

Canada for the improvement of the breed than in any previous year. Not only is this the case, but there has been a great and commendable increase in discrimination in the kind of horses imported. Never have such a large number of high-class animals crossed the ocean to Canada in one year before." Mr. Bright also called attention to the unprecedented demand for Clydesdales in the Western Provinces, and appealed to Ontario breeders and importers to not hold their spare stock at too high prices, but to sell at a fair price, and thus encourage the dissemination of Clydesdales in those Provinces, where a great future for the breed is assured.

LIVE STOCK.

Selling Versus Buying Prices.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Considerable discussion is now going on respecting the increased cost of living, and the general verdict seems to be that the producers—that is, the farmers—are reaping all the benefit.

As a farmer and a producer, I cannot agree with that opinion. It is true that pork, poultry and eggs have been abnormally high, but the prices to farmers for beef cattle, grain of all kinds, potatoes and vegetables, are not in excess of the average in the last forty years. Take wheat, for instance. The farmer has been getting about a dollar; large quantities were sold in this district for less. I have seen it all the way from \$1.25 to \$2.00, and when I was a boy, less than a dollar was considered a low price. Corn, oats and barley are in much the same class as to prices. Then, take beef cattle. I have frequently known, in the last thirty years, export cattle to bring \$6 a hundred, live weight, and sometimes more. Your quotation of February 17th gives \$5.50 to \$6.50 for exporters, and medium to choice butchers at \$5.00 to \$6.00. If meat is too high to the consumer, I opine the rise will be found to take place after the farmer has got his small quota of profit, taking into account the price of grain and the care of the animal, etc. Eggs have been selling here in Essex at 25 to 30 cents for the last two months, and when they get to the consumer in Toronto the price has been 40 to 50 cents.

A correspondent of the Toronto Daily Star puts the whole matter in a nutshell when he says: "A large purveying company in this city has been paying large dividends to its stockholders for many years. One year the dividend amounted to nearly 100 per cent. It is pretty safe to assume that this fat year will bring them cent. per cent. or more."

How is it that live hogs are quoted in Buffalo at \$9.60 to \$9.90 per cwt., and the same class in Toronto at \$8.40 to \$8.75, and the cured meat at a cent to two cents less than Toronto prices?

If the Canadian Swine-breeders' Association can see any benefit likely to accrue to Canadian producers of hogs, by raising the duty on American pork as high as Haman's gallows, in view of conditions as stated above, their ideas of customs tariffs and trade must be very crude.

Essex Co., Ont.

L. C. PALMER.

Importance of Ventilation.

In an address delivered recently at a Fair Banquet, at Oakville, Halton County, Ontario, Dr. J. G. Rutherford, Dominion Live-stock Commissioner, among other topics, dealt with the importance of an efficient working system of stable ventilation, in order to maintaining the health and vigor of farm stock. It was the belief of the speaker that most stables were kept too hot. There is no reason for the temperature of a stable containing animal life, with its exhalation of impurity, being held away up at sixty and seventy degrees. Such a condition in a stable was not only unhealthful for cattle, but if persisted in should ultimately cause a falling-off in the supply of milk from a dairy cow, or in the accumulation of beef on a fattening animal. The ideal temperature was thirty or forty degrees, being refreshed all the time by a supply of pure air through proper ventilators. Dr. Rutherford then described his own simple scheme of ventilation, which has proven successful at Guelph and at the Exp. Farm at Ottawa, and which may be applied quite easily to any building, even a bank barn. The Rutherford ventilator is built on the principle of a box-stove. A supply of fresh air comes in at the floor close to the wall, conducted there through a pipe which leads from an aperture in the foundation, and when the doors or traps are laid open in the roof or upper wall a steady current of cool, fresh air is ventilating the stable, without causing undue draft. By the use of a damper the suction can be stopped while the stock is being temporarily turned outside.

The Lambing Season.

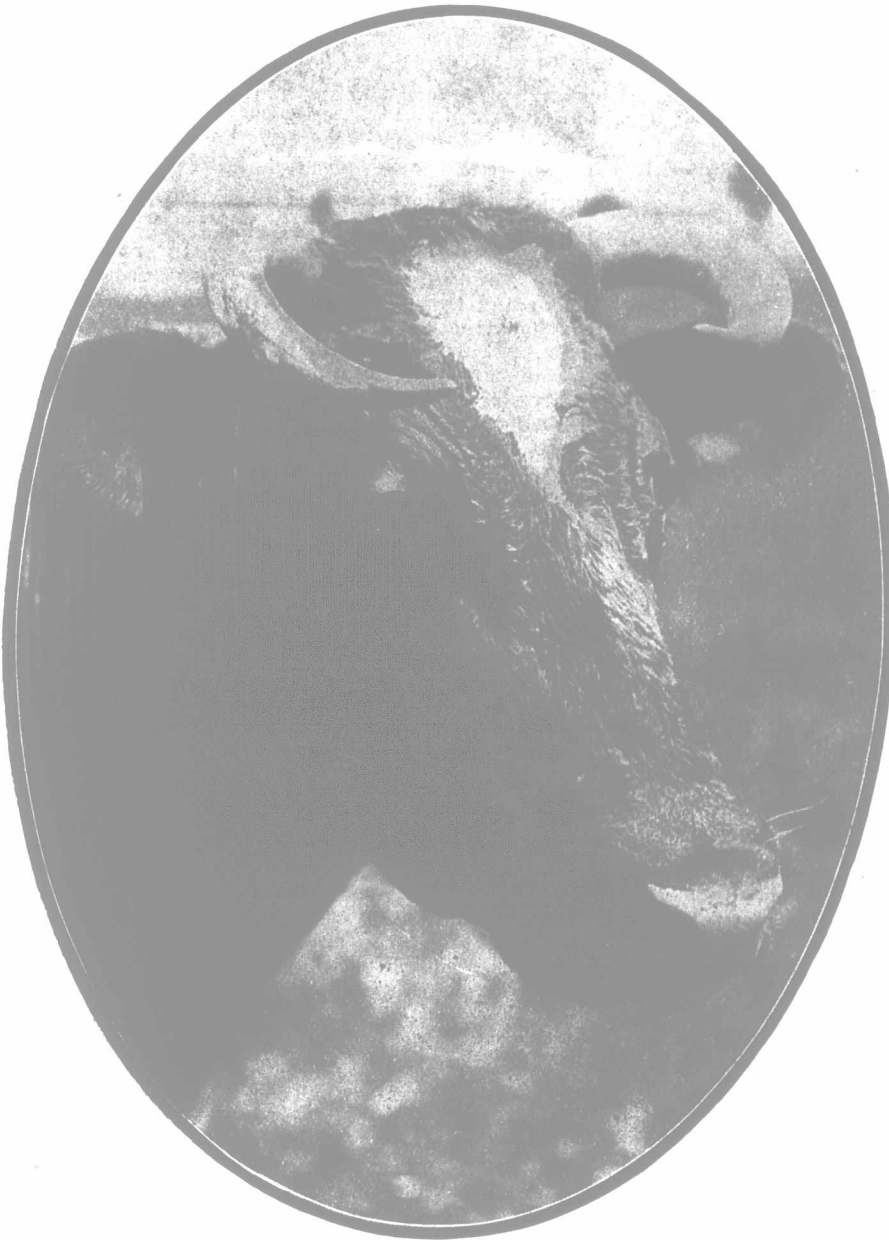
The unusually heavy snowfall of the present winter will probably have prevented the in-lamb ewes from getting as much exercise as is necessary for insuring healthy and vigorous lambs. The flock may, therefore, require more than usual care and attention during the lambing season. When the lambs come strong and healthy, they are generally able to help themselves to nourishment, and need comparatively little attention. The careful shepherd, however, will not mind losing some sleep at this season, in order to see that the youngsters get a fair start in life. He will visit the fold before retiring for the night, and if there are signs of a coming addition to the family, will return at intervals of an hour, until the newcomer has had its first feed. As the lambing season approaches, the ewes should receive more liberal feeding in order to keep up their strength and provide a supply of milk for the lambs. A light feed of oats, or a mixture of oats and bran, will help to keep them in good spirits and strength; and, if roots are in store, a limited feed of these will also be helpful. Good clover hay is almost indispensable for the feeding of the flock. It is a good plan to have in readiness for the lambing season a few short, low hurdles with which to provide an impromptu pen in which to confine a young ewe with her first lamb, or for a ewe that produces twins, in order to keep them together

rect, time had better be given for nature to work out its own deliverance. If the presentation be abnormal, it should be made right by the oiled hand, and then time be given before hurrying matters. If assistance is needed, it should be given gently, and in harmony with the throes of the mother. If the lamb is coming hind feet first, take it away in that position. If the case has been a very difficult one, it is a good plan to pour from a bottle, or by means of a syringe, into the vagina a mild solution of carbolic acid in warm water, to avoid inflammation and the forcing out of the uterus, which is liable to occur. If this trouble occurs, the protruding mass should be washed clean with warm water, with a little carbolic acid in it, and replaced with the hand, a dose of laudanum given, and a few strands of wool from each thigh tied together across the vulva to prevent a repetition of the protrusion.

Care of the Sow and Litter.

With porkers selling at prices close to nine cents a pound, "pigs are pigs," in reality, and the problem of saving the youngsters on their arrival, and keeping them growing steadily, is an important one. In the case of litters coming in March, comfortable quarters are a necessity. If the pen is not close enough to exclude frost and drafts, it will pay to put in a temporary lining

to the outside wall where the sow makes her bed, and a temporary covering of boards overhead may also be necessary to keep the place sufficiently warm. The bedding should not be too plentiful, and short wheat straw is preferable, as in long straw the piglets find difficulty in getting out of the way when the mother lies down, and are in danger of being overlaid and smothered. An attendant should be on the watch when the youngsters are coming, but should not interfere unduly as long as things are going on normally, though circumstances may be such as to require attention. It is a good plan to get the sow used to being handled and petted before the time for parturition arrives, so that she will not be frightened or disturbed when it is necessary to place the young pigs beside her for warmth and nourishment. If the sow is nervous or excitable, and persists in rising during the ordeal, it is well to have a basket on hand, with some chaff or short straw in it, in which to place the pigs, covering them with a blanket, until all the litter are born, when, by scratching the sow on the back and gently rubbing her udder, she may be induced to lie down, when the pigs may be quietly placed with her. The sow should then be left undisturbed for at least 12 hours, and, perhaps, as well for 24 hours, before offering her any food, and then only a warm drink of swill, with perhaps a little bran in it. Feed her lightly for the first three or four days, and gradually increase the bulk of her feed as the pigs get stronger and need more milk. As the pigs grow older, and the milk supply larger, care should be taken that both sow and pigs have room to move about each day for exercise, as there is danger of constipation in the sow, and of the pigs becoming too fat from the heavy supply of milk. They should grow without getting fat while young, as an accumulation of fat is liable to hamper the action of the heart and circulation of the blood in many cases, causing the ailment known as thumps, the symptoms of which are quick breathing, and the working of the sides, like bellows, a condition which can seldom be relieved, and commonly results in the death of the finest of the litter in a day or two after being noticed. If the weather is not suitable for turning them out for a few minutes for exercise daily, they should be forced to move around in the pen or the feeding passages, and for this purpose an old broom may serve a good purpose in getting them to go where wanted. When



Co-Boss.

for a day or two, until they get acquainted. If a lamb comes weak, and is not able to stand to suck, the ewe may be gently placed on her side, the lamb brought to the fountain, and a little milk drawn from each teat and forced into its mouth, which is held open with the forefinger, when, as a rule, it will draw the milk for itself, and rapidly gain strength. In the case of a weak lamb becoming chilled in the night, the best treatment is to take it to the house and warm it by the stove, or submerge it in a pan of quite warm water, then rub it dry with flannel cloths, feed it a little of the ewe's milk warmed to blood heat, and then return it to its dam.

In the case of a ewe losing her lamb, she may be made to take one of a pair of twins by tying her by the neck in a pen made of hurdles, smearing the lamb's back with some of her own milk, and holding her while it sucks for the first few days. Or the skin of the dead lamb may be stripped from it and placed upon the lamb to be adopted, in which case the ewe will readily take to it.

In a case of unduly delayed parturition, an examination should be made to discover whether the presentation is normal or not, and if it is cor-

rect, time had better be given for nature to work out its own deliverance. If the presentation be abnormal, it should be made right by the oiled hand, and then time be given before hurrying matters. If assistance is needed, it should be given gently, and in harmony with the throes of the mother. If the lamb is coming hind feet first, take it away in that position. If the case has been a very difficult one, it is a good plan to pour from a bottle, or by means of a syringe, into the vagina a mild solution of carbolic acid in warm water, to avoid inflammation and the forcing out of the uterus, which is liable to occur. If this trouble occurs, the protruding mass should be washed clean with warm water, with a little carbolic acid in it, and replaced with the hand, a dose of laudanum given, and a few strands of wool from each thigh tied together across the vulva to prevent a repetition of the protrusion.