

do business with those in the Fair building, rather than follow to the city stables those who were compelled to put their horses outside. But there is still a more serious phase of the matter. It was openly charged by some of the smaller exhibitors that, though they were first in the building with their exhibits, they were compelled to get out to make room for the big breeders and importers. If such a charge be true, and the writer has little reason to doubt it, it will remain a standing disgrace to the Fair management, and will surely militate against the success of future exhibitions. Why not tell the farmer plainly that, while his presence is greatly desired at the Fair, he need not trouble about bringing any horses, but just come and behold the wonderful display that can be made by the horse nobility of Ontario.

There is just one other matter that I wish to refer to, and that is the difficulty encountered by exhibitors in having their stock shipped home after the Fair is over. Unfortunately, the weather was very cold during the week of the Fair, and stock taken out of warm quarters and put in cars was sure to suffer. One would expect that no time would be lost in sending them to their destinations, but we find that stock loaded before daylight was left standing at the junction until after midday, not reaching their destinations, about fifty miles from Guelph, until late in the evening, and with very disastrous results to their owners. To the writer's personal knowledge, one very valuable gelding has since died of pneumonia, brought on by a chill received on the car returning from the Fair (so said the V. S.). While this may be a matter over which the Fair management have no control, I think it is their duty to unite with exhibitors in entering a protest against such treatment by the railroads. Trusting that others will give their views on the Winter Fair, whether they agree with me, or not; I feel that it might be productive of good.

FARMER.

FROM THE MANAGEMENT'S VIEWPOINT.

The Secretary of the Exhibition, A. P. Westervelt, makes the following observations regarding the points raised by our correspondent:

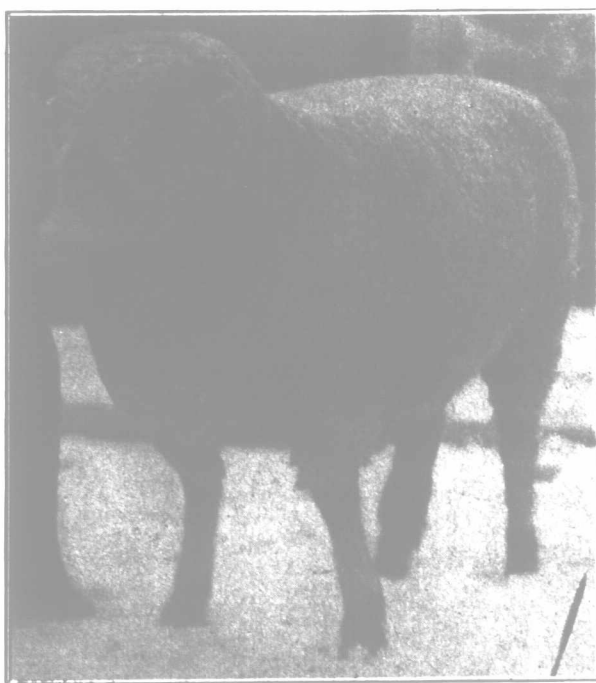
"The management of the Winter Fair are aware of the disadvantage of stabling the horses outside of the Winter Fair Building. Those who have had charge of locating the horses at the last two exhibits are, no doubt, better acquainted with the difficulties of the situation than anyone else. For the last exhibition, as it was not possible to secure the accommodation for stabling horses, it was decided to charge a stall fee for all horses stabled in the building. Accommodation outside was free. This is noted simply to show that it was quite realized by the management the reasonable anxiety of those exhibiting horses to procure accommodation in the building, and to, as far as possible, put the horses inside and out on a more equal footing. It will be readily understood that, from an exhibition standpoint, it was rather a difficult situation to meet. However, the inference made by the letter is not correct. There was absolutely no intention to favor the large exhibitors, to the disadvantage of the smaller exhibitor. Attention has been drawn to the fact that the exhibitors were unable to know at what time each class would come on, and the difficulty of getting the horses from the stable to the building. If a man were exhibiting one horse, this would only happen once, but if a man were exhibiting fifteen or twenty horses, it would create practically an impossible situation. This was the reason for the accommodation of the larger exhibitors being secured in the building. The smaller exhibitor could stable outside with a considerable less disadvantage than an exhibitor showing a large number of horses, and it was felt that this principle would appeal generally to the exhibitors. What I wish to point out particularly is that no favors were shown to the large exhibitors simply because they were large exhibitors, but that there appeared less disadvantage to smaller exhibitors stabling outside than in the case of the large exhibitors.

"During the last show, Lt.-Col. McEwen, who was placed in charge of stabling the horses, moved a resolution at the Executive meeting that the Executive meet immediately after the Exhibition, and meet with the city council of Guelph with the intention of discussing the question of more accommodation, the principal object in view being more accommodation for stabling the horses. This Executive meeting was held on the 23rd of December, and a meeting with the city council was also held on that date. The matter is still being considered, and we hope that some different arrangements may be made before another year. This is simply mentioned to show that the management of the exhibition realize the disadvantage of some of the horses being stabled outside, and the desire of the management to rectify it, if it is at all possible to secure the accommodation.

"With reference to the freight, a representative of the city council took note of all complaints made by all exhibitors, and inquired fully into them, and forwarded the reports to me. I have

also some information with reference to shipments which were sent directly to me. These, it is intended, should be taken up as soon as the Executive for 1911 is appointed. The Grand Trunk intend to make some extensive changes for the accommodation in Guelph, which has been very much limited heretofore, and it is expected that when this has been done, they will be able to handle shipments more expeditiously than heretofore.

"It is unnecessary to state that the management of the exhibition are anxious to secure as large a number of exhibitors as possible, whether they make a large display or a small exhibit, and, so far as it is possible to do it, every person may be assured of the same fair treatment. The management is quite well aware of the dissatisfaction caused by the lack of accommodation in stabling the horses, but an endeavor has been made to try to make the best of the difficult situation, and whether or not it has been successful, it is hoped that it will not be necessary to make the attempt again next year."



Champion Shropshire Wether of America.

Bred and exhibited by J. Lloyd-Jones, Burford, Ont. This wether as a yearling won \$85 at the International Exhibition, Chicago, and \$28 at Guelph, 1910, besides \$10 at local shows same year, a total of \$123, and sold for \$25 to the Harris Abattoir Co., Toronto.

Building a Pig House.

I am going to build a pig-house. Would like you to give me a plan. I am going to build it of stone, with a furnace to boil feed. On account of the slope of ground, I will have to build it long, about 50 x 25 feet. Want pigs to run out at one side. Would you advise stone, well-ventilated, with furnace, as good for pigs?

SUBSCRIBER.

We do not advise the use of stone walls for pigs, as they are usually damp and cold, but can be improved by strapping and boarding over inside, leaving an air space. A better style of wall is a stone or concrete foundation to about a foot above the ground; then 2 x 4-inch studding, double-boarded outside, with paper between, and single boards inside, matched. It is more important to keep swine dry and clean than to make special provision for warmth. Provide ventilation, but avoid drafts. A high ceiling or loft filled with straw, which absorbs moisture, is good, but the latter should be changed at least every year.

The feed cooker, if one is used, pipes and chimney, can be made to aid in equalizing temperature, and promoting a circulation of air. In some modern pens the admission of fresh air is secured by intake shafts about 4 x 6 inches, entering from the outside about a foot above ground and opening inside below the ceiling. Outlet shafts, 8 inches square, through roof, and equipped with a device for preventing a cold down draft, are used. Provide plenty of windows for light. The feed-room is usually placed at one end of building. Buildings are usually laid out with one row pens, and feed passage at side, or two rows, with a five-foot feed passage through center, large enough to accommodate six or eight pigs each, one compartment for feeding, the one in rear for sleeping, with planking as a sleeping place on the cement floors, which are most durable and sanitary. It is handy to have doors between pens, and from pens into feed alley, as well as those into yards. Most men prefer to figure out dimensions to suit their own ideas.

Recommends Moderate Feeding of Silage.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Like almost everything pertaining to feeding stock, the amount of silage to be fed depends upon several considerations, and also upon the condition of the silage. There is, I think, more difference in the quality of silage than there is in that of hay.

About 35 pounds silage and 30 to 35 pounds mangels, is my idea of what milking cows should have, when the silage is first-class. I had more corn than the silo would hold first time of filling, and I had the fillers come back again four weeks later, after the silage had settled. Although the stalks were as well taken care of as possible, put up in large stooks, drawn together with a rope, and bound with twine, and at filling time apparently in good condition, I did not consider that silage as good by fifty per cent. as that made from the first filling. It was cut at the same time, but the grains of corn came through the cows undigested and showed in the excrement, and, of course, the cow got no benefit from these valuable grains of corn, and it was putting that much more tax on her vital organs, besides the loss of the undigested grain. There was, no doubt, less benefit from the stalks, also, although the digestibility of the stalks did not show so plainly in the excrement.

When feeding this silage from the last filling, I thought it wise to feed only 20 to 25 pounds daily, and fed, as long as it lasted, 40 to 50 pounds daily of mangels to the cows that were fresh from one to three months. After this late-filled silage was fed, I fed more silage and less roots.

Again, when wanting a cow to do her best for a week's or month's test, say, or even when fresh or milking heavily, and not testing, I like to feed only from 20 to 25 pounds silage, and all the roots the cow can stand. Cows that have been used to roots can handle 50 to 60 pounds each daily; but, after 40 pounds roots daily, the increase should be slow. Silage, even at its best, is not as digestible as roots; they are nearly all digestible. An animal, to do well, must have variety, and feeding 55 to 60 pounds silage a day does not allow for that. For this and other reasons, I do not consider it wise to feed so much. But more A-1 silage (which means silage that is as digestible as it can be made) may be fed than of the lower grades.

I fed a cow for eighteen winters on silage, as well as some in summer, and when over 20 years old she would do better on silage than on grass, because she could not then nip the grass. So that the effect of silage on a cow's stomach may be dismissed as nil. There are not many cows fed half that length of time.

GEO. RICE.

Feeder Must Be Keen Observer.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Quite frequently we have been asked the question, "How much silage is it well to feed a cow per day?" In answer, I would say that much depends upon what the feeder is trying to accomplish, and also the quality of silage he is feeding. If the silage is well matured, rich, and for general feeding, 40 pounds, with hay and roots, will keep cattle thrifty and in no danger of any ill-effects. Cloyed appetite and scouring quite frequently is caused by corn being put into the silo too green, and sometimes by feeding mouldy silage. In the human race we find, even in some families, members who have stronger stomachs than others—some who can eat anything, while others are more delicate, and have to be more particular what they eat. Just so with the cattle, in every herd we find cows that will eat and digest more than others. There is no rule to go by as to what amount to feed; if a feeder expects to accomplish much, he must use good judgment and be a keen observer.

Oxford Co., Ont.

M. L. HALEY.

Among the rank and file of Shorthorn breeders there is settled conviction that something of a thoroughgoing nature should be done to encourage and assist the development of milking quality in the breed. Many with whom we have discussed the matter are of the opinion that the adoption of a system of officially-supervised yearly tests of milk and fat production, with publication of the names and records of individuals acquitting themselves reasonably well in a Record of Performance, printed as a sort of appendix to the herdbook, would best meet this need. Others think perhaps additional measures might be employed. Certainly, the question is one that should be grappled with at once in the interest of present and future welfare of the breed. If unanimity of opinion cannot be arrived at in the forthcoming annual meeting, why not appoint a carefully-selected committee to consider and report?