

ary with animals of this breed in general. On the third day, the sale was at Mr. J. J. Cridlau's farm, of Maisemore Park, near Gloucester, where 40 head made an average of £37 1s. The highest price was 110 gs., paid by Mr. Bolden for a yearling heifer of the famous Trojan-Erica strain. Another yearling heifer made 107 gs.; a two-year-old made 108 gs. and a good cow went at 105 gs. The highest prices, although not the highest average of the week, were made at Trosley Court, in Kent, on the fourth day, when two full sisters, of the same Trojan-Erica cross, a two-year-old and a yearling, made 205 gs. and 140 gs., respectively. This herd is but recently founded. It is the property of Mr. Sofer-Whitburn, of Addington Park, and is managed with much ability by Mr. John Kitchin, a keen-witted Aberdonian. The average for the 44 head was £33 6s. An equal number from Mr. Bainbridge's herd at Eshott Hall, in Northumberland, on the opening day of the English sales made £25 11s. 6d. The feature of all the A.-A. sales this year has been the unquestioned supremacy of the Erica cross. Wherever that appeared there was a demand, and breeders did not seem to know where to stop when once they began bidding. Erica was bred by the Earl of Southesk, at Kinnaid Castle, Brechin, where now a celebrated fold of Highland cattle is kept. She went to Ballindalloch and proved a phenomenal breeder. She had produce by two bulls, Kildonan and Trojan. The produce of the former were sold off, but the Trojan-ERICAS were retained. They have contributed in no small degree to build up the splendid reputation of the Ballindalloch cattle. It is difficult to define what constitutes the supreme excellence of the ERICAS, but of its existence breeders cherish no kind of doubt.

HORSE SALES and exports have during these recent weeks been numerous and most successful. Mr. David Mitchell, of Millfield, has dispersed his studs of Hackneys and Clydesdales. For the former, 28 of which were sold, he got an average of £44 3s. 6d.; and for the latter, of which he sold 16, he got an average of £77 6s. 1d. The Seaham Stud Co. (Ltd.), which took over the farms and studs of the Marquis of Londonderry, K. G., held its annual autumn sale of surplus stock the other day, and got £34 2s. 6d. for seven Clydesdale filly foals, and £33 18s. 6d. for 14 Clydesdale colt foals. The demand throughout was steady, and it was considered that there had been a profitable sale. Of late days considerable shipments have been made to Canada by Dalgety Bros., London, Ont.; to Italy, from the Seaham Harbour Stud; and to Russia, from the famed studs of the Messrs. Montgomery, at Netherhall and Banks.

In spite of difficulties there is still a living to be picked up in this effete old monarchy.

"SCOTLAND YET."

A Dog-worried Industry.

The cry is going out from many sections of the country that the one serious obstacle in the way of the advancement of the sheep industry is the injury to the flocks from the ravages of dogs. A farmer in Tennessee states that it is the one great trouble that the stockman in that State has to encounter. Similar statements come from the Maritime Provinces of Canada. The same cry is being raised in Ontario at the present time. It does seem peculiarly unfortunate that one of the most important live-stock industries of the country should be thus seriously handicapped, and for such a reason. Our sheep must be given protection in some form at an early date. We trust the Legislature of our State will consider it their duty to do all they possibly can to bring about such a result.—[St. Paul Farmer.]

How Blue-Grays are Bred.

The famous blue-gray cattle which are so largely bred in the border country—the north of England and the south of Scotland—are the result of a cross between white or light-colored Shorthorn bulls and cows of one of the black polled breeds—usually the Galloway. Curiously enough, blue-grays obtained in this way are much more in favor than animals of the same type got by mating black bulls with white cows. So great is the esteem in which these blue-gray cattle are held in some of the great feeding districts of the south and east of England, and so large is the demand experienced for them, that in certain parts of Cumberland and Northumberland farmers make a specialty of breeding white bulls of the Shorthorn type with the special object of subsequently using them for the production of blue-grays.

There were exported from the United States in the fiscal year 1901-02 horses to the number of 103,200 head, valued at \$2,692,298. These were the heaviest shipments ever made from this country and exceeded the previous high record in 1900-01 by 20,770 head. Almost 60 per cent. of the 1901-02 exports were consigned to South Africa.

Death to Dogs!

The article in your issue of October 15th, under the heading, "Sheep or Dogs, Which?", signed M. E. G., brings to my mind one of the sayings of Josh Billings, "It's better not to know so much than to know so much that isn't so." M. E. G. evidently looks at this matter from the standpoint of a dog fancier rather than one of a sheep breeder or one at all interested in sheep. An experience of thirty years has led me to believe that the breeding of a dog, or his feeding and care, are not factors at all in determining whether or not he will be liable to take up this vicious habit of killing sheep. The half-starved mongrel is no more apt to kill sheep than the pure-bred dog that is liberally fed, provided the cur is as carefully guarded and kept shut up at night as the pure-bred dog is.

In my experience, dogs have attacked my flock four times. The first attack was by a very large dog of mixed breeding, but owned by a neighbor of whom it was said that he thought as much of his dog as of one of his family. The dog was always well fed and cared for. The sheep killed was a valuable Cotswold ram, and was bitten about the face, ears and neck, but not eaten at all.

The second attack was by a pure-bred Scotch collie of supposed great value. He was owned by a near neighbor, who was a great dog fancier, and his dogs are always well fed, as often as his children. He killed several Cotswold ewes simply for sport—chasing, biting face and neck until the sheep dropped dead, and then go to the flock for a fresh one. Not a sheep was eaten in the least. The third attack was by a collie—said to be of pure breeding—owned by one of the best families in town, and well cared for. He was discovered and shot before any sheep were killed. The fourth attack was by a pair of pure-bred Irish setters that were valued by their owner at \$60 each—always well fed and cared for, in the best of quarters. These dogs were in the flock twice. The first time they were driven off by one of the men, who was at work near by. Within a week they attacked the sheep again, and tore about one-quarter of the pelt off from a lamb, but left the flock of their own accord without further damage. One of the finest pure-bred English mastiffs I ever saw was owned by a wealthy gentleman, who had a fine kennel and kept a man on purpose to cook for and care for his dogs. This mastiff was shot in his neighbor's flock after he had killed several sheep. I fully appreciate the value of good breeding, but I wouldn't give a copper for pure breeding in a dog on account of its influence in restraining him from this vicious habit. The only way to feed him and make him safe is to feed strychnine—the only good dog is a dead one!

Genesee Co., N. Y.

F. D. W.

Revolting Against the Test.

[From the London (England) Farmer and Stock-breeder.]

English breeders will learn with some surprise, perhaps not unmixed with pleasurable feelings, that at the Collingie and Uppermill sales last week the well-known owners of these Shorthorn herds refused to sell subject to the tuberculin test. For some years now the test has partaken of the nature of a veterinary imposition. In America, breeders without distinction have strongly opposed the tuberculin regime, but the authorities have decreed that cattle will not be allowed to land in the States or in Canada without first undergoing the test. A modification was introduced some time ago, and exporters were allowed to have their animals tested prior to shipment, by an accredited veterinary representative from the different countries on this side of the water. It has been felt, however, that the test is an extremely dangerous weapon. In the human subject it would not be tolerated, and the same mischief which it is capable of working in man it is equally capable of effecting in the lower species. Messrs. Duthie and Marr have taken up a very strong position in this matter, and although it is greatly to their own detriment to do so, in so far as numerous foreign representatives present at the sale could only withhold their patronage, the action undoubtedly has the approval of breeders on both sides of the water.

The position which breeders take up is this: The test is unsympathetically received and even revolted against by cattle breeders everywhere, as it is capable of so much misuse without proper regulation, and it is also very liable to be misleading, as cases of tuberculosis vary in degree and importance. If concerted action is taken by breed societies in England and in the States and Canada, it is conceivable that the veterinary ring which imposes this test would, under the circumstances, have to give way. In this country we impose no such test on animals landed for consumption, so that the views of Scotch breeders are perfectly in accord with official action. Subject to inspection our imported stock are, and what is good enough for cautious officials in this

country breeders have some reason to think is quite good enough for them.

What may be the upshot of this movement it is extremely difficult to conceive, but it is hoped that the refusal to recognize it on this side of the water will lead the veterinary authorities abroad to regard their action in a somewhat different light. We have quite sufficient experience of the test to regard it as useful under prescribed circumstances, but why should animals imported into Canada and America be subject to a much stricter regime than is imposed upon stock which are bought and sold publicly in either of these countries? That is one of the difficulties which veterinary authorities cannot explain away, and breeders in the States and Canada who are wishful to continue improving their herds by importing the best blood have every reason to regard the test as distinctly prejudicial. Indeed, it is evident, in view of their refusal to make the test general, that the authorities do not regard it in the light which they profess to. We are not aware that tuberculosis increased before the test was introduced. Much more good will undoubtedly accrue by a natural system of breeding animals and rearing them, giving them plenty of fresh air, which is inimical to the disease. Meanwhile, breeders will undoubtedly discuss the question anew, and if strong action is taken in this country it is not at all improbable that the sympathy which it will undoubtedly excite among breeders abroad may result in its abolition.

That Swine Sale Statement.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Canadian swine breeders have been patiently waiting for the publication of the statement promised by the Dominion Live Stock Commissioner in a letter to the Toronto World of August 29th, said statement to be forwarded in a few days. If, as claimed by the Commissioner in the letter above referred to, the statements in my letter to the "Farmer's Advocate" and Mr. Gibson's letter in the Toronto World in regard to the Guelph swine sale were "incorrect in every particular" it would appear to be reasonable to expect that the Commissioner would favor the public with a true and correct statement of the facts in the case, carefully revised and warranted to hold water. I am quite sure it will require the exercise of considerable ingenuity on the part of the Commissioner to convince the other swine breeders that the original intention was not to run the sale at the public expense in the interest of himself and his few friends who were the contributors of hogs to the sale, but he is not lacking in ingenuity and may be expected to make a bold effort to cover his tracks. If the labored defence made for him by a Toronto weekly soon after the sale, and which was admittedly of his own inspiration, is the best vindication of his conduct in the affair that can be made, it is weak indeed, and would mislead only those who are ignorant of the real circumstances and of the methods of previous sales under the same management. It is difficult to believe that it was not intended to run the sale of the stock of private individuals, his own included, at the public expense, when we reflect that the Government auctioneers were engaged, the catalogues, with their contemptible attack upon other breeds, I understand, printed in the Government offices and mailed on His Majesty's Service free. The belated statement that the expenses were borne by the parties contributing animals to the sale, if credited at all, will only be accepted on the assumption that a virtue was made of necessity when it was found that exposure was imminent and that the game was up. The yarn about the cheque sent to cover postage after the deed was done would suit fairly well if told to a company of sailors who live most of their lives where there are no post offices, but it will be found uphill work to persuade intelligent "land lubbers" that it is not a cock and bull story. It is well known that sometimes the reports and accounts of Government officials are fearfully and wonderfully made, and that the average farmer finds it a hopeless task to trace the expenditures, so cunningly are they covered up, but there is, I believe, an agricultural committee in Parliament whose duty it is to investigate the expenditures in this connection, and stockmen will do well to urge their representatives to look into this matter when the proper time arrives. In the meantime, let us have the promised statement of expenses of the swine sale. As another correspondent stated in your paper some time ago, it was a "bad smelling mess," but just what might have been expected as the result of such schemes, which have been productive of scandal whether bulls or hogs were being sold.

Yours respectfully,

Wentworth Co., Ont.

D. C. FLATT.