

LIVE STOCK.

Royal Show Impressions.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

It was the good fortune of two of our firm to attend, as a slight departure from the regular coronation festivities, the Royal Show, held this year at Norwich, England, and see the bovine and equine friends "at home," and indeed it was a grand show. Different from our large Canadian shows, the cattle occupy long rows of open sheds, with canvas tops, and the cattle are placed in groups, according to age, classification, etc., regardless of owners (which, by the way, appeals to the writer as having a penny's advantage and a pound's disadvantage). On the other hand, there is at least one similarity—everybody thinks his is best, whether it be species, breed, herd or individual. The reports given tell the story of it all from the journalist's or reporter's standpoint, at least. There were over 700 horses, and among them many grand specimens. A remarkable feature of the cattle exhibit was that Holstein and Ayrshires were conspicuous by their comparative absence. The Shorthorns were there, prepared to do due justice to the breed both in number and quality.

It is surely needless to say that ninety per cent. of the writer's time which was left free to him, after banquets, social and civic duties, was spent in closely inspecting the grand display of Jerseys, and here, may it be said, it was well worth the time. Possibly the largest cattle class on exhibition was that of the Jersey—the Channel Island queen—and well might the judges scratch their hands betimes in making their selection. In the aged bull class, the two chief competing herds locked horns, viz., Lord Rothschild's and that of Alexander Miller-Hallett, the latter winning with an English-bred bull, Goddington Winks, where the second-prize bull was a son of Noble of Oaklands, the record-priced bull, \$15,000, May 20th, 1911, in Pennsylvania. We might add that the highest official testing daughter of this bull is owned at the Brampton Jersey herd. Seldom is seen such a list of outstanding cows as were those in the aged class. Cute II., by Cylis, last year's winner at the Royal, came out top again, and justly so. A very pleasing feature may here be noted, that several of the winners were old contestants at and winners in the dairy test. Mention must be made of the winning yearling heifer, "Leo's Remembrance," owned by Dr. H. Corner, and it cannot be wondered that His Majesty, himself a Jersey fancier, and this year's president of the fair, took especial notice of her during parade.

Canada gets her best from the British Isles. The same blood is winning in both places, and we are pleased to state that, in our humble opinion, the annual exhibits in the various classes and breeds at the Canadian National would well do credit at this Royal Show and uphold the colony's record for scientific progress. J. H. BULL.
Peel Co., Ont.

Weaning Lambs.

Lambs are usually weaned from four to five months old, but some farmers allow them to suck the ewes until they are sold off in the fall. This is a practice not to be recommended, because it puts a big drain on the ewe, which is hard on her constitution. The small quantity of milk that the ewes give four months after weaning is very little good to the lambs, and, besides, as long as a ewe is nursing the lamb, she is kept in the best available pasture. This is robbing the lambs of that on which they would thrive better without their mothers than with them. Early weaning is thus an advantage to both ewe and lamb.

After weaning, the lambs should be placed on the freshest pasture on the farm. The aftermath on the clover and hay fields makes excellent pasture for the lambs, and the ewes may be left on the drier summer pastures, on which the secretion of milk will soon cease, after which the ewes keep in sufficiently high condition for breeding purposes.

If the lambs are to be kept for breeding purposes, it is absolutely necessary that the rams and the ewes be kept in separate fields; and even if destined for the butcher, separating them is advisable, because the ram lambs do much mischief to themselves, as well as to the ewes, by continually teasing them, thus preventing rapid gains in flesh.

At weaning, it is better to place the lambs in a field far removed from that in which their mothers are kept. This prevents the lambs from seeing their mothers or of hearing their calls, and they forget them quicker, and both the ewes and the lambs become more reconciled in a very short time.

It is generally advisable to give the lambs a little extra feed during the fall, for, as with all other classes of stock the important point is to keep the lambs growing as fast as possible while young, for this is when the most economical gains

are made. A small feed-trough in the field, in which a few oats are kept, is a good thing. Lambs relish oats, and a small quantity of these, together with extra green feed, as rape, turnips or cabbage, make a good fall feed for the weanlings.

It must not be forgotten that the lambs need water. If there is no spring or running water in their pasture, care must be taken to keep a trough filled with fresh water, where they have access to it at all times. Many beginners have a mistaken idea that sheep require little water. The newly-weaned lambs will drink many times a day, and should never be deprived of the privilege.

An Acre to Sixteen Pigs.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Can hogs be raised cheaper with or without pasture? There is only one answer to this question. Most assuredly, by using a pasture. In planning the hog pasture, each individual must be governed by his circumstances and the conditions on his farm. If one is situated in the timber or bush districts, it is well to fence a field and depend upon the natural vegetation of grass, weeds, vetches, wild pea-vine and roots, which grow upon all bush land. On the open prairie, where one is using every available acre for grain, a field should be fenced and sown to mixed barley and rape for pasture—an acre to every sixteen growing pigs.

It is best to divide the pasture and keep your hogs in each, half week about. By using woven-wire fencing, the field can be easily moved each year, and by doing this they will manure the field as well as gather their own feed. It is well to keep a field of parsnips for late fall and spring pasture, allowing the hogs to root up and gather the whole plant.

Along with the pasture, hogs should receive a small amount of grain, plenty of pure water and some sort of shade. If, for any cause, one is unable to fence a pasture, he should by all means grow some green stuff to cut and feed in the pens—all the hogs will eat.

Another good practice is to grow a supply of green feed, such as alfalfa and pea-vines; also roots, such as turnips, sugar beets and parsnips, to feed during the winter. This will balance up the grain ration and keep the hogs thrifty and growing. A. L. D.

Alta.

Pigs on Rye, Alfalfa and Rape.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Hogs can withstand close confinement and forced feeding fairly well, but when given a large range to roam over they respond to it with rapid growth, health and vigor. The succulent growth is consumed for body maintenance, and the building of muscle, tissue and bone. A small amount of concentrated grain is fed in addition, which supplies the necessary carbohydrates for the building of fat tissue, as well as the production of heat and energy.

The labor entailed in taking care of a large herd of hogs on pasture is a very small item, compared with a similar herd of hogs which are closely confined. Hogs on pasture devote most of their time to grazing during the day. In the evening some grain is fed to them scattered on the ground, which they gather slowly, masticating it thoroughly. A well in the hog pasture supplies

the necessary drinking water for the older pigs.

Young pigs should be liberally fed on skim milk and swill until such time as they will make satisfactory gains on cheaper feeds. Hogs fed on high-priced grains and soiling crops, combined with the large amount of labor required to take care of them, would raise the cost of production above the selling price.

For early spring pasture, I consider winter rye the best. Alfalfa ranks first for summer pasture, as it furnishes an abundant supply of leaves. The hogs like it very much. Moreover, it is a permanent pasture and a rapid grower. For late summer and fall pasture, rape is equal to alfalfa. Rape will furnish a good supply of succulent feed six weeks after seeding on a rich soil. It remains green late in the fall. When frost becomes too severe, it stops growing. An acre of land will support about twelve growing pigs for the whole season, provided the pasture is divided so that two halves can be pastured off alternately.

Sask.

S. V. T.

"Farmer killed in the field by a bull," and "Horseman has arm badly torn by stallion," are gleanings from one day's news. Well though it is known that no male animal, however tame he may appear, is, after all, safe, people still take chances, with the result of a heavy annual toll of death and accident.

THE FARM

Shifting the Labor Burden.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

In compliance with the request in your June 20th issue on solving the farm-labor question, I would say that it is in my opinion the most vital question that the farmers of this country have to contend with. I have had nearly fifty solid years of unbroken experience in the business. I own in this banner county of the Province of Ontario 135 acres, and cultivate about 100 of that. Last winter I saw danger ahead, and leased or let on shares ten acres of apple orchard to a responsible firm, Mr. Nicholson, of Milgrove, and Dr. Caldwell, of Dundas, who do all the work and bear all expenses, including board of men, and each take one-half the crop. Up to date, they deserve all credit for what they have done. On a 100-acre farm this means at least one-third less for me, and relieves the women folks of quite as much. We must never lose sight of the fair sex. For several years past we have had, for weeks, all told, about twenty persons three times a day at the table—apple pickers, packers and farm hands—and that is sufficient to wear out any woman, even if she were made of cast-iron; but there are not many of them built that way. Then, I arranged with a neighbor to plant and care for eight acres of potatoes. I to find seed and plow the ground, he to do all the work, even to putting the crop in the cellar, bearing all expense. That meant another load off our shoulders, women included. Then, we have adopted the new idea of milking cows by letting the calves do that, making first-class veals of them for the butchers at about six or seven weeks old. We then replace them with others, and find that quite as profitable as selling milk, cream or butter. That is another great relief to the fair sex. As for me, I never milked



E. Hulton's Cotswold Ewes.
Cotswold ewes, first prize, Royal Show, England, 1911.