

supply of phosphoric acid sufficient for say four years. Should you now apply this in the form of superphosphate? No, that would not be reasonable. The quantity of superphosphate required would be far too large; it would probably have an advantageous effect for the first year but would let the plants starve for want of phosphoric acid in the third and fourth years, for the plants would cause a great waste of phosphoric acid during the first year, and would surfeit themselves without yielding a correspondingly larger increase. You may, without hesitation, however, consign the phosphoric acid in the form of Albert's Thomas-Phosphate Powder. The plants will suffer no harm, and will not take up too much phosphoric acid during the first year; the Thomas-Phosphate Powder will supply the plants with phosphoric acid equally during the four years, and the cost of the manure will not be so great as that of superphosphate."—Dr. Paul Wagner, Ph.D., Director, Agricultural Station, Darmstadt, Germany.

J. S. Pearce & Co., London.—Our readers will be interested in the photo we give this week of J. S. Pearce & Co.'s exhibit at the Western Fair, London, last September, for which they were awarded a gold medal. This handsome exhibit contained samples of nearly five hundred different varieties of wheat, oats, corn, peas, beans, barley, millet, buckwheat, tares, tomatoes, beets, pumpkins, potatoes, squashes, melons, mangels, carrots, turnips, and other farm and garden seeds. Large as the number is, it is only a small proportion of the many varieties tested at their "Rosedale" trial grounds. Messrs. J. S. Pearce & Co. exercise great precaution in testing all new varieties, so that customers can rely upon the purity and superiority of their seeds. They have also introduced the last few years a number of grains and roots that have proved superior to all others grown in the province. We have made special arrangements with this leading seed firm to supply us with collections of garden seeds specially selected and adapted to farmers' gardens. These selections are made with great care, and specially chosen from varieties which we can confidently recommend to our patrons. Details of our special offer will appear next week. Messrs. J. S. Pearce & Co. will be pleased to send their valuable seed catalogue to any one desiring it.

Stock Notes

SPRING HORSE SHOW.—It has been decided to hold the Horse Show this spring in connection with a great military tournament the first week in May.

The 13th annual meeting of the American Holstein Friesian Association will be held at the Iroquois Hotel, Buffalo, N.Y., on the 16th of March, 1898. A number of important questions will come up for discussion. F. L. Houghton, secretary.

The Council of the Smithfield Club are to be commended for the promptness with which they have decided on and made public the prize lists for the next show. The prize list has been increased a little on account of the next show being a centenary show.

R. D. Reid & Co., Hintonburg, Ont., write: "Our herd of Ayrshire cattle are wintering well and sales have been extra good. Patrons of these factories and others wishing early bull calves to raise would do well to write us as we have five dropped in February, and a very nice lot, from deep milking cows and by such sires as Matchless, 7560, and Gold King, 1337, both sons of the famous old matron, Nellie Osborne, 2013, (Imp.). Our Shropshires and Tamworths are doing fine."

Holsteins are winning their way in various sections of the province. Mr. A. D. Foster of Eclipse Stock Farm, Halloway, Ont., has recently added to his herd five imported purebred Holstein-Friesian cattle from the herd of Henry Stevens & Son, Lacona, N.Y. Among them is the noted cow, Maggie Keyes, whose milk record as a three-year-old has never been beaten except by her dam and another. Mr. Foster thinks that the breeding of this heifer is not surpassed on the continent. Her dam and her sire's dam have the largest official better records yet made. His herd is headed by the milk and butter prince, Sir Pictet's Josephine Mechtild.

ISALITH GRANGE FARM, DANVILLE, QUE.—Mr. T. D. McCallum, manager of the farm, reports that the stock are doing exceedingly well in their new quarters. So far there has not been a single case of sickness, which speaks well for the new stables and the careful plan of feeding that is followed. The herd now consists of about 100 head of purebred Ayrshires, 40 Guernseys, 200 pure Shropshire sheep and 100 Yorkshire pigs. Matchless and the young stock after him are doing well, so is the stock after Derby of Danville. Mr. McCallum leaves in March for the old country. He intends to make a large importation of choice Ayrshire and Guernsey cattle, Shropshire sheep and Yorkshire swine from the best flocks and herds of the old land.

MANITOBA DAIRYMEN'S CONVENTION.—The 15th annual meeting of the dairymen of Manitoba was held last week in Winnipeg. There was a good attendance at the different sessions. Reports were received from various creameries, which, as a rule, showed a very successful state of affairs. In many cases the routes are far too long, forty-five miles out and back was not an uncommon length of route. At one cream-

ery it cost 2c. for every pound of butter to draw the cream. This will improve as the country settles up and more cows are kept. Among the dairymen the year has been a quiet but a prosperous one, and the outlook for the future was very bright. The total make of butter for the province during the season is placed at 2,397,464 lbs., and the total make of cheese is placed at 897,007 lbs. Butter makes a good showing, but cheese makes a better one. Mr. Macdonald's report showed that Manitoba butter and cheese makers had been very successful at the Winnipeg exhibition. He thought it would be better if their creamery packages were shipped in jute bags. This would protect the boxes during transit. The following officers were elected: President, W. M. Champion, Reburn; vice-president, D. W. McGuinn, Macdonald; and secretary, R. Waugh, Winnipeg; treasurer, Miss E. Cora Hind, Winnipeg.

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR SHROPSHIRE.—The American Shropshire Association have decided to offer special prizes at a number of the leading exhibitions during 1898. All animals competing must be American bred, owned at least ten days before showing and recorded in the American Shropshire Register. Any sheep having won an Association prize at any show will not be allowed to compete again, except at the Provincial Fat Stock Show, Madison Square Garden Show, Chicago Fat Stock Show and the Omaha Exposition. Out of a long list of prizes we select the following as of special interest to Canadian breeders. Two prizes will be offered at both Toronto and London, \$20 for best flock (one ram and three ewes) one year and over, and \$15 for best flock of lambs (one ram and three ewe lambs.) At Halifax, Montreal, Ottawa and Winnipeg exhibitions prizes of \$15 and \$10 will be offered for the old and young flocks in stead of \$20 and \$15.

At the Provincial Winter Show, which is to be held again in Toronto in 1898, \$50 is offered as a grand sweepstake premium of the show if won by a registered Shropshire sheep.

Best registered Shropshire wether, one year old and under two, 1st, \$10; 2nd, \$5.

Best registered Shropshire wether, under one year, 1st, \$10; 2nd, \$5.

Best three registered Shropshire wether lambs, 1st, \$10; 2nd, \$5.

Extra special premiums, best grade wether, one year old and under two, sired by a registered Shropshire ram, 1st, \$10; 2nd, \$5. Under one year, 1st, \$10; 2nd, \$5.

Good prizes will be given at the Chicago Fat Stock Show and in all over \$500 will be given in special prizes by the Association at the great Exposition that is to be held in Omaha this year. This Exposition promises to be something extra and our Canadian breeders of all kinds of stock should be well represented.

Amongst the breeders of pedigree stock in England few names stand higher than that of Mr. J. E. Casswell, of Laughton, Folkestone, Lincoln, England, no matter whether it be for horses, cattle, sheep, or poultry. The leading place is given, however, to Lincoln Longwool Sheep, because they have been the recipients of the closest attention from the foreign and export buyers. No wonder need be expressed at this view when it is known that the stock is one whose existence can be proved to have been in continual existence since some date anterior to 1736. It was at this date that the great grand sire of the present owner commenced the letting of rams for stud purposes, and with this he also commenced a record still in existence and which has been continued by his descendants until the present time. In 1817 the grandfather of Mr. J. E. Casswell commenced the plan of letting rams by auction, when the first ram let, not sold, realized the high price of \$450. This system was continued until 1867, resulting in the letting of an average number of about 120 rams each year. From this date the present day system has been in vogue, namely, selling by auction. This is an annual practice. In 1865, owing to the known excellence of the flock, the whole of the produce was sold at their home for export.

The one great feature of the flock is that its females have never been dispersed; no alien blood has been added to the flock except by specially and most carefully selected sires. The result of this systematic and careful way of breeding is fully exemplified when one has the privilege of annually inspecting the flock. The very thing that constitutes a stock is found here, namely, a likeness type and character of such matchlessness that when you have seen one lot of these you have seen the whole. The flock is justly noted for the grand and even quality of the fleece, and its specimens are all of such even type and character that they will satisfy the severest critic.

During the past four years, at the great annual sale at Lincoln, the flock has been represented on three occasions by an entry of twenty rams, namely, in 1895, 1897, and 1898 (1898 being the year when the rams were all sold at home for export), and on each occasion the highest average made by any flock entering twenty rams was secured. This is a successful flock, and one from which purchases can be made with every confidence that the result will be of a most satisfactory nature.

As with Lincoln sheep, so with Shire horses; the best of the best are needed for the stud that Mr. J. E. Casswell keeps. The stud horse is Hitchin Drayman 2nd, joint property of Mr. J. E. Casswell, Messrs. S. E. Dean & Sons, and Messrs. T. & R. Casswell; a grand typical horse, of great merit, being a grandson of Hitchin Conqueror, out of Hitchin Black Violet, a noted winning mare. A second stud horse is Laughton Duke, rising three, a grand young horse of great promise, by Stratton Tom, by Forthan's Honest Tom, out of Stanton mare.

The female section of the stud is also one of very great excellence, both in respect to pedigree and individual merit. Space, however, forbids mention being made of them in detail, but one must not omit that grand mare, noted alike for quality and substance, "Albernia," by Drayman, out of Flower Often Field by Honest Tom 1111. This grand mare was dam of Rocks Glory 2073, sold at Wainwright's sale in 1896 as a two-year-old for \$7,000.

The Shorthorns are also a typical collection of first class animals, and though, from time to time, extensive sales have been made, the herd has always been kept at a very high standard. Every attention is given both to the milking and to the meat producing qualities of this herd. Pampered and over-fed stock find no home at Laughton. Males selected from this herd can be relied upon for work as well as being those descended from cows of superior breeding. Canadian visiting this country could spend a day at Laughton with great profit, and secure much information that would be both of value and service to them.

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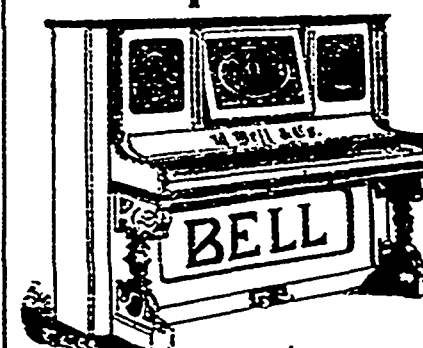
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