

a male or female has any peculiarity it is likely to appear in their progeny, and if they are crossed with others having the same marked character, it tends to become more certainly fixed, and this persevered in for generation after generation develops into an ineradicable type. We have in the Ayrshires a breed which has thus been converted into one which yields a large quantity of milk of fair quality. Herds of fifty or sixty cows will average 600 gallons (and over) per annum, and showing some $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 per cent. of butter fats. This milk is particularly suitable for cheese-making, as the butter globules in the milk are of small size, rise slowly into cream, and thus make a more even rich curd. It is also suitable for butter-making, and large districts in the country are devoted to this industry; but it is not so good for this purpose as the Jersey or Guernsey. Now, what I wish to point out is, that we might develop a strain as good for butter as these if we follow on the same lines. The climate and food have nowadays very little to do with the matter, as we can control or modify these to a very large extent. The point is, that the glands and whole system of a Jersey have been developed to produce milk with large cream globules by selecting the "creamiest" cows to breed from for many generations back, and we might do the same with Ayrshires. Channel Islands cattle show five and six per cent. of fats in their milk, and no one can say that they have reached their "structural limit" yet, while our Ayrshires are very far from it. In the same way we might have another strain of Ayrshires which would give a larger quantity of milk of the present quality for cheese. If every farmer who breeds would carefully weed out all animals from his herd whose milk fell below a certain standard and rear the progeny of the best milkers only, we would very soon raise the value of the Ayrshire cow for both cheese and butter. The Ayrshire shows have hitherto given most attention to the "points" of the animal, irrespective of milking qualities, but Mr. Howatson's offer is a step in the right direction, though I would much like to see it expanded into a test of quality as well.

OUR ENGLISH LETTER.

From our Special Correspondent.

To the Editor of THE CANADIAN BREEDER.

LIVERPOOL, APRIL 16th.

The arrivals of American and Canadian live stock at this port since Friday last aggregate 1943 cattle and 500 sheep, a quantity altogether in excess of the demand. Business at the Lairage has been exceptionally slow, and lower prices current for all classes. Had it not been for the strong London inquiry, values would have been much lower, but it so happened that at Deptford the supply of American cattle has been short for the last two or three weeks, and a fair share of our surplus went south to make up the deficiency. At Woodside and Wallasey to-day (Thursday) current quotations for beef show a decline of fully one cent per lb. from last week's rates, not more than 12 to 12½c. per lb. being made for best U. S. bodies, and a fraction less for Canadians, (via. Portland.) Three cargoes are due by Saturday, viz.: *Thanemore*, *Norseman*, and *Ontario*, the latter being from Halifax, and cattle will be free for the open market. At present writing values in the open market are actually below those current at our foreign wharf, and there is but small prospect of any improvement. Not only is this the state of affairs in our fat markets, but it is equally bad in the store business as well, which in addition to the chronic sluggishness, is suffering from drooping prices.

The revocation of the Privy Council orders closing the principal German ports, has led to several pointed queries being addressed to Mr. Trevelyan, in the House of Commons. The Hon. gentleman while candidly admitting that Germany was presently a centre of disease, declared that the stringent regulations enforced at the loading ports prevented any infected animals from coming here, and further as a matter of fact, we had never got a single diseased sheep among the whole 500,000 loaded from German ports in 1884.

The annual report of the Agricultural Department of the Privy Council contains a mass of information concerning cattle diseases. Dealing with pleuro-pneumonia the report bluntly says, "It is not probable that Great Britain will succeed in eradicating this disease so long as it exists in Ireland, from which we draw our chief supplies of store stock."

At a meeting of the Hereford Cattle Breeders' Association, held last week, it was agreed to organize an exhibition, divided into some half dozen classes, to be liberally endowed with prizes, and in connection with which there shall be an auction. This is likely to come off in September.

CLYDESDALE HORSE SOCIETY.

The usual monthly meeting of Council was held on 15th inst., Mr. Alex. Buchanan presided. The Editing Committee's report contained a recommendation regarding the rules for regulating entries in Volume VIII., which was discussed and ordered to be printed for the further consideration of the Council. It was to the effect that in cases where the progeny of unchallenged Clydesdale mares, but without pedigree, has been entered in the Stud-Book because foaled before 1877, the progeny of such mares foaled after 1st January, 1877, should be put on the same footing, provided that their sires were registered horses. The income of the society for March was £54 19s, and the expenditure £178 7s. 6½d, which includes the cost of printing and binding the second edition of the retrospective volume.

PERSONALS.

Mr. W. Moore, the Privy Council veterinary surgeon, late of Liverpool, has been removed to Newcastle-on-Tyne, and Mr. Smart, the veterinary surgeon for the Tyne, has been installed in the post for Liverpool to inspect the Atlantic cattle trade. Mr. Smart before leaving Newcastle was presented with a magnificent gold watch and chain and a beautifully got up address signed by the cattle salesmen of Coalpills, bearing testimony to his many social and scientific qualifications. Mr. J. W. T. Moore was allowed to leave Birkenhead without even a civil good bye. *Verb. Sap.*

By the way, I hear that Mr. May, who will act as colleague to Mr. Smart, is to have entire control over Canadian arrivals. This division of labor is a much needed reform, but our Dominion exporters would be better pleased if they had Smart, and their U. S. friends the other fellow.

The latest corn markets—Liverpool on Tuesday and London yesterday—show very great strength of tone, the war menace from St. Petersburg being regarded as serious. A 40s. level for wheat seems likely to prevail until this Afghan question is settled one way or the other. In case of war there would be a sharp advance, but even an amicable settlement is not considered as likely to send prices back to the low levels of Feb. and March.

Mr. W. Craig, who came across on the *Carthagenian* to Glasgow last week, tells me the cattle were landed in very good shape, considering their long journey on the cars to Halifax. Mr. C., I believe, goes back again next week, and will take with him the "bonnie English lass," he wooed and won last summer.

The Kennel.

A NEGLECTED INDUSTRY.

The cost of rearing a litter of puppies is comparatively small if a man has the proper kind of premises in which to keep them, and yet the number of men who breed dogs for profit in Canada is very small. Thoroughbred pups of any acknowledged breed will generally sell for at least twice or three times the sum it would cost to rear them, and yet it is difficult to buy a well-bred puppy in Canada for four or five times the cost of production. Dog fanciers claim that there is no money in their business, but the reason for this is twofold. In the first place, they usually ask such high prices for the produce of their kennels that the possession of a well-bred pup becomes a very costly luxury. In the second place, they are apt to try to rear their pups in the most overcrowded parts of our large cities, where the youngsters hardly get a breath of pure air or an hour's play on clean fresh sod once a week.

Anyone who goes into a dog fancier's backyard, shed, cellar, or whatever place he has set apart as a nursery for his puppies, can hardly have failed to notice the foulness of the locality. If he would like to know what chance the well-bred pups have in such a place, let him put his nose close to the reeking earth, and then judge how long he would live were he to inhale such smells from one week's end to another.

If any one would undertake the breeding of Mastiffs, Colleys, St. Bernards, Bull Terriers, Bull Dogs, Blood-hounds, Fox-hounds, on a reasonable scale, determined to sell thoroughbred dogs at reasonable prices, there can be no doubt that the demand would always be found fully equal to the supply, while useless curs would soon disappear from off the face of the earth.

TORONTO DOG SPORTS CLUB.

Dog races of this club, in connection with the Bench Show, will be held at the Horticultural Gardens, on Friday and Saturday, 15th and 16th May, as follows:—Friday, 15th May—1st, Terriers under 20 lbs.; 2nd, Pointers; 3rd, Field and Water Spaniels; 4th, Setters; 5th, Greyhounds; 6th, Foxhounds and Beagles. Saturday, 16th May—1st, Newfoundlands; 2nd, Setters; 3rd, Greyhounds; 4th, Field and Water Spaniels; 5th, Terriers over 20 lbs.; 6th, Consolation, to include non-winners from both days. First and second prizes will be given in each race. Entries will close on Saturday, 9th May. No charge will be made for entry. Entries can be made at the following places:—W. Clow, 60 Colborne street; J. Taylor, Dog and Duck; Cooper & Donnelly, Terrapin; W. Over, Bodega, and with the Sec.-Treas., G.W. Griffin 175 Seaton street.

INDIGESTION.

From the American Field.

A large proportion of the disturbances of the stomach and intestines relate to digestion. In every attack of indigestion the processes involved in the changes which the food under-