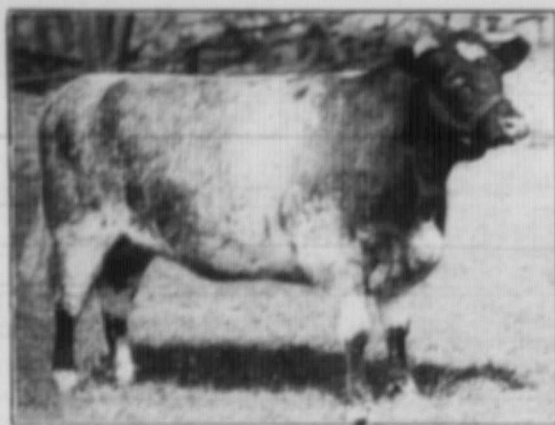


Founding a Pure-bred Herd



The Grand Champion Shorthorn Heifer, "Rosa Hope," Owned and exhibited by J. J. Elliot, Guelph, Ont. This Heifer possesses an ideal Shorthorn head, straight lines and smoothness.—An excellent type.

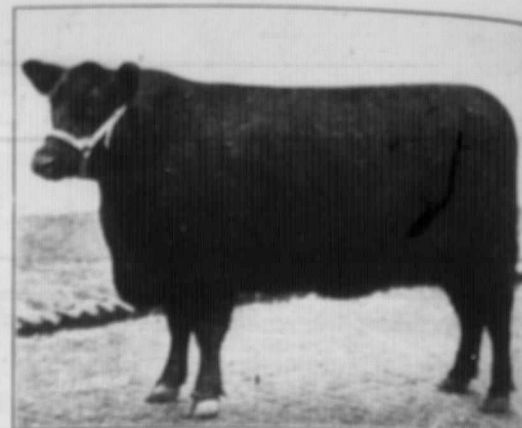
Suggestions for the Beginner— By Wade Toole, Professor of Animal Husbandry, O.A.C.

their purchase under such conditions and the breeder reaps the benefit. Soon the whole district becomes noted for its good stock of a certain selected breed. Be sure, however, that the breed chosen is the best suited to your climatic, local and other conditions. No man should go into livestock breeding unless he likes the business.

Establishing the Herd

We have the man. We have the breed. How should he begin the breeding up of a high-class pure-bred herd? A great deal depends, of course, upon the money he has at his disposal with which to

success but no sire can be expected to do himself justice unless he has mated to him females of the desired kind. Buy the best in individuality and breeding. Look well to the pedigree. See that the animal is of a family which is noted for type and breed quality. Like tends to produce like. There is less danger of losses through atavism and reversion to former undesirable types where the females used are of well-established families noted for the choice stock they have produced generation after generation and going back for many years. Be sure of the blood bought. The pedigree will reveal its quality. If the

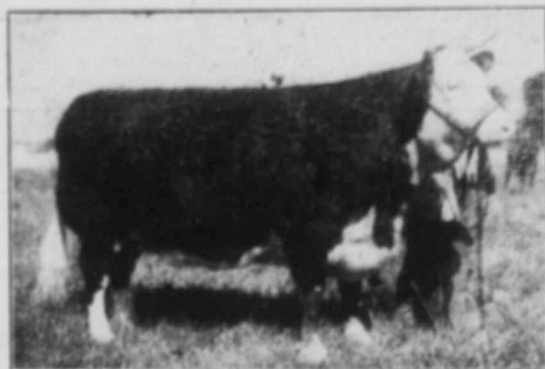


"Hildale Pride," the Grand Champion Aberdeen Angus Female at the 1916 and 1917 International. Where can you fault her?

THE ambitious stockman always works hard, either with his head or his hands, generally with both to improve his herds and thereby strengthen his own position. By far the largest percentage of successful breeders of pure-bred stock get their start with grades and after judiciously using pure-bred sires for a number of years and noting the gradual but steady improvement therefrom decide to purchase a few pure-breds of their chosen breed. The use of pure-bred sires is generally the first step and then comes the gradual replacing of the grade females with those of pure breeding.

As intimated in the foregoing paragraph, it is generally advisable for the man who is in the livestock business to make a living as well as to benefit his fellowmen, to grow up with his business. The rich man who farms for fun, or as a playful pastime is in a position to start with pure-breds because he has the capital to purchase good stock and the money to hire men of experience to manage his herds for him. The average farmer is not so favorably situated. He must make a living from his land as he goes along and must learn the livestock business at his own expense, having no other big business to fall back upon for funds. He must be careful to avoid costly mistakes. And so it is that we recommend that the beginner start with good grades and learn the business as his herd improves in quality and increases in size. Usually a great deal may be learned at much less risk with grades than with pure-breds in the beginning, but as soon as the stockman feels competent to handle the higher-priced stock, then, of course, he should begin to make the change from grades to pure-breds, always paying more attention to quality than to numbers.

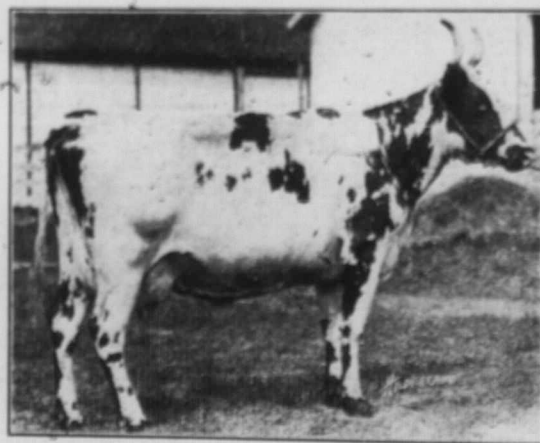
Perhaps it would not be out of place to say a word regarding the breed to be selected. We hear a good deal at the present time about "community breeding" as it is called. It is generally good practice to choose the breed which is most popular in the district and endeavor to get all neighboring breeders interested in the one breed which should be the one best adapted for that district. Large buyers of stock like to be able to purchase uniform individuals in car lots. They pay a premium for



First Prize Hereford Cow at Illinois State Fair. Owned by Warren McCray, Kentland, Ind. Note Depth, Thickness and Character.

purchase his foundation stock, but it is never wise to buy an inferior individual because it requires little money. The purchase will always prove very costly in the end. The old adage "the best is always the cheapest" holds true to the letter in livestock breeding work. If I had money enough to buy three plain, rather inferior females, or one first-class individual I would take the one rather than the three. This is of first importance in laying the foundation for a herd. As a general thing the foundation females are selected before the sire, and rightly so. In some instances it is possible to secure the services of a high-class sire in the neighborhood and thus the beginner is relieved of the necessity of laying out considerable money necessary in the purchase of such a sire. However, if some neighbor has not the

ing with cheap stock of the wrong type and leading straight to failure and despair. With a good pedigree be sure to get individuality. One is not good enough



"Barron Moss Lady Primrose 2nd," Grand Champion aged Ayrshire Cow. Owned by E. Ness. An excellent representative of the breed.

right type of sire in his herd and available for use, the young breeder would be wise to plan to purchase one rather than take chances with good females mated to a sire of questionable value. Generally, the female foundation is secured first, and as previously stated, greater success generally follows the purchase of a few choice individuals rather than of a larger number of commoner quality. Buy breeding females of the right type, conformation, character and quality. Do not leave it all to the sire. Prepotency in the male is essential to

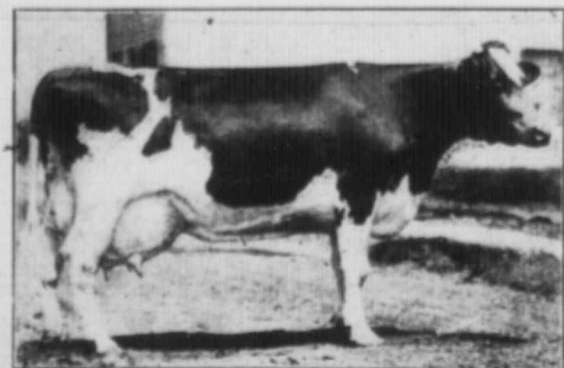
without the other when it comes to the purchase of breeding stock and most particularly when that stock is the foundation of the future herd. Pedigree without type, conformation and quality is not enough and good type and quality are insufficient unless the pedigree is right.

What age should the foundation females be? A great deal depends upon circumstances. Sometimes it is possible to pick up very reasonably some older females which have been tried and proven, and provided they are well on toward dropping progeny or have such at foot, a start may often be made

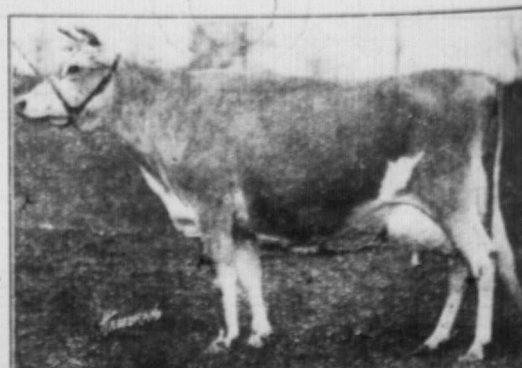
with such to good advantage. However, as a general thing the younger breeding female offers more chances for success. Buying very young females even though they are of high quality contains a larger element of chance. No one can tell how a calf, colt, sucking pig or nursing lamb is going to eventually turn out. There is many a slip between the promising calf and the mature cow. The beginner should, in so far as possible, play safe. To do this females fairly well matured and well on in their first period of conception or with progeny at foot, are desirable. We prefer to buy fairly young animals as they should have a life of usefulness ahead of them which the old matron cannot offer. However, it is, as previously stated, often possible to pick up choice breeders which are being turned off before their period of usefulness is over and thus do a good service not only to the buyer himself but to the country at large. Choice breeding stock should not go to the butcher as long as it will breed successfully. There is still too large a percentage of scrubs in this country and too few of the top-notch order to allow of any carelessness in this regard. It is advisable then to buy only the best and preferably young breeding females just reaching maturity. A heifer carrying her first or second calf or with calf at foot should be a safer proposition than a calf or a very old cow. A filly, two to four years old, will have more years of usefulness ahead than an old mare and the expense and dangers in raising to the point of usefulness have been borne by the seller. Yearling ewes are safer to buy than old ewes. And young sows carrying their first litters or ready to breed are generally preferable to sucking pigs or old sows. The point is to purchase stock which has reached a fair degree of maturity so that the buyer is sure of the breed, type, quality, etc., and at the same time secure young stock with years of usefulness ahead.

In choosing the family or families of the breed it is wise to spend a little time. The beginner must be certain that he gets stock of the best families of the breed. It is sometimes good practice to select animals of only one family, or at most, two or three families.

Continued on Page 20



"Woodcrest Dora De Kol." This Holstein Cow combines type and production; almost perfect in form. In seven days she produced 648.4 pounds milk; 35.89 pounds of butter.



"Oxford Briar Flower." Sold for \$10,000, the highest price for a Jersey Cow in history. Quality, strength and dairy type are the outstanding features of this cow.

ONE of the most important factors in the construction after by Brougham After the Peace the author of a new with the practice science and shown volume his mastery of political economy conditions of human transformation of Britain. Old things new things are coming. Gone is the steadfast. Nearly every individual were, plucked up by in another spot. which he had found abiding home and demolished in the fabric of society. in a strange place, and unaccustomed to This revolution has inevitably been revolution in ideas. prospect and outlook a fresh start. "The instinct of the British of use and wont, a nation over so many past, is now faced cannot conceivably be servative lines. One is already accomplished the old dependence labeled has been broken, therefore, of re is thrust upon us wh The destructive side been carried out by constructive revolution of peace."

The Peril of

Britain is in real violence. It is little obsession of the war, horror, involving the participants therein, or grief of their relation well as the fate of should have interference realization of the late country itself when declared and the ex itself to restore an industry and life. W tion plants are closed labor forces cease to a huge wave of women industrial life is check when millions of men and Mesopotamia, East Africa, from all the war upon the sea, idle and destitute the streets, then, under tion, anything is possible. Besides, a large suffering populace, trained to arms, taken violently, leadership, of fighting



The Industrial Reconstruction invol