

My theory is that farmers should fatten in the summer for profit, although many do so in the winter for convenience. Many farmers even now do not commence to force their hogs till some time in November, and thus do nearly all their feeding in cold weather, and often in cold pens. My plan is to feed as well as I can all the time. If short of food I take peas from the field as soon as they are filled, and corn in the milk c. in the roasting ear stage. I cannot see that either peas or corn gather nutrition during the hardening process, which is only a provision of nature for maturing and preserving the seed.

Meaford, Ont.

TIMOTHY HAY.

We have no data to enable us to answer the above questions accurately. The quantity of food required to produce a pound of meat continually increases the further we recede from the birth period, so that the amount of peas required to produce a pound of pork at 3 months is less than that required at six months. A series of actual tests alone could furnish a sufficient answer. There can be no doubt, in view of the above enunciation, that it is cheaper to rush the pigs on to an early maturity and market when from six to twelve months old. Winter fattening always requires more feed than fattening in summer or early autumn, unless the pigs are kept warm. To enable one to do this, they must be kept confined, which with high feeding engenders various ailments that give much trouble, and lead, oftentimes, to serious loss.

### West Simcoe at New Lowell.

The West Simcoe Farmers' Institute made an excursion to New Lowell on the 22d June. The visit was of the picnic order, and the great attraction of the day was the extensive buildings of the Messrs. Hay & Paton, of New Lowell, and their magnificent herd of Aberdeen Angus Polls now numbering sixty-five head. The attendance was very large, and save for the extreme heat, it must have proved a very enjoyable visit to those who came.

It was a deserved tribute to the enterprise of the Messrs. Hay & Paton that the people of a whole riding came at one and the same occasion to learn lessons from the work they are doing in relation to the advancement of the great live-stock interest of the Province. There were also large numbers of visitors from outside the county, including several leading stockmen of Ontario.

A visit was first made to the new buildings situated not very far from the village. These are placed in the form of a rectangle, enclosing an open court. Viewed in the distance, with their painted walls and metallic roofs, and the gigantic twenty-two foot windmill towering above all with open arms courting every breeze, they present a very attractive appearance, which becomes the more imposing as they are approached. Their dimensions are accurately given in the January number of the JOURNAL on the first page, along with a general description. To give an idea of their enormous dimensions to those who may not have read that description, we may repeat here that the sides of the square are 215 feet, extensions making the east side 300 feet. The walls are twenty five feet in height, and they afford ample accommodation for twenty horses, too head of cattle and 150 pigs, with root houses, implement house, and an admirable system of water supply which brings the water into the feed boxes as required. The windmill furnished by the Ontario Pump Co., Toronto, chaffs the feed, pulps the roots and pumps the water. Mr. Paton informed us that oftentimes a ton of hay could be cut in one hour by the use of a cutting box of Maxwell's make, and that the grinding could readily be done, if desired, by the same, but the ownership of a grist mill in the village obviates the necessity. The cut feed when

mixed is conveyed along a wide passage to the cattle, in a hand dray with a third wheel, which is pivotal and may readily be turned anyway. Some barns in Ontario have been built where the expenditure of money has been most lavish, to little purpose, but in the buildings we are now describing, a sharp eye has been kept to utility in the planning of everything.

In the implement house we noticed the Corbin disc harrow and a double-mould-board plough with marker attached, made in Markham, Ont., both of which Mr. Paton regards as indispensable on a large farm.

But the feature at the farm was the beautiful herd of "doddies" in charge of the very competent manager, Mr. J. G. Davidson, whose name is inseparably associated with the triumphs of his favorite blackskins at Candian shows, and with the triumphant sale of them which he recently conducted for M. Boyd & Co., of Bobcaygeon, at Chicago. This year again they are to go to Toronto and Kingston, and even to Halifax, sixteen animals being under way, in course of preparation for the coming contests. Emma of K. P., the unbeaten female, and Wanton, nearly but not quite her equal, are both included in the lot, and also Flower of Knockiemill, the mother of nine animals, nearly all of which are show cattle. The grand stock bull Chivalry is in the finest of trim. There are also two bull calves, one Bogvie of K. P., 5½ months, with the most perfect Angus characteristics, weighs 800 lbs., a gain of between four and five pounds a day including weight at birth. What a pity Mr. Davidson does not bring out some of his favorites at the National Fat Stock Shows.

Mr. C. Lawrence, the President of the Institute, presided during the speaking, which was done by the Hon. C. Drury, Minister of Agriculture, Prof. Brown, of the O. A. C., Mr. T. Shaw, of Hamilton, and others. The membership of the Institute was largely increased.

### Some Hints to Judges of Live-Stock at 1888 Exhibitions.

BY WM. BROWN, PROF. AGRICULTURE AT ONT. AGR. COLLEGE, GUELPH.

It is no presumption on my part to ask the Province to accept of these notes in preparation for what is already known will be an unusually lively competition among live-stock at our principal Exhibitions this year. Credit the position and not the man for any apparent assumption. The subject proper should be called, "Some Things Either Improperly Valued or Entirely Overlooked in Judging Live-Stock."

1. Ask for pedigree oftener than has been the practice. It checks age and shows your wider interest.
2. It is well to walk males round the ring frequently, to test the important points of carriage, temper, and perhaps helps to detect unsoundness.
3. We should not forget "temper" in males, particularly because it is transmissible.
4. Place high value on *quality* for everything; have quality whatever else may be; gentlemen, remember quality.
5. In males allow for masculine character without coarseness, and in females for fineness without delicacy.
6. Do not neglect size and weight according to age.
7. It is well to be cautious of influence by high condition in breeding stock, though more allowable in some classes than in others.
8. We are apt to be carried away by *width* of chest as against proper corresponding *depth*, particularly in cows of some classes.
9. I think too much stress is often placed on "top" and "under line," especially in Dairy breeds, where large paunch and some irregular outline, both in male and female, are points of merit.
10. Judge the bull, when required, as much as the cow for milk.
11. We do not sufficiently allow for the character of skin as evidence of milking properties.
12. Make no scruples in discouraging a purposely overburdened udder; remember you are appointed as teachers.

13. The coat of hair, or of wool, is generally undervalued, especially in males. It is good evidence of character and constitution.

14. Discourage a wedgy muzzle and narrow nostrils anywhere.

15. Keep a sharp eye on indications of disease, and call in the service of the official veterinary even when symptoms may be too far off for him.

16. Neat, well balanced horns are desirable but not essential.

17. When judging milch cows do not be concerned about the new name "nervous development" given to the old "wedge shape," for with a few exceptional points it means the same thing.

18. We do not handle sheep sufficiently for frame, wool quality, and skin color.

19. There are too many ewe-headed rams in the country, therefore encourage the bold head as the most valuable stock-getter.

20. While color of individual animals, where color is *not* a part of the standard of a breed, is a matter of comparative indifference in judging, I think we should attach some importance to the uniform coloring of any "herd," and of a "bull and so many of his get."

21. The exact marking of those breeds, that profess such, should be cautiously balanced with other things, and not overvalued.

22. There should be public understanding on the question of what constitutes a typical animal of each class, or we find most of the admirers of, say, any beefing breed invariably preferring all the possible fullness of frame which is *not characteristic* of the *average* of the kind. Hence much of our judging is upon a theoretical or fancied model. For example, if the crops of the Durham, if the thighs of the Hereford, and if the rumps of the Aberdeen Poll be prominent defects with the majority of each, why not admit the facts and allow judges to act accordingly?

23. I think we are not yet just ready to judge by points on paper.

24. If you are asked to act on "The best of any class," or on "Sweepstakes," do not do so unless equally well up in them all. Your reputation is worth a great deal.

25. If any breed claims the "General purpose" it is desirable to make very exact valuation of "properties" for public guidance.

26. If asked by the Directors to give your reasons publicly for your decisions, take pleasure in doing so, the honor is greater to you; better make some enemies than retard national progress.

27. You will no doubt observe that all judging is still unfinished as a complete guide to any one desiring to purchase an animal, because "record," and "performance," and "pedigree" are not yet a part of the system. The world moves slowly in some practical directions.

### Quebec Quarantine.

(From our own correspondent.)

The arrivals at Quarantine, at Levis, South Quebec, have been small compared with those of former years. The first lot of the season were 46 Galloways sent by the breeders, Messrs. Gillespie & Munn, from their farm in Lincolnshire, England. They are of all ages. Eight or ten breeding cows with calves at foot, some six young heifers with first calves, two bulls, 2 and 3 years old, some 4 yearling bulls and the balance young heifers. They have been thinly kept, and after rather a rough passage arrived looking poor, but since then are improving.

Perhaps the best animal among the cows is Gay Countess, an animal of good breeding and some merit. Some of the three-year-old heifers are not far behind her in point of quality, but the majority of the herd will require some good grazing to put them in condition to please the eye. They are destined for some point in the Western States, probably Colorado, where the Galloways have won themselves a good name for hardiness and splendid rustling qualities, and where they are much esteemed for their marbled beef.

Mr. John Hope has here seven head of selected Shorthorns for Bow Park. They are said to be of very superior merit, but suffered a good deal in the passage over. There are three show heifers, one young bull, one heifer calf, and one bull calf with a suckling dam. No doubt they will be all seen and admired at our fall shows this year.

Messrs. Merrill & Fifield, of Bay City, Michigan, have three young Hereford heifers, one, two, and three years old. They were sent out by Mr. Britten, of Elsdon, Herefordshire, England, in charge of Mr.