

British Stock Sales in 1901.

For the following resume of British stock sales in 1901 we are indebted to that unique sale record compiled by Mr. W. W. Chapman, F. S. S., wherein are recorded upwards of 1,800 separate sale results, which are a most valuable means of reference from which to obtain the general range of values of pedigree stock in the Old Land during the period under review, which is published in extenso in the Farmers' and Stock Breeders' Annual, London, England.

Commencing with Shire horses, the top price for a stallion was £1,627 10s., obtained by Mr. Crispe. The same breeder also made the top price of the year for colt foals, £252, and brood mares, £981 15s. Sir J. Blundell, Bart., made top values for three-year-old stallions, £367 10s.; two-year-old stallions, £472 10s.; four-year-old mares, £567; also for three-, two- and one-year-old fillies, namely, £480 10s., £577 10s., and £546, respectively, whilst the top price of filly foals was £110 15s. A gelding sale of record proportions also took place during the year, namely, one held by the late Lord Wantage, when 51 Shire horse geldings made an average of £88 17s. 2d., with the top price of £173 5s.

There were a considerable number of Hackney sales held during the year, and some high prices realized, amongst them the following: £304 and £451 10s. for stallions and three-year-old stallions, and £141 15s. for a colt foal, at Mr. J. Barler's sale; £420 for a brood mare at Mrs. Edmondson's sale, £294 for a two-year-old filly at the same sale; and £315 15s. for a three-year-old filly at Mr. Moore's sale.

In Clydesdale sales, from the authority we are using, we find that the highest sale values recorded in the public press were: For stallions, £351; two-year stallion, £126; brood mares, £351 15s., and yearling fillies, £158 11s.; all at the sale of Mr. J. Lockart. Sir J. Gilmour made top price for three-year-old stallion at a public sale, £136 10s., and Mr. H. Webster's £210 and £162 15s. were the best recorded prices for three- and two-year-old fillies.

In the cattle section the Shorthorn leads the way. The sales held last year were not on the whole so satisfactory to the vendors as were those held the previous year, mainly on account of the loss of the Argentine demand. Mr. Duthie's notable sale heads the list, and his £682 10s. for a bull calf tops the male sale prices for the year; £164 17s. was the top price for a cow, made at Mr. J. A. Preece's sale. For two-year-old heifers the top figure was £152 15s., at Mr. H. Dudding's sale; for yearling heifer, £78, at Mr. J. Wilson's sale; and for heifer calves, £162 15s., at Mr. Anderson's sale at Saphock.

Aberdeen-Angus also had a capital year, the best sale prices being: Bulls, £189 (J. H. Bridges); bull calves, £110 (A. Eggington); cows, £136 (same breeder as last year); two-year-old heifers (W. Whyte), £156 1s.; yearling heifers (A. Whyte), £110 5s.; and ditto heifer calves, £42.

Hereford cattle had a remarkable sale year, on account of the dispersal of the two noted herds owned by Mr. J. Price and Mr. Tudge. The latter made top recorded price for bulls, £346 10s.; and the former for bull calves, £126; cows, £220 10s.; two-year-old heifers, £210.

The best recorded prices for Galloways were: Bulls, £35 14s.; yearling bulls, £43; cows, £35 14s.; two-year-old heifers, £50, and yearling heifers, £25.

Jerseys sold remarkably well, particularly for the best specimens. The top recorded price for bulls is £76 15s., at Lord Rothschild's sale, but Col. McCalmont ran him very close with another that made £75 12s. At no less than four different sales there were cows that went over the century, a very notable fact for the breed. At Lord Rothschild's one made £136 10s. At the Duke of Marlborough's one made £126. At Mr. R. J. Pope's one made £115 10s.; and at Lady G. Greenall's one made £105. The top prices for two-year-old and yearling heifers was £63 and £57 15s., both realized at Lord Rothschild's sale.

The best prices for Ayrshires were bulls £40 and cows £24. The best prices for Dexter and Kerry cattle were bulls £25 5s. and cows £74 11s., both at Mr. Robertson's sale.

Sheep.—In connection with this section there is no question but that owing to the falling off in the export demand the supply of rams in all breeds was in excess of the requirements, and hence for other than tiptop ones the demand was poor. The highest and lowest prices realized at public sales were as follows: Yearling rams—Leicesters, from £12 10s. to £4 10s.; Cotswolds, £23 2s. to £3 8s.; Lincoln, £54 12s. to £22 12s. 6d.; Oxford Downs, £178 to £3 3s.; Shropshires, £420 to £3 8s.; Southdowns, £40 19s. to £3 3s.; Hampshire Downs, £37 16s. to £4 10s.; Suffolks, £36 15s. to £4 4s.; Wensleydales, £25 to £3; Border Leicesters, £122; Dorset Horns, £17 17s. to £3 13s. 6d.; Kent or Romney Marsh, £43 1s. to £3; Devon Longwoods, £22 1s.; Black-faced Mountain, from £100.

The top prices made for ram lambs were as

follows: Leicesters, £6 10s.; Cotswolds, £12 12s.; Lincoln, £3 2s. 6d.; Oxford Downs, £42; Shropshires, £189; Hampshire Downs: letting for the season, £105; selling, £92 8s.; Suffolks, £63; Southdowns, £22 1s.; Dorset Horns, £13 13s.; Wensleydales, £15.

The top prices for yearling ewes were: Leicesters, £3 11s.; Cotswolds, £2 10s.; Lincoln, £6 6s.; Oxford Downs, £4 13s.; Shropshires, £26 5s.; Southdowns, £6 1s.; Hampshire Downs, £8 5s.; Suffolks, £8; Wensleydales, £4 10s.; Border Leicesters ewes, £15 4s. 6d.; shearling ewes, £8 8s.; Dorset Horn, £5 5s. Shropshire ewe lambs made from £21, and Suffolk ewe lambs made from £5 2s. 6d.

Profit in Pork Production.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

I have just marketed my second batch of hogs. I had a very good idea what my first lot cost me, and the results seemed so satisfactory that I determined to keep a strict account of the feed consumed by my next. Thinking the results may be of interest to "Advocate" readers, I send them herewith:

My sow is a Berkshire and Chester White cross, of rather a thick type. She was bred to a pure-bred Yorkshire, and produced ten fine, healthy pigs. I had no roots last winter, so I fed her 1 pt. oat chop mixed in half pail steamed clover chaff three times per day. This kept her in excellent condition, at a cost of \$1.50 for the four months she was carrying her young, which were farrowed on April 12th. During the six weeks she was suckling the pigs she got 1½ gallons scalded oat chop three times per day. After the pigs were three weeks old they had access to a small trough containing sweet milk, to which, after a few days, I gradually added a little scalded shorts, so that by the time they were weaned they were feeling well. After weaning they got mixed barley and oat chop, scalded with a very little buttermilk, and all the green clover they would eat. After haying they got green peas in place of clover. When they weighed about 100 lbs. each I tried feeding the meal dry and giving them drink separately, and found it very satisfactory. They were then getting a mixture of about three parts barley and two parts sprouted wheat, and during the last six weeks they got all the mangels they would eat as well. When sold, on Nov. 4th, they averaged 194 pounds, and brought me a net profit of \$6.09 per pig. The following is a detailed statement of the food consumed, etc.:

Service fee	\$ 1 00
Food of sow	1 50
Cost at birth	\$ 2 50
Six weeks' feed of sow	6 00
Cost when weaned	\$ 8 50
110 lbs. shorts	1 00
800 lbs. chop	8 00
Clover	1 00
Green peas	2 00
Cost of first ten cwt	\$ 20 50
2,750 lbs. chop	27 50
Chopping	1 50
70 bushels mangolds, at 5c	3 50
Total cost	\$ 53 00
To 1,940 lbs. live weight, at \$5.87½ per cwt	\$113 97
Total cost	53 00
Net gain	\$ 60 97
Cost per cwt	\$ 2 73½

Grey Co., Ont.

WM. WRENSHALL.

Address Label Important.

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Commended to the People.

Dear Sir,—Allow me to offer my congratulations on the superior number of your Journal which you present to your readers for the Christmas of 1901. I have no hesitation in saying that it is a decided improvement on anything you have given us hitherto. It contains a variety of matter, both artistic and literary, which will be of great interest to your many readers. Such enterprise deserves recognition by all of our people, and I heartily wish you additional prosperity for the new year upon which you are entering.

Yours very truly,

JNO. DRYDEN,

Minister of Agriculture.

Toronto, Dec. 28th, 1901.

Self Feeder for Pigs.

In reply to the inquiry how to make the feeders mentioned in my article on the care of fall pigs, which appeared in the Nov. 1st issue of the "Advocate," I will endeavor, as briefly as possible, to describe how my feeders are made. My first one was nothing but a dry-goods box with an extra bottom put in, slanting so that the feed would run to one side when the supply became nearly exhausted. I also removed a board in the side at the bottom, in front of which I built a trough of hard maple, the length of the box. I then covered the opening in the side of the box with a hard maple board, which I made to slide up and down in a groove. I then fastened securely in front, and behind this board, two pieces, also of maple, at each end in which I put a row of gimlet holes, quartering across the pieces so there would be no danger of their splitting one into the other. These holes should not be more than a quarter to a half inch higher than the one below. I then put two holes in each end of the long board and cut out the space between, making a slot running lengthways of the board and of the same width as the size of the holes in the upright pieces. I then inserted into one of these holes, and through the slot, a five or six inch wire nail to hold the board at proper height to make the right opening. Any farmer will understand that if this opening should be too wide the pigs would work out more feed than they would eat, thus causing a waste of feed; also, that chop would require a wider crack than fine middlings. This feeder I used for some time, and it did splendidly for a test, but the box was not strong enough, so I built one in my feed alley where the pigs could get at nothing but the trough. I am using this one yet, but later I converted the partition between two pens into a feed box, with a trough at each side, to which I added a strip of iron about four inches wide on the outside of the board that regulates the feed supply. It is an advantage to bevel the bottom of this board, taking off the side next the chop for a distance of two or three inches up from the bottom, and the iron on the outside will keep the pigs from gnawing off the thin edge and thus making the opening too large. In this double-trough box the center of the bottom is raised to a sufficient height to let the feed slide each way to the troughs. The box may be made any width desirable. I have left a space three feet wide behind my feeder for a gate between the pens. Sometimes pigs seem to eat too much. For the first day or two, each of the board, I shut out the nails at each end of the board, and pull it off when I think they are eating too much; but they soon get used to it, and the board can be left up all the time.

By putting the feeder at the along the feed alley the pens, it leaves the front along the feed alley clear for the drinking trough, which should seldom, if ever, be dry. My feeders are made of maple flooring, all matched tight. Sometimes chop will not work down readily, especially if ground coarse. To overcome this difficulty, I took several pieces of wire a couple of feet long; the exact length does not matter. At one end I bent the wire so as to form an eye or lobe small enough to prevent the head of a nail or screw from passing through; then again near the middle of the wire I give it an easy bend with the hands, bringing both ends nearly together. I then fasten these wires on the slanting bottom of the feeder by putting a nail or screw through the eye which I have bent in one end of the wire, allowing the middle or round end of the wire to project through the crack and into the trough just far enough to allow the pigs to work them back and forth with their noses. In order to prevent their being rooted too far to one side, I drive a nail on each side, allowing the wire to be shoved about four or five inches. The working of the wires will work the feed through a much smaller crack than would otherwise be possible.

I use elevated nests in part of my pens, and with but few exceptions the pigs keep them dry and clean. I have room overhead for a couple of loads of straw, and over each nest I made a chute or box, which runs to the roof, with an opening on one side at the top. This allows me to mow the straw in tightly without danger of filling up the holes. I also use a part of the overhead space for soft corn which is not fit to crib. My pen is warm enough to keep out frost in any ordinary weather. My walls are made of 2x6 studs, sealed inside and sided outside with matched siding, the six-inch space being filled with sawdust well mixed with dry, air-slacked lime. I do not remember the proportion, but will say this, that the greater the percentage of lime, the less danger there will be of rats and mice making their home in it. I have seen many better pens than mine, but I have yet to see any man with a cleaner, more contented lot of pigs than mine, and they do not squeal themselves hoarse nor attempt to tear the pen down when I go in to look at them.

J. I.

Norfolk Co., Ont.