

and obliging. Watch the more experienced herdsmen in fixing up their cattle. They can surely help you in this. In clipping or trimming each breed has its own particular style. The tails are usually clipped, leaving a full switch. Cattle with short hair, as seen at the fall fair, show to advantage when smooth. At the winter fairs the curling method has been a great favorite, but unless one is an artist at it, the desired results are not always obtained. These little trimmings of the last hour help greatly in giving a pleasing, attractive appearance, and a well rounded form.

The morning of the showing, change the feed a little, give variety if possible that they may eat with more relish. Add a pinch of salt. Before going into the ring give a final and careful grooming, wash any stained spots and comb out the tails. While in the ring show the animal. Do not allow the judge to take up all your attention. See that the strong points are prominent and the weaker ones covered up as much as possible. Go in with the idea that you are out to win. Remember you are holding the steer with which you expect to carry off the highest honors.

The crowd of interested but silent spectators surround the ring-side while the judge critically examines the various animals. Finally they are narrowed down to two, a little more consideration and the decision is made against you. The breeder and herdsman combined again carries off the honors. Yes, the best animal has won. The judge has said, for depth of flesh one was as good as the other; the winner a little firmer, a little smoother turned and showing a more even layer of flesh over the back rib.

It takes years of study based on practical experience and observation to learn the art of fitting and showing cattle. The showman's task is never finished. His ambition is for the highest award. So we will try the game again next year.

Just a word about the cattle when they get back home. The show herd of necessity is in much higher condition than they otherwise would be if they were not shown, therefore, it is advisable to let them down to some extent after the circuit has been completed. As it takes a long time to get the cattle into condition, be very careful in making changes in feeding and housing, do things gradually and with care.

[NOTE.—The above article is the third prize essay in the Herdsman Competition on Fitting and Showing Beef Cattle. It was written by Jas. Masson, herdsman at the O. A. C., Guelph. It contains a great deal of valuable information. The first and second prize essays appeared in these columns last week.—EDITOR.]

### Breeding Ewes Bring High Prices in England.

The agricultural statistics of 1920 prove a decline in the sheep population of the British Isles. In England and Wales, particularly, have diminished flocks of sheep been noticeable this year. But there are signs that the farmer has awakened to the great risk and to the danger he is running of cutting down his sheep stocks. The trend of the September sales of sheep has made for abnormal prices, which have had to be paid by those agriculturists wishing to increase their numbers of breeding ewes. Never before in the history of British farming have such prices been paid for ewes—be they pedigree or non-pedigree. To-day cross-bred ewes are making up to £9 each and ewe lambs from £6 to £7 apiece, and the cost of founding a cross-bred flock runs into a considerable sum. If anything, the farmer getting back into sheep-raising is buying more pedigree ewes and rams to head the flock than he ever did. Gradually it is being realized by the farming community that pedigree stands for something more than mere paper, and we find the farmer cheerfully paying £8 15s. 0d. for Therry Hill ewes, £10 for Hampshire Downs, £9 9s. 0d. for Shropshire ewes, £6 15s. 0d. to £7 5s. 0d. for South-downs, and even £6 for Exmoor Horn sheep. Such prices as these prove that the number of breeding sheep in England and Wales has reached its lowest level, and that the efforts to raise the stocks back to the figures at least equal to those which prevailed prior to the war, will be a costly one to the farmer.

ALBION.

### Herefords Make a Good Average.

Mitchell Bros. had a very successful dispersion sale of Herefords, on October 12. Among the number were 19 cows, some of which had calves at foot, that sold for an average of \$322, the highest price being \$575. Ten males in fair condition averaged \$238.50, while an extra good nine-month's calf brought \$500. The cattle were not specially fitted for the sale, being but in good grass condition. The following is a list of the animals selling for \$300 and over, sent in by H. D. Smith, Secretary of the Hereford Breeders' Association:

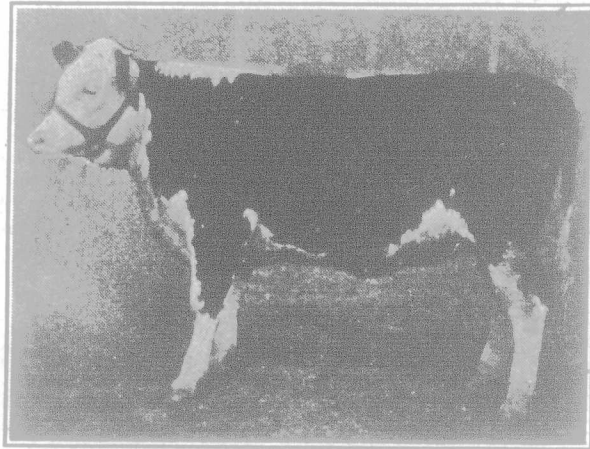
New Year's Gift, J. McKinnon, Chesley	\$500
Baily, A. Hunter, Holstein	400
Wipe, E. T. Howse, Iriss	575
Worm, W. Readhead, Milton	500
Mabel Ann, W. Readhead	500
Lelia, W. Readhead	500
Abstinent, J. J. Carter, Greenoch	400
May Andrew, G. Bennett, Wroxeter	310
Morine, Robt. Ashton, Gorrie	305
Billy Burke, Geo. Cruickshanks, Blenheim	300
Wail, D. S. McNaughton, Bluevale	300

Many of the cattle were sold to new breeders, and with a few exceptions remain within fifty miles of Gorrie.

### The Flying Berkshire.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Ever since his advent in the live stock arena the Berkshire has been able to give a good account of himself under all sorts of conditions and competitions. His very latest achievement is in the field of aeronautics, a pair of them recently having taken a fly from London, England, to Paris, France, in an ordinary daily air mail-carrying machine. It is said that French aviators have often been in the habit of taking up with them in daring flight, a suckling pig as a mascot, but these British "Berks" are the first to figure as paying passengers. They are reported by the Paris correspondent of the Manchester Guardian, as arriving none the worse for their experience several hundred feet above the English Channel, although they put up a considerable squeal over the excessive rate of speed at which the operator ran the machine. However, being pure-bred and pedigreed stock they conducted themselves with



Barnette Donald.

First senior calf and reserve champion at London for O'Neil Bros., Denfield, Ont.

usual Berkshire dignity, and will no doubt, do themselves credit at their destination on a French breeding farm. A "pig on ice" or "when pigs could fly" used to be regarded as the paradox of absurdity, but that was before aeroplanes were dreamed of in the days of our forefathers. Now-a-days pigs are living in a grand and moving time.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

ALPHA.

### Angus Sale at London.

The Ontario Aberdeen-Angus Association's semi-annual sale was held at the Western Fair Grounds, London, on Wednesday, October 20. The different breeders consigned some of their best animals, but the price obtained was not commensurate with the quality and breeding. The purchasers secured real bargains. Considering the record the Angus breed has made at fat stock shows, in slaughter tests, feed lot, etc., there should be a keener demand for breeding stock than was shown at the London sale, where the bidding was draggy throughout. The crowd was not large; the exceptionally fine weather undoubtedly retained many at their farm work.



Alice Undine.

Junior champion Shorthorn female at London for Percy De Kay, Elmira, Ont.

Among the offering was Elm Park Pride 21st, a two-year-old heifer consigned by Jas. Bowman. She was grand champion female at Toronto this year, and although she topped the sale at \$575.00, her breeding conformation and quality made her a bargain. Geo. McAllister, Guelph, was the purchaser. Pride of Sunny Acres 2nd, a Pride of Aberdeen, consigned by G. C. Channon, brought second highest money, going to the \$550 bid of J. Lowe, of Elora. She, too, is a two-year-old but safe in calf to the service of Idolmere 5th, a full brother to the noted show bull Idolmere. She is an attractive heifer that will, no doubt, be heard from at future shows. The highest-priced bull came from the same herd, and was purchased to head the herd of W. E. Dashmer, Fisherville. The price paid was \$425. The breeding is of the best and his ancestors have not only been show individuals but have produced showing toppers. The bulls averaged \$337, and the females \$250.80. Many of the females had growthy calves of show-ring calibre at foot and some were bred again. Among the consignors were G. C. Channon, Robt. McEwen, J. D. Larkin, Sir Edmund Walker, E. S.

McLean, Jas. Bowman, Lowe & Heibin, C. McDougall, A. McEwing, E. S. Peart and C. K. Jarvis. J. T. Keely, of Iowa, was in the box with Capt. T. E. Robson assisting in the ring. The following is a list of the animals sold, together with the names and address of the purchasers:

#### MALES.

Rosebud's Leroy, W. E. Dashmer, Fisherville	\$425
Tro Pride of Alloway, J. E. Smallman, London	360
Prescott of Larkin Farm, H. C. Soldan, Hensall	255

#### FEMALES.

Rosebud 18th, E. F. Coughlin, Crediton	205
Elm Park Rosebud 25th, E. A. Edwards, Watford	320
Alloway Rose, H. C. Soldan	140
Pride of Larkin Farm 19th, A. W. McEwing, Blyth	160
Victoria of Chapelton 2nd (imp.), A. Porter, St. Mary's	200
Blackbird K., J. S. McAlpine, Glencoe	145
Astor of Lorne 2nd, E. B. Goudie, Preston	160
Princess Iris of Fairbank, Col. Robert McEwen, London	310
Alice of Fairbank, Col. Robt. McEwen	475
Astor of Lorne 2nd, Wm. Blue, Muirkirk	325
Astor of Lorne 4th, E. F. Coughlin	150
Pride of Sunny Acres 2nd, Lowe & Heibin, Elora	550
Linda A. of Sunny Acres, E. A. Edwards	155
Elm Park Pride 21st, Geo. McAllister, Guelph	575
Elm Park Rosebud 31st, E. F. Coughlin	230
Elm Park Rosebud 10th, F. Schmidt, Kingwood	170
Marguerite, R. M. Campbell, Ridgeway	165
Burnside Maid 2nd, E. F. Klopp, Zurich	300
Lulu of Fairbank, J. W. Smyth, Chatham	180
Beverly's Triumphant, E. B. Goudie	205
May Blossom of Lorne, J. L. Tait, Glencoe	100
May Blossom of Lorne 2nd, R. M. Campbell	190
Blossom of St. Helen's, E. B. Goudie	200
Pleasant Rose 3rd, H. McCully, Northwood	210
Alloway Zarette, D. R. Thompson, Iona	230
Alloway Pridette 2nd, Sir Edmund Walker, Toronto	180
Alloway Edward's Queen, J. Smallman	310
Beverly's Pride 2nd, Col. Robt. McEwen	310
Marguerite, E. F. Klopp	120
Violet of Maplewood, Sir Edmund Walker	215
Maplewood Alice, E. F. Klopp	290
Pink Lady 4th, R. M. Campbell	250
Lita B., F. Schmidt	275
Lela of Sunny Acres, C. McDougall, Guelph	230
Lucille of Sunny Acres, Jas. Bowman, Guelph	160
Pride of Larkin Farm 8th, J. L. Tait	490
Primrose of Larkin Farm 8th, H. C. Soldan	410
Balmedie Fergus Beauty, G. W. Schmidt, Chatham	240
Balmedie Pride 4th, G. E. Schmidt, Milverton	260
Lillian of Sunny Acres 2nd, H. Clifton, Kippen	300
Jaunty of Glencairn, C. A. Edwards	135
Bell Keepsake, F. Coughlin	290

### Silage for Sheep Feed is Popular.

With the silo being built on many farms in this country where sheep are kept, the question of the suitability of silage as feed for this class of stock becomes one of great importance. In the State of Idaho farmers with large flocks have been feeding silage extensively and are satisfied that it is a desirable feed for sheep of all ages. Owners of large flocks who have not yet used it, are building silos and those who have thoroughly satisfied themselves of its many desirable qualities are building more.

It cuts down the cost of their feeding operations, keeps the sheep in better health, assists in preventing the sheep from going "stale" when feeding alfalfa or clover hay alone for a long time, and cause the ewes to produce more milk for their lambs.

Alfalfa and silage also make an excellent combination for wintering ewe lambs and when properly fed will lower their winter feed bill and bring them out in the spring strong, thrifty and ready for the range.

Many sheepmen object to feeding silage to bred ewes, even though they consider it a good feed for them because it is usually fed in racks and they believe that the ewes crowding about the racks injure one another internally, thus causing them to abort their lambs. One of Idaho's best-known sheep men who feeds about 1,000 tons of silage per year in racks to bred ewes states that he has never had any trouble along this line and would not give up silage as a part of the winter ration for his ewes.

Every sheep owner who has ever fed silage to his ewes after lambing is loud in its praise. It adds succulence to the ration at the time when such feed is most needed, and gives a strong stimulus to the milk flow. The additional milk flow makes the lambs grow much fatter and faster. A flock owner who has given silage a thorough trial with his flock of 6,400 ewes is planning to increase his silo capacity to 1,000 tons this year so that he may have sufficient to give his ewes all they want between the time they lamb and the time they go to the range.

Silage in itself is not a well-balanced feed and should never be fed as the sole roughage, either for fattening or wintering. It should be fed with a leguminous hay, such as alfalfa or clover. Under no circumstances should moldy silages be fed to sheep.

For fattening lambs, not over four pounds per head per day should be used, and the lambs should receive a liberal feed of alfalfa. Lambs to be wintered should have about two pounds of silage to every three of alfalfa or clover. It is not considered advisable to feed over two pounds of silage per head per day to bred ewes during the winter. Ewes with lambs at side may be fed as high as four pounds per head per day and all the legume hay they will eat.