

convenient to give the sows the range of such yard, a plank or road-scraper may be used, or even a scoop or snow shovel, to clean the snow from a space to be used for scattering whole corn or corn ensilage for the sows to pick over. A few whole mangels thrown on the ground occasionally when the weather is mild, will also be helpful, and the taproots of turnips or mangels from the cellar, with the earth that drops from them, thrown on this feeding ground, may serve to satisfy the cravings of the sow's system and promote healthfulness.

The sows should certainly not be confined to small quarters until a week or two before due to farrow, and then will be the better for a run out for an hour or two each day right up to the end of the gestation period. The bedding at this time should be short and not overplentiful, but dry and comfortable, and any scraps of meat and greasy food available, which will help to relax the bowels, should be given.

Vexatious and Unfair Customs Regulations.

To the Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The Great International Live-stock Show at Chicago is over, and we, among the exhibitors, wish to inform your readers of the way we were treated by our Canadian customs officials at Sarnia on our return. Mark the contrast of the way we were treated by the American customs officials. We left Chicago on Saturday night, Dec. 23rd, and reached Port Huron about 5 o'clock Sunday afternoon. The American officials were on hand, and released us from bond as quickly as possible, and told us they had wired to our officials to be ready for us, as we would be over that evening. We reached Sarnia about 7.30 Sunday evening, to find that the veterinary officers and other customs officers were all at home. We got the doctor by 'phone, and tried to induce him to come and inspect our stock and have us released, so that we might get home on Xmas. Day. He simply said it was against the rule to inspect stock after dark. Now, sir, before we left our homes we had veterinary certificates which proved that our sheep and stock were free from disease, and that allowed us to enter the United States, and at Chicago we were supplied with like certificates from a veterinary officer that our stock was free from disease. We informed the doctor that he had inspected our stock after dark before, and he replied that that was in order for us to reach the Guelph Show. We read a letter to one of the exhibitors from the Minister of Agriculture to him, which said that if we were delayed in getting released to wire him at Ottawa, but that did not move the Doctor; it was Sunday night, Ottawa could not be got by wire. Nor could the Minister of Customs be reached by wire. There we were, and there we had to stay; and it was about noon on Xmas. Day before the fifteen or sixteen cars of show stock were ready to leave, and it was two o'clock when the train left, making a delay of 18 hours at Sarnia. If you ever saw a mad lot of men, we were such—most of us a few hours' run from our homes. We were both hungry, cold and angry. We all went to the Y. M. C. A. for supper, and the landlady, weighing over 300 pounds, said she could accommodate five or six, but that if we all stayed she would not get supper for anybody. If the Minister of Agriculture had given the matter a second thought, he would have known that we always arrive at Sarnia after dark, and he would also have known that Ottawa could not be reached by wire Sunday night, and that if it could have been, it is not at all probable that he would be there, especially on Christmas eve.

If it is the rule that stock cannot be examined after dark, the Minister of Agriculture should be aware of the fact, and if he knows it, he should have informed the customs officials of this special occasion and have them inspect the stock without delay. The doctor said he had had no instruction to do so. I believe, on previous occasions the Minister had promised to see that we were released on our arrival at Sarnia, but it was not done.

This is no trifling matter; show stock is valuable. For any Government to allow and cause such an unnecessary delay to those who have brought honor to their country, is inexcusable.

The matter of customs and duties brings up another matter. No Canadian can take pure-bred stock to the States and sell it, without paying the duty on sheep—75c. for lambs and \$1.50 for sheep; cattle over one year, 20 per cent., and horses up to \$150, \$30 duty, and over that value, 20 per cent. Those who sold sheep from Canada (pure-bred), paid some hundreds of dollars duty. I know of one firm which paid \$100 duty on pure-bred sheep. On the other hand, Americans can flood our country with pure-bred stock of all descriptions, so long as it is registered in a recognized herdbook, and sell it in our country and pay no duty. Is that fair or just?

It may be argued that the Canadian Government cannot persuade the U. S. Government to change their law. No, but the Canadian Govern-

ment could change its own law and protect the Canadian breeders. American horsemen have branches at different points in our country, and they are bringing over stallions in large numbers and taking the trade away from our own breeders. They also have a trade in bulls in our Western country which Ontario might have if the tariff was changed. Some Canadians are buying horses in Michigan and other States, fitting them here and selling them in our market; and so I could go on. Nearly everything the farmer grows to sell comes in with very little duty against it, but on what the farmer has to buy there is from 20 to 50 per cent. duty.

I wish "The Farmer's Advocate" a prosperous New Year, also your readers, and especially our customers.

Brant Co., Ont.

JOHN LLOYD-JONES.

The Smithfield Record of Gains in Weight.

The following tabulation of the average daily gain showed by the several classes named at Smithfield Show, London, England, 1903, together with the highest average daily gain of any animal in each class, live weight, and the number present in each class, will be found below:

CATTLE.

Classes Under Two Years.			
	No. present in class.	Highest daily gain of class.	Average daily gain of class.
Hereford	9	2-6.07	2-2.10
Shorthorn	11	2-5.11	2-1.54
Aberdeen-Angus	13	2-3.51	1-15.27
Galloway	6	2-1.37	1-13.74
Cross-bred steers	10	2-5.17	2-1.28
Cross-bred heifers	11	2-4.60	1-15.66
Steers Above Two and not Exceeding Three Years.			
Hereford	6	2-1.30	1-14.10
Shorthorn	8	2-2.17	1-12.97
Aberdeen-Angus	5	1-12.58	1-11.21
Galloway	4	1-8.56	1-7.87
Cross-bred	9	1-13.90	1-12.41
Heifers Above Two and not Exceeding Three Years.			
Hereford	4	1-13.52	1-9.17
Shorthorn	4	1-12.60	1-11.34
Aberdeen-Angus	10	1-15.91	1-10.52
Galloway	7	1-7.98	1-5.98
Cross-bred	11	1-15.22	1-10.16

SHEEP.

Long-wooled Wether Lambs, Under Twelve Months.			
	No. present in class.	Highest daily gain of class.	Average daily gain of class.
Leicester	4	11.08	10.03
Cotswold	2	10.47	10.40
Lincoln	5	12.36	11.97
Long-wooled Wethers, Above 12 and not Exceeding 24 Months.			
Leicester	4	7.30	7.13
Cotswold	2	8.01	7.69
Lincoln	4	8.50	8.15
Short-wooled Wether Lambs Under Twelve Months.			
Southdowns	12	9.19	8.10
Hampshires	14	11.04	9.73
Suffolks	8	11.34	10.05
Shropshires	5	9.61	9.12
Oxfords	4	11.19	9.93
Dorsets	6	10.02	9.19
Cross-breds	10	12.35	9.92
Short-wooled Wethers Above 12 and not Exceeding 24 Months.			
Southdowns	7	5.65	4.83
Hampshires	5	6.94	6.76
Suffolks	3	7.58	7.14
Shropshires	3	7.04	6.65
Oxfords	2	7.96	7.00
Dorsets	1	5.75	5.75
Cross-breds	5	7.68	6.95

PIGS UNDER NINE MONTHS.

	No. present in class.	Highest daily gain of class.	Average daily gain of class.
Large White	4	1-7.25	1-6.24
Berkshire	13	1-5.78	1-2.92
Tamworth	1	1-1.05	1-1.05

PIGS ABOVE 9 AND UNDER 12 MONTHS.

	No. present in class.	Highest daily gain of class.	Average daily gain of class.
Large White	2	1-4.12	1-3.78
Berkshire	13	1-5.91	1-2.80
Tamworth	3	1-5.39	1-4.17

THE CARCASS TEST CLASSES.

CATTLE.—Of steers not exceeding two years eight competed, their average daily gain alive being 1 lb. 12.78 ozs., and dressed 1 lb. 2.08 ozs., representing 62.19 per cent. of carcass weight to live weight. The highest daily gain alive was 1 lb. 15.79 ozs., and the highest daily gain slaughtered, 1 lb. 4.00 ozs. The

best percentage of carcass to live weight was 64.85 per cent., given by the steer that took first prize, the average daily gain of which was 1 lb. 13.74 ozs., and dead, 1 lb. 3.29 ozs. Of steers above two and not exceeding three years, there were six entries, which gave an average daily gain alive of 1 lb. 5.94 ozs., and dead, 0 lb. 14.34 ozs., and dressed out at 65.36 per cent. of carcass to live weight. The best daily gain made was 1 lb. 9.16 ozs. alive, and the best in the carcass was 1 lb. 1.86 ozs. This carcass, which was unnoticed in the award list, gave 72.84 per cent. of carcass to live weight, the highest in the class and the show. Of heifers not exceeding three years, eight were present, which gave an average daily gain of 1 lb. 8.13 ozs., and dressed 0 lb. 15.68 ozs., showing 64.99 per cent. of carcass to live weight. The best daily gain alive was 1 lb. 15.17 ozs., shown by Mr. J. D. Fletcher's heifer, that secured the champion honor of this section. This heifer also gave the largest percentage of carcass to live weight—65.72 per cent. in the class—but its average daily gain dead was only 1 lb. 4.28 ozs., as compared with 1 lb. 5.26 ozs. given by the third prize carcass.

THE SHEEP SECTION was full of interest to flock-masters, for in it neither breed, type nor character were thought of, but simply formation, depth of flesh, and least offal. There were six classes, but those for the long-wooled breeds were not largely represented. In the long-wooled class for lambs under twelve months, only two entries were made. These gave an average daily gain alive of 8.77 ozs. and 6.73 ozs., and in the carcass, 5.26 ozs. and 4.17 ozs., with an average of 60.63 per cent. of carcass to live weight. In the class for wethers above 12 and not exceeding 24 months, the four entries present gave an average daily gain alive of 3.95 ozs., and in the carcass, 2.59 ozs., which shows 56.72 per cent. of carcass to live weight. The best daily gain alive was 5.10 ozs., and dead, 3.48 ozs., for an unnoticed carcass. The highest percentage of carcass to live weight was 68.90 ozs. for the first carcass, with an average daily gain of 3.21 ozs. alive, and 2.18 ozs. in the carcass.

The short-wooled lamb class had twenty-eight entries, the whole of which were highly meritorious. The average daily gain of the class was 8.27 ozs. alive, and 5.21 ozs. in the carcass, which gave 62.64 per cent. of carcass to live weight. The highest daily gain alive was 10.79 ozs., and dead, 6.80 ozs. The largest percentage of carcass to live weight was 66.62. The carcass that won the champion prize in the sheep section gave, it will be interesting to remark, an average daily gain of 7.66 alive, and 4.89 in the carcass, with a percentage of carcass to live weight of 63.77 per cent.

The short-wooled class for wethers over twelve and not exceeding 24 months had an entry of nine, the average daily gain of which alive was 4.09 ozs., and in the carcass, 2.60 ozs., showing 65.65 per cent. of carcass to live weight. The highest daily gain was 5.42 ozs. alive, and in the carcass 3.72 ozs. This carcass also gave the largest percentage of carcass to live weight, 68.62.

The class for cross-bred lambs under twelve months had an entry of eight. Here the average daily gain alive was 8.11 ozs., and in the carcass 5.07 ozs., which gave an average of 62.50 per cent. of carcass to live weight. The highest daily gain alive was 9.18 per cent., and dead 6.01 per cent., whilst the best percentage of carcass to live weight was 68.33.

The yearling wether class had an entry of eight, which showed an average daily gain alive of 5.17 ozs., and in the carcass of 3.41 ozs., which gave an average daily gain of 66.07 per cent. The highest average daily gain was 6.43 ozs. alive, and 4.36 ozs. dead; the latter carcass showing the highest percentage of carcass to live weight, i.e., 70.53 per cent.

SWINE.—Of pigs not exceeding 100 lbs. live weight, twelve entries were present, the average daily gain of which alive was 9.16 ozs., and in the carcass, 6.79 ozs., which gave 74.03 per cent. of carcass to live weight. The highest average daily gain alive was 12.24 ozs., and in the carcass 9.03 ozs. The first-prize carcass, however, showed 82.76 per cent. of carcass to live weight, with an average daily gain alive of 7.09 ozs., and 6.33 ozs. in the carcass.

Of pigs exceeding 100 lbs., and not exceeding 220 lbs. live weight, eleven entries were present, which gave an average daily gain of 11.66 ozs. alive, and 9.22 ozs. in the carcass, with 79.56 per cent. of carcass to live weight. The highest daily gain alive was 1 lb., and in the carcass 12.02 ozs. The largest percentage of carcass to live weight was 83.33 per cent.; the champion pig showed an average daily gain alive of 15.98 ozs., and in the carcass 6.68 ozs., giving 80.28 per cent. of carcass to live weight. The heavier class of pigs, exceeding 220 lbs. in live weight, had an entry of 12, the average daily gain of which was 82.73 per cent., giving an average daily gain of 14.10 ozs. alive, and 11.66 ozs. dead, with 82.73 per cent. of carcass to live weight.

W. W. C.

The premiums for one new subscriber, viz., Reading Glass and Compass, came to hand in due time all right. Am much pleased with them, especially the Reading Glass.

L. H. LAWRENCE.
West Sheffield, Jan. 2nd, 1906.