

tion to Scotland to investigate. The result of their investigations was the bringing to this country of Dr. Andrew Smith. From this beginning, the interest in veterinary science grew, and the Ontario Veterinary College became an institution widely known from one end of this continent to the other. Turning to the future, Dr. Grange pointed out that the demands upon the veterinary profession had greatly increased in recent years. A close study of bacteriology, botany and chemistry were necessary, and the fields of meat, milk and dairy inspection demanded a wider training of the veterinary student. A three-years' course had been established, and a wider range of studies prescribed, with the object of better equipping graduates for future work in this larger sphere. The College, he stated, will give practical demonstration work covering a wider range, and will continue to advance in all matters relating to veterinary medicine and surgery.

Dr. Smith followed, in a brief address, in which he expressed a wish for the future success of the institution, which would ever receive his hearty support. Recounting the early history of the College, he paid tribute to some of the men who had ably assisted him in the work of the past. He believed that in the future, more than in the past, there would be closer intercourse between the medical and veterinary professions.

Dr. Falconer, President of the University, expressed pleasure that Dr. Smith and those representing the Government had approached the negotiation with so much good-will. It spoke well for the future of the College. The closer association the College would have in the future with the University, would, he believed, be mutually beneficial.

Dr. Rutherford, Chief Veterinarian and Livestock Commissioner for Canada, who has taken a deep interest in the change in his Alma Mater, gave some reminiscences of his student days, over thirty years ago. Continuing, he stated that the successful veterinary surgeon must be a more capable student than the medical man, as he has to cultivate the power of observation more. The dumb animal cannot help the veterinary surgeon in diagnosing a case. The veterinarian must do it all himself, by observation. In concluding, Dr. Rutherford expressed the wish that the Ontario Veterinary College would so develop under the new regime as to meet the needs of the whole Dominion. One well-equipped institution was sufficient, and he would do his part to stir up an interest in the other Provinces in behalf of the College.

Addresses of a congratulatory nature were given by President Creelman; C. C. James, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; J. W. Flavelle; Dr. A. B. McCallum, Toronto, and Dr. Cowan, of Galt.

"CHRONICLE."

#### OUR SCOTTISH LETTER.

Advices from Canada, just received, rather indicate that you had lively times at Toronto Show. We do not know what the "pothe" has been about, but gather that the judge and the public were not agreeing about some awards in the Clydesdale section. The details are unknown here, but, in a general way, one may be permitted to remark that a Scotsman and a Canadian do not quite agree about the points of a Clydesdale horse. That is possibly not the happiest way to put the matter. The two would write almost the same description of an ideal horse, but when it came to actual decision as between rival horses, the Scotsman and the Canadian would not agree as to the laying of the emphasis. The Scot would place it one place; the Canadian would put it elsewhere. The causes of disturbance may not have been so simple as I am imagining, but it is always regrettable when feeling is aroused around a ring-side. Such feeling must of necessity be harmful to the best interests of the breed or breeds involved. The Clydesdale, unhappily, has suffered greatly from this cause.

#### UNFAVORABLE HARVEST CONDITIONS.

September is a very busy month, but possibly farmers generally are more concerned at present with the harvesting of their crops than with any other subject. Many have been four weeks engaged in cutting, yet their stuff is still in the stook. The weather broke about the beginning of September, and has not only been wet, but warm and "muggy." It has been admirable spring weather, and just about as badly adapted for ingathering as could be imagined. Rain has fallen almost daily, and there has been a total absence of wind. The sheaves are now sprouting, and even if improvement should at once set in, much even if improvement should at once set in, much grain has been irretrievably ruined. In spite of all the grumbling associated with 1907, it hardly admits of doubt now that 1908 will be a more disastrous season for farmers. We have had good crops; the summer was one of the best known for many years; grain and roots were alike in fine order when harvest began. Since then there has been continual rain, and not only is grain greatly damaged, but the risks to the potato crop are unusually severe. The damp, close, muggy weather recently experienced is pro-

verbially associated with an outbreak of potato disease. Let us hope we may be spared this calamity, whatever else may betide.

#### IRISH AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS.

The British Association met this year in Dublin, and for once in a way agriculture had a big innings on the programme. No man has been more closely identified with the advancement of Irish agriculture than Sir Horace Plunkett, and, as an administrator and executive officer, no one has been more successful than Prof. J. R. Campbell, B.Sc. Both of these gentlemen read papers before sections of the Association having to do with agriculture, and in both there was ample material for thought and discussion. The Irish movement labors under certain disadvantages, but in the main it has proceeded on the lines of self-help and co-operation. The aim has been to support agriculture by improving the status of the farmer, and extending his knowledge. The multitudinous forms in which knowledge may be imparted give hope for the future. The agencies employed are manifold, including demonstration farms, which are also schools, itinerant instructors, male and female, in agriculture, poultry-keeping, and dairying; dairy institutes; and finally, a School of Agriculture in the Royal College of Science and Art, in Dublin. Professor Campbell does not believe in many of the dilettante schemes that have been put forth by theorists. Professor Campbell's contribution to the question will, no doubt, be fully published in the "transactions" of the august body before which it was delivered. Meantime, copies may be obtained from the Professor himself at the Department of Agriculture, Merrion Square, Dublin.

#### DOCTORS DISAGREE.

At the beautiful town of Peebles, in the beginning of the month, the Sanitary Congress met.



Steer Calf.

Sired by Shorthorn bull. First in class, under 1 year, Toronto Exhibition, 1908. Bred and owned by Jos. Stone, Saintfield, Ont.

and discussed all manner of topics bearing on the food of the people and their surroundings. A conference was held during one afternoon, at which farmers and sanitary inspectors met face to face and had out their differences. A notable feature was the comparative oneness of their sentiments. The idea at present before the country is to get common ground, upon which the mutual interests of producers, distributors and consumers of milk may be reconciled. A bill has been drafted and read a first time in the House of Commons, in which provisions are set forth aiming at the production of a pure-milk supply in our cities. Some of its provisions are drastic enough, but there is every prospect that they will be considerably modified before the bill actually becomes law. We have here three sets of official persons striving for the mastery, so far as the control of the milk supply is concerned. These are the medical officers of Health, the Veterinary Inspectors, and the Sanitary Inspectors. The first named would like to get all power into their own hands. They have an idea that they know enough about sanitation to warrant their being invested with authority over the sanitary authorities. They are quite prepared to undertake the inspection of cows for disease of a tubercular order, and they have a firm belief that farmers ought to be sat upon as persons who care nothing for the well-being of the human race in respect of food and milk. The veterinary surgeons have held a meeting, at which they "let out." They are not going to have any more of the doctors' supremacy. Their claim is that the Medical Officer should confine his atten-

tion to the human, and they will do their best to save the bovine creation. The sanitary authorities said sundry things about the medical officers when they both met at Peebles, and the probability is that the farmer may escape while the officials are quarreling about their individual prestige.

#### RAM SALES—OXFORDS GAINING GROUND.

Stock sales have been very numerous during these past few weeks. September is the great month for ram sales. The English sales are held earlier than the Scots, and prices have this year throughout ruled lower than usual. This is due, in large measure, to the absence of any foreign demand. Lincolns have made no fancy prices, and Shropshires have, in cases, met a middling trade. There is some reason to fear that the Shropshire is receding in popular favor, while the Oxford Down is rapidly forging ahead. The Oxford, indeed, is making inroads on the territory hitherto held sacred by the Border Leicester. This last is our great crossing breed, and, while other breeds of sheep have had to submit to a reduced set of averages, some breeders of Border Leicesters have had increases placed to their credit in a season of falling prices. One of the most successful breeders of Border Leicesters in Scotland was the late Mr. David Hume, Barrowell. He died last spring, and his flock was dispersed in the first week of September. For six years out of seven he had secured the championship of the H. & A. S. show. Buyers were present at the sale from as far afield as New Zealand. The highest price realized for a shearling ram was 160 gs. The buyer was Mr. W. C. Moyes, who means to uphold the honors of Forfarshire, which were so well nurtured by Mr. Hume. As a breeding-ground for Border Leicesters, Forfarshire now almost takes leading place. The leading breeder, however, is still to

be found in the Border District. Mr. Matthew Templeton, Sandyknowe, had the highest averages for his rams in the three Border Leicester rings at the great Kelso sales. He sold one ram at £150. Other noted breeders were, Messrs. Smith, Leaston, who got £200 for one to go to New Zealand; Messrs. Smith, Galalaw, who got £125 for one; Messrs. Clark, Oldhamstocks, who got £165 for one; and Mr. John Mark, Sunnyside, who got £170 for what many regarded as the best Border Leicester on the ground.

Blackfaces met a good demand at Lanark and Perth. The first named is the great market for

high-class pedigree sheep of this breed; nothing beats Perth in this country as a market for commercial sheep, although Ayr is now running a splendid race in the same direction. The leading flock among Blackfaces this year is that of Mr. M. G. Hamilton, Woolfords. In a year of falling averages, he had increases. He sold five Blackface shearlings at an average of £62 4s. He got £105, £100, £57, £35, and £20 each for the five. The most notable event at Lanark, however, was the sale of a four-shear ram, bred on Woolfords (and three years ago sold as a shearling for £75), for the extraordinary sum of £90. The buyer was Mr. Charles Howatson, of Glenbuck, one of the most enthusiastic patrons of the breed. This is a wonderful sheep for his years, and seldom indeed does a high-priced ram sell for more money as a four-year-old than he made as a one-year-old. The highest price made for a Cheviot ram this season is £100, and the highest average £22 4s. 6d., for 29, sold at Hawick, by Mr. John Elliot.

#### CATTLE SALES.

Cattle sales have been held in England and the North of Scotland during these past weeks. Aberdeen-Angus cattle have been thrown upon the market in large numbers. At Mains of Fordie, in Perthshire, 50 head made an average of £21 18s. 8d. They were of mixed ages, and both sexes. At Ballindalloch, 31 of the surplus stock made an average of £47 7s. At Mains of Mulben, 37 surplus made £34 12s. 6d. Down in Berkshire, a sale of 54 head of Shorthorns, from the famous herd of Sir Alex. Henderson, Bart., Buscot Park,