

appearance Herefords are characterized by a large rectangular and yet compact body, smoothness of outline, mildness of disposition and mien, and easy carriage. The commanding position held by Herefords in America as beef cattle, is indicated by their record at the late International Show at Chicago, where the reserve champion was a yearling Hereford, and in the carload competition, seven out of nine of the championships, by ages, went to Herefords and their grades.

Our Scottish Letter.

Many things have happened since I last wrote. The Royal Agricultural Society of England has got a new secretary in the person of Mr. Thomas McRow, who was its chief clerk from 1889 to 1903, and since that date secretary of the Royal Agricultural Hall Co. (Ltd.). The short list out of something like three hundred applicants consisted of Mr. McRow, Mr. Archibald MacNeillage, editor of the Scottish Farmer, Glasgow, and a Canadian gentleman named Mr. Spark. Mr. McRow had obvious advantages over the others, being on the spot, having had actual experience of the work, and being able to enter on his duties at once. He will make an excellent secretary, being an active, energetic man, between forty and fifty years of age, and possessed of a fine address. I dare say your readers know Mr. MacNeillage, and possibly also Mr. Spark, whom I do not know. Mr. McRow has an uphill job, but all the greater will be his credit if he succeeds in building up the sadly wrecked premier agricultural society. The new constitution has given a popularly-elected council, and the old regime of excessive expenditure and red-tape management has passed away. The Royal Council means business, and there are now good men in charge who have business heads.

We are having a change of Government these days, and it is curious to observe how little excitement this has caused or is causing. Certainly Great Britain is a well-governed country. In no other country in the world would a political upheaval be accompanied by so little stir and inconvenience to business. The only section of the community who are making a special noise are the agitators for an alteration of the Act of 1896—that is, those who want the free importation of Canadian store cattle. Very few farmers are taking any interest in the question, store cattle here being dirt-cheap. The whole agitation is being kept going by boards having axes of their own to grind, such as shipowners, harbor trusts and the Aberdeen, Dundee and Glasgow corporations, who think the free import would be useful to them because they have sunk a deal of capital in erecting wharfs and lairages. It is not known who is to be next President of the Board of Agriculture, but he is hardly likely to tackle the question in the existing Parliament, and a general election is expected in January or February. Sir Edward Strachey is thought not to be strong enough, and Mr. F. W. Channing is a bit of a doctrinaire. In any case, let us hope the new man will be worthy of the traditions of the past.

The new council of the R. A. S. C. has, after much perturbation, conceded by a sweeping majority, to the Aberdeen-Angus breeders the 1st-December calving date. The great majority of the A.-A. calves are dropped in December, and for many years the A.-A. year has begun as from 1st December. Mr. Thornton and some few others objected to making any exception in favor of one breed. But the council cannot afford to quarrel with any section of exhibitors, and they have certainly acted wisely in the present case. Other breeds will doubtless forthwith put in a claim for similar treatment. Mr. Thornton's point is that 1st December should be made the universal calving date for all breeds, and this is sound enough. But there is no reason why the one breed which does want the change should not get it. Aberdeen-Angus men are naturally jubilant this week.

THE FAT-STOCK SHOWS.

They have gained their point with the R. A. S. C., and their breed has once more furnished an Edinburgh and a London champion at the fat-stock shows. The fortunate owner is Colonel McInroy, C. B., the land of The Burn, Edgell, Forfarshire. He bred the winner, a heifer named Burn Bellona 35998, aged 2 years 10 months 3 weeks and 5 days (or 978 days), weighing 1,821 pounds. She was got by a bull named Ben Brackie 16290, and her dam was by the Mayor of Auchorachan 11071. There have been great Smithfield champions, but no one questioned the right of Burn Bellona to champion the Scottish National and the Smithfield of 1905. Females also championed the Galloways and the Highlanders at both events. The former had for their exponent Mr. David Brown's Esme of Stepford 17952, which at 2 years 11 months 2 weeks and 1 day (or 995 days), weighed 1,545 pounds. The champion of the Highlanders was Sir Wm. Ogilvy Dalgleish's dun heifer, Lass o' Gowrie, which at 1,235 days weighed 1,573 pounds. These three heifers were excellent representatives of

their breeds, and the Highlander was, perhaps, the best-finished specimen of her years seen there. The Shorthorn champion at Smithfield was also a female, viz., His Majesty the King's dark-roan heifer, Madeline, bred at the Royal Farms, Windsor, and a noted winner at the summer shows. She is rather prominent at the hooks. At 980 days she weighed 1,896 pounds. These figures give an excellent object lesson in the ripening qualities of the four breeds. The reserve champion of the Shorthorn breed was Captain Stirling's red ox, Confidence, aged 923 days, and weighing 1,988 pounds. The heaviest animal in the show was the fourth-prize winner in the same class—a big white ox from the Royal herd at Sandringham, and winner of first prize at Norwich. He was got by Carlyle 65226, and at 940 days weighed 2,181 pounds. The champion cross-bred was the produce of a Shorthorn sire and an A.-A. dam. He was much older than the two Shorthorns now referred to, and much lighter. His age was 992 days, and his weight 1,805 pounds. How these animals will cut up is a question of very considerable moment. There were very few fancy crosses. Out of 51 entered, only four or five were minus an avowed Shorthorn cross, and two of these had possibly the Shorthorn blood, because they were got by an A.-A. bull out of Irish horned cows, which have usually a good deal of Shorthorn blood in their veins. The most common cross is the produce of the Shorthorn sire and the black cow. Some very good specimens were got by the Angus bull out of a cross-bred cow—that is, with a double cross of the A.-A. blood—and some excellent cattle were got by the Shorthorn white bull out of the Galloway cow. There was one of the same blend the other way about—that is, got by the Galloway sire from the Shorthorn cow. This was a grey



Hereford, Two-year-old Steer.

Champion at Birmingham Fat-stock Show, 1905. Bred and exhibited by His Majesty the King, The Royal Farms, Windsor.

heifer, aged 917 days, and weighing 1,563 pounds. The most notable novel cross-bred was Danesfield Honey Bee, a black heifer which won the Junior Cup; that is, for the best animal in the show under two years old. Her sire was an A.-A. bull, out of a Dexter cow. She weighed 1,432 pounds at 651 days. She was a picture of symmetry and levelness of flesh. Another worth noting was a red steer got by a West Highland bull out of an A.-A. cow. He did not go on to London, having been sold at Edinburgh, where the butchers fancied him, although he did not succeed in getting into the prize-list. The most common cross among the small cattle was that from the A.-A. sire and the Dexter cow.

The most interesting part of the show was that of carcasses. The championship here was won by a cross-bred heifer, got by an A.-A. bull out of a Shorthorn cow. She was bred and exhibited by Mr. J. Douglas Fletcher, of Rosehaugh. Her age was 21 months, and she weighed alive, 1,247 pounds. Her carcass weight was 812 pounds; suet, cane and reed fat, 21 pounds; fat, gut fat and trimmings, 31 pounds; tongue and tail, 10 pounds; head and feet, 46 pounds; heart, liver and lights, 35 pounds; tripe, teck and reed, 94 pounds; hide, 78 pounds; intestines, 15 pounds. This was a beautiful carcass, and well entitled to its position. The carcass competition for mutton, as usual, issued in a notable victory for Suffolks and Suffolk-Cheviot crosses. The Suffolk is a hard-backed beggar, but excels in laying on a deal of lean meat. The present season runs in that direction. Another very good carcass was that of a sheep in the cross between the Wensleydale sire and the Cheviot ewe.

We are greatly interested here in the result of the sale of Ayrshires at Maxville, Ont. The

Messrs. Hunter are surely to be congratulated on the success which attended their sale. The Garclaugh herd, in which the highest-priced cow was produced, has a splendid record here under the tuberculin test. On a recent testing by the veterinary surgeon of the Glasgow Dairy Co., (Ltd.), who purchase the milk, out of 50 cows only two reacted. I suspect the day is not far distant when the breeders of this country will be compelled to acknowledge tuberculin. Ayrshires are standing the test well when subjected to it, and a large shipment of tested animals has recently been made to Finland, and if our breeders do not look out they will get badly left by their own customers.

The home Veterinary Profession has received a great lift by the Knighthood conferred on Principal McFadyen, of the Royal Veterinary College, Camden Town. This tribute was well earned. Sir John McFadyen was born in Wigtownshire, where his brothers still occupy the farm of Fineview, Glenluce. He was all along a brilliant student, and has been for many years recognized as the foremost man in his profession in this country. He has a strong man's strength, and is not devoid of some traces of a strong man's weaknesses. That Sir John may be long spared to carry his honors is the common wish of his countrymen.

Clydesdale trade with Canada is still booming. Within the past four weeks quite a big lot of horses have been shipped. Mr. Dugald Ross, Streetville, shipped ten head, and Mr. T. S. Hassard, Millbrook, six head, three stallions and three fillies, about a month ago. They were useful, well-bred animals, and Canada should be the better of them. Mr. John Kerr, Redhall, Wigtown, Cumberland, has sold five stallions—big and weighty—to Mr. Thomas Berry, Hensall; and Mr.

Colin McKeigan, Strathroy, shipped seven stallions and fillies which he purchased from Mr. Wm. Taylor, Park Mains, Renfrew. Some good animals have been shipped in smaller lots. Messrs. Bawden & Macdonell, Exeter, shipped seven stallions, five of which came from Mr. Alex. Simpson, Whitecross, East Kilbride; one from Mr. David Riddell, Paisley, and one from Mr. Forsyth, Valleyfield, Stranraer. The biggest shipment was made this week by Mr. Oswald Sorby, Guelph, and Mr. John A. Turner, Calgary, Alta. It is seldom one sees such a splendid shipment made so late in the season. Between them, the shippers had 25 head, purchased with one exception from Messrs. A & W. Montgomery, Kirkcudbright. Among them are winners at the Royal, Castle Douglas, Dalbeattie, and other shows. They are the produce, in some cases, of very noted prize mares, champions, in some cases, at West of Scotland shows, and there is one horse in the lot bred by His Majesty the King at Abergeildie Mains, his Scots farm. It is long since a shipment like this left Scotland in December, and the plucky shippers deserve all manner of credit. The horses shipped by Mr. Hassard were bought from Mr. Walter S. Park, Hatton, Bishopton, who has been doing a big Canadian trade this season.

"SCOTLAND YET."

Why Tuberculin is Used on British Cattle.

At a dinner of the Lincoln Red Shorthorn breeders a short time ago, the Duke of Portland in the chair, the British Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Adwyn Fellowes, spoke as follows:

"With regard to the tuberculin test, he referred to a resolution sent up by the Lincoln Red Shorthorn Society in 1903, protesting against the unsatisfactory results by the use of the test on cattle exported for breeding purposes, and requesting that the board should use its influence to get foreign governments to abolish the test abroad. Mr. Fellowes pointed out that as regards the Argentine they required a certificate from a V. S., and the animal was quarantined on arrival for forty days. The reason why the test and the quarantine was introduced was because certain unscrupulous breeders had been rendering their animals immune to the test, in the hope that immunity would last, and they landed in the Argentine. He went on to say that ten per cent. of exported cattle did not pass the