hensall, Ont., is for sale.

both the sire and dam should be from reliable and known milkers. Many breeders of Hereford cattle have kept milk production carefully in view. The system of allowing cows to suckle their calves is not favorable to the development of a large milk yield and this practice is very prevalent in Herefordshire.

London, England.

G. T. BURROWS.

Dairy Shorthorns.

If there is one thing more than another which, in connection with the breeding of beef cattle, needs sane, clear, unprejudiced judgment, it is the question relating to the practices now to be followed in breeding Shorthorns. Is the Scotch type to be maintained? Are the traditions of the great Aberdeenshire breeders to be upheld? Are the standards set by the early pioneers in Canada to be continued? Or, to put the question in a more suggestive and perhaps a more truly significant way, are there to be any changes in the fashion as maintained by the breeders and developed in the show-ring during so many years and even up to the present time in Canada?

The demand for good beef stock has never been so keen as at the present time. Then, why give a second thought to this faddist idea of milk in Shorthorns? Yet, it is here to be reckoned with. Fully fifty per cent. of the applications received by the Department of Agriculture during the past year, for the loan of Shorthorn sires, represented definite requests that bulls of a milking strain be supplied. To make this statement even more

mark:
cause t
we can
prices
triumph
city of
day i
will m
paralle
North
occupa
ed and
The in
Scotch
future.
The
the U
situat
that
eral c
read
for an
ties,
found
her n
allow
butte
her-v
the p
Cana
horn.
Pe
may
shou
the
tion
tive
imp
th
elect
time
shou
obta
a v
spea
of t
ed t
and
Out
ope
and
may
alle
trat
out
ity,
typ
com
mil
of
mo
fou
and
not
red
an
Ar
th