

LIVE STOCK.

Don't forget to salt the sheep and cattle.

Using grade sires does not denote progress.

The calves are not able to fight flies so well as the older stock. It will pay to provide some protection for the youngsters.

There is believed to be a large number of grade bulls in service in Ontario. Are you using one? If so, what do you expect of your herd ten years hence?

The recent showers were welcomed. The drouth in many counties was seriously affecting the pastures. The root crop will also be materially benefited.

The stock in the stable relish green feed, such as corn and roots. These feeds take the place of grass, which is not usually available for cutting at this season of the year.

We know of several herds of pigs, turned on grass in the spring, that have made splendid gains and have finished rapidly and economically when confined to the pen for the last few weeks previous to marketing. It is believed that it will pay every farmer to have a paddock seeded to rape, clover, etc., for his growing hogs.

The clause relating to live stock in the Order-in-Council, covering details of the increases in freight rates which comes into effect this month, reads as follows: "Increase 25 per cent. but not exceeding an increase of 7 cents per 100 pounds where rates are published per 100 pounds, or \$15 per standard car when rates are published per car."

According to an address given by E. G. Gordon, of the Co-operative Branch at the Representatives' Conference, recently held, the fixed charges in the stock yards market are: Unloading, \$1.00 per car; yardage, 6 cents for hogs and sheep, 10 cents for calves, and 25 cents for cattle; insurance, 10 cents per car; commission, single deck hogs and sheep, \$8.00; double deck, \$13.00; cattle, \$13.00. The charges for feed vary.

According to our English correspondent, Canada imported 463 pedigreed Shorthorns from Great Britain in the year June, 1917 to 1918. In the same time the United States secured 478 head, and the Argentine 580 head. All told some 1,875 animals left Britain on official export certificate issued by the Shorthorn Society. This number has only been exceeded once since the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain came into existence.

J. C. P. Hughes, a Middlesex County farmer, recently marketed six hogs, 5 months and 24 days old, which averaged 230 pounds. This is a good weight, and indicates that the pigs had been properly fed and cared for from the time they were weaned. The pigs were started on shorts and skim-milk and later they were fed a ration of equal parts barley and oats, besides a small amount of tankage. The last four or five weeks the ration was two-thirds barley to one-third oats. These pigs were neither over-fed nor under-fed at any time.

Grass Cattle Weighing Light.

Middlesex is one of the Counties of Ontario where a considerable area is under grass, and large numbers of cattle are fattened off the grass annually. These grass lands are owned by farmers and drovers. The latter rely on securing feeders in the spring to put on grass, or, if the opportunity presents itself, they may purchase in the fall and let the cattle out for the winter at so much per head. The farmer very often keeps a number of cows to raise feeders for his grass land. As a rule, good gains are made on the grass, and some cattle are placed on the market in July, while others are kept until on in October. Steers which have been well wintered go off grass in prime condition, as a rule, in July. This year the gains have been rather disappointing as it is reported that cattle weigh from fifty to one hundred pounds lighter than usual. S. McDougall, a prominent farmer and stockman, attributes this partially to the flies tormenting the stock, and to the cold weather of June which somewhat affected the pastures. He also contends that the stockers did not do as well as usual last winter, owing to the severity of the weather, and consequently did not go ahead as fast as usual when turned on grass.

Many drovers report that their stock is so much bothered by the flies that it is restless and more or less wild. It is not uncommon to see the animals race around the field, apparently in an endeavor to escape from their tormenters. If small trees are growing in the pasture the cattle rush madly under them in order to free their bodies of the flies. Trees not only furnish shade but also protection to the stock. While trees growing along fences tend to reduce the yield of cultivated crops growing in the immediate vicinity, they make up for that loss by the shade they afford the stock when the field is in pasture.

How the Wool Prices Are Determined.

The 720,000 pounds of wool, which Ontario sheep raisers shipped to Guelph, have been graded and sold. When seen last week, R. W. Wade, Chief of the Live Stock Branch and Secretary of the Ontario Sheep Breeders' Association, said that the cheques would soon be mailed and shippers would receive the balance due them on their clip. The prices received for the wool were as follows: Fine medium combing, 76½ cents; medium combing, 76¼ cents; medium clothing, 73½ cents; low medium combing, 73¼ cents; low combing, 67 cents; coarse, 60¼ cents; burry and seedy, 42 cents; cotts, 50 cents; dead, 50 cents; gray and black, 41 cents; tags, 16½ cents.

The selling charges will amount to approximately 3½ per cent., which will be taken from the above, and it will work out so the first six grades mentioned which



Mary and Her Little Lambs.

constitute the bulk of the wool will return the grower as follows: Fine medium combing, 74 cents; medium combing, 74 cents; medium clothing, 71 cents; low medium combing, 71 cents; low combing, 65 cents; coarse, 59 cents. The freight, of course, will have to be deducted and one dollar is being charged each shipper, which makes him a bona fide member of the Ontario Sheep Breeders' Association. It was this Association that took up the grading work in Ontario and utilized the assistance rendered by the Live Stock Branch, Ottawa. It is felt that all sheep raisers should take an interest in this organization and make it a live and strong association. When a grower has less than sixteen fleeces the charge made upon his statement will only be 50 cents. Anyone wishing to take stock in the Canadian Co-operative Wool Grower's Limited, may do so and have the amount deducted from the balance due him on his consignment. These are the items which will



A Typey Yorkshire Sow and Her Ten-day-old Litter.

appear on the statement received by the growers who shipped wool to Guelph, and if these statements and cheques are not in their hands by the time this appears, they probably will be very soon.

Last year 280,000 pounds of wool were graded and sold according to the co-operative scheme. The amount grew this year to 720,000 pounds, and if the system had not been well organized at Guelph, a greater delay would have occurred. Almost 30 per cent. of the sheep raisers in Ontario contributed this year, and the prices received will no doubt encourage them to support the Sheep Breeders' Association and the co-operative organization.

France has suffered a loss of 2,600,000 head of cattle since the outbreak of war, and the cattle which are left have lost in weight.—"Canadian Food Bulletin."

The Live-Stock Situation in England

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Never was an industry so flourishing as that of pedigree stock raising. Dairy Shorthorns are selling at public sales at an average of £200 apiece; Holsteins are averaging £300 each for high-class stock from recently imported parents; commercial Holsteins, i. e., pure yielders without any pretensions to show-ring honors, are worth £100 apiece; beef Shorthorns make all kinds of fancy prices, and the Argentine is still a big buyer, one exporter recently sending out thirty bulls upon which he must average £900 apiece, and one or two will sell at £2,000 each sure. Jerseys and Guernseys are doing a quiet yet select trade at remunerative prices, and Red Polls (a real dual-purpose breed) are making new friends chiefly on account of their reliable milk yields with fat of quality in it and not a lot of watery content. The Aberdeen-Angus jogs along quietly, and the Hereford keeps on shipping export stuff to South America, Australia, and South Africa. Brazil is asking for more and more beef cattle for foundation purposes.

There has been little doing in the sheep world it is true, but pigs have caught the high tide of success and floated out to remarkable prices. Commercial gilts to be used merely for raising porkers in our weekly markets have made £30 and £40 apiece. Pedigree gilts are worth £50, and sows make prices that would have delighted the heart of pedigree Shorthorn men before the war.

Wonderful as are the many breeds of pure-bred stock in England, we still have a tremendous lot of scrub cattle. As I write this in a train passing through Kent, a market is being held in a certain town. There are a hundred

beasts drawn up—store cattle for fattening, but nondescript, albeit principally Shorthorn-bred. One cow stands aloof from all the rest, by herself a solitary figure. She is a pure-bred dairy Shorthorn and nobody seems to want her, but there are crowds round the store cattle. Perhaps it is because she is "pedigree" that the farmers hold aloof. But it is not so in other countries. Farmers are increasing their interest in the Government's scheme of assisting the greater use of pure-bred sires of all kinds. They are buying more pedigreed dams than ever but the progress is not as fast as I should like to see it.

At Thornley Hall, Northampton, Britain's record sale of milking Shorthorns was recently held by John Thornton & Co. Some 56 head averaged £228 3s. apiece and gave a general aggregate of £12,776 8s. This is the breed's highest average so far, but the world's record for a milking Shorthorn was fetched when Sir Gilbert Greenall, Baronet, paid 2,000 guineas for Thornby Premier, a red roan, May 30, 1917, bull calf by Drusus, and out of Dolphinlee Primrose, one of the grandest dairy cows in Britain to-day. He has milk ancestry on both sides. Drusus, his sire, combined the Darlington-Red Rose and Wild Eyes strains, through Darlington Cranford 5th, and his dam, the great cow Dorothy. ALBION.

The Personal Element.

An important truth was recently voiced by Dean Curtiss, a prominent figure in the United States Shorthorn circles, when he said in

connection with the building up of high-class breeding herds that "the really great herds of live stock, of this and all other countries, have not only had good blood, superior individual merit, and skilful mating, but, more than all else, they have been the product of intelligent, painstaking managers and caretakers. These men get to know their charges better than anyone else. They get to know animals in an intimate way. They are usually good judges of stock. They know, by their long experience, what it takes to constitute a good show prospect, and they know equally well what is essential in a breeding animal of real merit. Knowledge of this kind, combined with ability to bring animals to their highest excellence is not easily attained. It does not come without application, experience and hard work. The man who possesses it in a high degree has a valuable asset."