

Sheep at the Royal Counties Show.

To breeders who have visited England during the summer show season, there is probably no show that has a greater attraction to them than that of the Royal Counties Agricultural Society, held this year at Bournemouth, June 8th to 12th.

The Hampshire Downs, a breed that is rapidly forcing its way to the front in countries beyond the sea, and well does it deserve its reputation, made an excellent showing. In a strong yearling ram class Mr. James Flower secured a notable success, with sheep of superior type, winning first and third. Following close after the leader came one of very good type and first-class scale from that well-known flock of Mr. Carey Coles. Mr. T. F. Buxton had the reserve number in a first-class sheep. The two-year-old ram section was one of very fine merit, and here Mr. Carey Coles won with a typical ram, the second prize going to Mr. Buxton, whose sheep had fine masculine appearance and character, Mr. H. C. Stephens taking the reserve number.

In the yearling ewe class Mr. J. Flower scored another great success, winning first and second with two of the best pens of ewes it has been our pleasure to see for many years. The leading pen was afterwards made champion pen of the female section of the breed. Two pens with great scale and excellent flesh, from Mr. Buxton's flock, followed, and then a very fine pen from Mr. H. L. Cripp's. The contest in the class for single ram lambs was a long one, and, ultimately, one of the best specimens of the breed, so far as early maturity, development, size and substance are concerned, from Mr. H. C. Stephens' flock, was selected for leading honors. Two lambs owned by Sir W. G. Pearce were then placed second and third, and the reserve number went to one from Mr. Buxton's flock, whose fine flesh and capital spread indicates the making of a fine stud sheep in the future. The pens of three ram lambs were particularly strong in merit and type. The winners here were from Sir W. G. Pearce's flock, who certainly secured a notable success in bringing out so well and evenly matched a pen of sheep. They were subsequently made the champion pen of the show, winning over leading animals in other classes. Mr. J. Flower, with a pen of quality, type and character, took second honors, and the third prize went to a well-matched pen from Mr. Stephens' flock, Mr. Buxton again having to be content with the reserve number.

The ewe lamb class had for its winners three typical sisters of the leading ram lamb in the single ram lamb class, owned by Mr. Stephens.

The Southdowns were well represented. Champion honors as well as the gold medal for the best male in his class were awarded to the Duke of Richmond's yearling ram, whose fine type and excellent fleece and flesh fully entitled him to the same. Mr. C. R. W. Adeane took second honors with a sheep fully equal to the high reputation his flock has secured. Mr. E. Henty, a breeder who is coming well to the front, secured third honors for a wide deep, and good-fleshed ram, and Mr. J. Colman took the reserve number. The Duke of Northumberland won first prize in the two-shear ram class with a very wide and good-fleshed ram, who was reserve number for champion honors. Two other sheep of very superior merit, particularly in respect to the quality of their flesh, won second honors and reserve number for Mr. Ellis. Probably one of the best ram lambs that has been seen out for some considerable time was found in the class for single ram lambs, and was owned by Mr. Adeane, who won first honors in the class. Mr. Ellis followed; then came Col. Walters' entry and that from the Pagham Harbor Company, which was a lamb of superior merit. In the yearling ewe class Mr. J. Colman went to the top with a wide pen, good in their fleece and straight on their legs. These were made champion of the female section. Their victory, however, was only won with a narrow margin, for Mr. Ellis with a very fine pen of yearling ewes that had not been shown before, took second honors in the class, and reserve number for championship. The Earl of Cadogan won the reserve number in this class with a neat and evenly-matched pen. Mr. E. Ellis was first for pen of ram lambs, and also took similar honors in the ewe lamb class with a pen of notably fine merit. Mr. Adeane was second for ram lambs, and the Pagham Harbor Co. third.

Shropshires.—In consequence of the Shrewsbury Show being at the same time, there was only one exhibitor—i. e., Mr. R. P. Cooper—in these classes, and he secured first honors in each class with very typical sheep.

Oxford Downs.—Mr. A. Brassey, M. P., continued his successful career again at this show, his unbeaten yearling rams and yearling ewes being at the top of their respective classes. Mr. J. T. Hobbs was third with a fine, deep-fleshed sheep, and he also won second honors for yearling ewes, the reserve number going to Mr. J. Horlick. The latter exhibitor won first with a very fine pen of ram lambs.

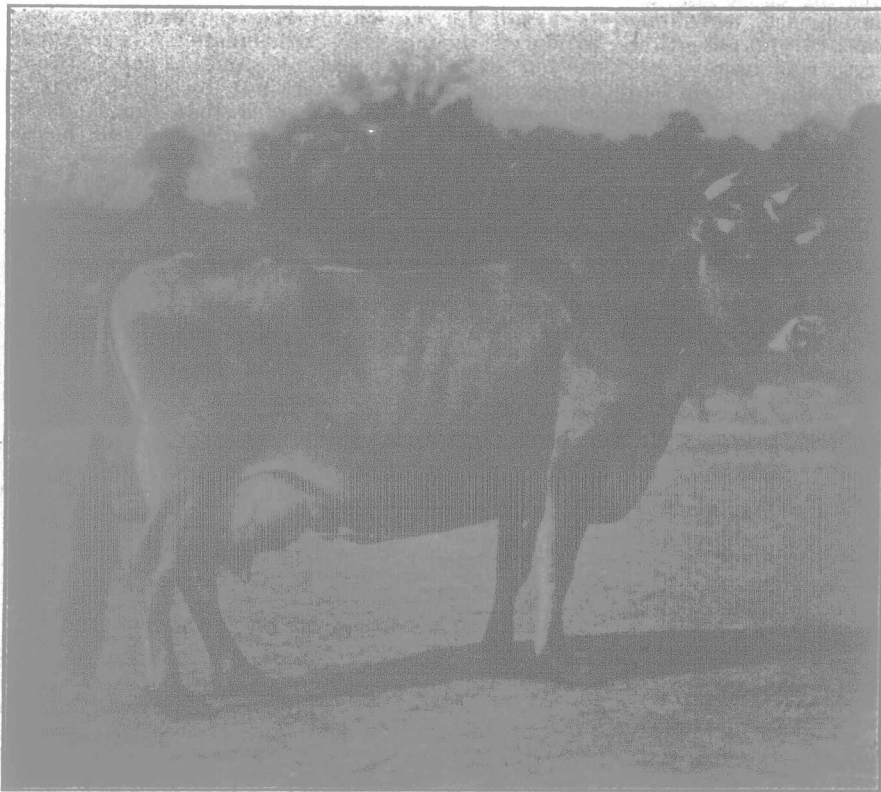
Dorset Horns.—It may have been, but not in recent years, a fact that this breed had made a larger entry than was the case at this show, but

if this is so, they have never been better in merit and quality. Mr. Jas. Attrill was owner of the yearling ram that won in its class. Mr. W. R. Flower taking second honors, and F. J. Merson reserve number. All the 8 pens of yearling ewes were of such merit that the judge gave a decoration to each, and commended the class as a whole. Mr. W. R. Flower won here with a notably fine pen, to which went the champion honors of the section. His second entry was reserve number, and Mr. E. A. Hambro took second honors with a pen of wide and deep ewes. In the ram lamb class Mr. Flower was first and second, their merit being most superior. The class for ewe lambs consisted of ten pens. Here again all were commended, a worthily even and uniform class, at the head of which stood the very fine pen owned by Mr. Flower. Mr. T. F. Todd was second, and the reserve number went to Mr. Flower's second entry.

Shropshires at Shrewsbury

At no English show are Shropshire sheep so largely represented as at the Shropshire and Midland, held as usual at Shrewsbury, and this year on June 7th and 8th.

It would appear that, as a rule, outstanding sheep in the yearling classes this year are not so numerous as usual, but the average merit was very good. To Mr. M. Williams belongs the honor this year of winning the Mansell Memorial Challenge Cup, the blue ribbon of the Shropshire show-yard season. He won this prize with the grand yearling ram, of immense scale and splendid character and substance, that headed the yearling ram class of twenty-two entries. Mr. R. P. Cooper, with one of superior merit, was second. Then



Loretta D 141708.

Jersey Cow, born Dec. 1896. Owned by estate of W. S. Ladd, Portland, Oregon. First in Classes A and B, awarded diplomas as Champion Cow, and as First in Best Five Cows any breed, classes A and B in Dairy Cow demonstration, World's Fair, St. Louis, Mo., 1904.

followed Sir P. A. Muntz, P. L. Mills, and R. Tanner, in the order named.

The old ram class had at its head a notable sheep, whose show-yard record proves his constitutional vigor and inherent merit, the two-shear owned by Mr. Cooper. He made a keen fight for the Mansell cup, but was r. n. He had won first as a lamb, and first as a yearling at the Royal Show, and now as a two-shear takes first in this important show.

A notable class was that for pens of three yearling rams, in which Mr. Cooper secured a grand victory, winning first with three, which were winners of the 50-guineas challenge cup, but he was also second with three nearly equally good. Sir P. A. Muntz, and Messrs. E. Nock and J. Harding occupied the succeeding places, in the order named.

In the ewe class, with a pen of five, well-deserved first honors went to Mr. R. P. Cooper, for a grand pen. Sir P. A. Muntz, Mr. P. L. Mills, Sir W. Corvett and Mr. T. Penn were the other winners.

Mr. Nock and Mr. Harding came out top in the two classes for ram lambs and ewe lambs, the merit and character of which was highly creditable, and Mr. Nock had the satisfaction of winning the champion prize for the best pen of lambs in the show.

Both Up-to-date.

I have received premium knife, for which I thank you. "Farmer's Advocate" and knife are both first-class and up-to-date.

B. C.

RICHARD GOURLAY.

Successful Hog Raising.

In an address delivered by Dean Curtiss, of the Iowa State Agricultural College, he said, in part:

"The hog is pre-eminently the most profitable corn and grain condensing animal on the farm. No other domestic animal is capable of converting so large a part of the feed it consumes into edible meat, and no other animal yields so large a percentage of dressed meat to live weight. The hog will make from 12 to 15 pounds of pork, live weight, from a bushel of corn; the sheep from 5 to 8, and the steer from 4 to 5. The sheep will kill from 50 to 60 per cent. of net meat; the steer from 55 to 65 per cent., and the hog from 75 to 85 per cent. As an economical meat producer the hog has no rival. Viewed as a machine for converting farm feedstuffs into finished products the hog stands pre-eminent. Eliminate the hog's part in the economy of farm feeding operations, and you will remove the factor of profit in many cases.

"During the growing period, grazing is especially important and conducive to health and profit. A practical and scientific system of feeding should provide for an ample supply of succulent pasture grasses and forage crops for hogs throughout the spring and summer and autumn months. Combined with this, the system of management should enforce exercise. The entire farm, or as much of it as possible, should be fenced for hogs.

"Three pounds of rape and five pounds of clover, seed per acre sown with the small-grain crops will afford an abundance of good feed on the stubble fields after harvest, at a merely nominal cost. The utilization of this feed for graz-

ing hogs or sheep often affords more profit than the crop of grain. As high as \$10 per acre has been obtained by Iowa farmers from the rape and clover aftermath, following a crop of small grain in the manner indicated.

"The old-time pigsty should be banished forever. There is no place for it on the modern farm. It has given the hog his reputation for filth. They are breeders of disease.

"Even the permanent hog barn is of questionable value. The same money invested in movable hog-houses and hog-fences about the fields, will give much better returns for all purposes, except for fattening hogs and farrowing sows, and the large buildings are not necessary, even for fattening. The movable houses permit the brood sows and pigs to be moved out into the ideal surroundings afforded by a clean pasture, or a clover or alfalfa lot. They make it possible to distribute the hogs in clean, fresh quarters, thereby utilizing grass and forage

crops to the largest degree, and at the same time reducing the danger of disease to a minimum. They favor economical production. They promote the health and thrift of the herd, and insure greater fecundity and more profitable breeding qualities. Thirty-five sows of different breeds on the College farm farrowed 312 pigs during the present season, and raised 280 to weaning time.

"Experiments conducted at the Experiment Stations show that an acre of rape has a feeding value equivalent to the production of 500 pounds of pork. An acre of alfalfa is even more valuable than an acre of rape for grazing hogs, though it cannot be grown as a catch crop for a single season.

"On the College farm we sowed some ground adjoining the hog yards to alfalfa last August, and I think we have had the best returns from it of any crop we have ever grown for hogs. We expect to largely increase the acreage of alfalfa on the College farm during the present season. In a blue-grass pasture we have pastured 36 prospective show barrows since the first of May. These hogs have had no grain whatever since the date named, yet they are in excellent condition and growing, though making but little, if any, increase in weight.

The principle which I wish to emphasize in feeding hogs is that, in order to insure the best of health, vigor, fecundity and profit in hog-raising, the herd should be handled as largely as possible in the open field and pasture, and that during a period of six or seven months of the