

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION

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- 1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published on the first and fifteenth of each month. 2. It is important and independent of all classes of parties... 3. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION... 4. ADVERTISING RATES... 5. DISCONTINUANCE... 6. THE LAW... 7. REMITTANCES... 8. ALWAYS GIVE THE NAME OF THE POST OFFICE... 9. THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL... 10. SUBSCRIBERS... 11. NO ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATIONS... 12. LETTERS... 13. ALL COMMUNICATIONS... 14. WE INVITE FARMERS...

Careful perusal of this latter document will reveal clearly the special interest which it is calculated to promote. I think I am safe in predicting that there will be no more elevator monopoly...

I cannot close without a word regarding the miserable attempt made in some quarters to convey the impression that Dr. Douglas, myself and others are under the dominating influence of the O. P. R. and like corporations. A more foundationless charge was never made...

STOCK.

Our Scottish Letter. A Pioneer Ayrshire Breeder's Demise.—Fanciers of the Ayrshire in Canada have long been familiar with the name of Mr. Alexander Allan, formerly tenant of the farm of Munnoch, Dalry, Ayrshire. He was the oldest of the generation of Ayrshire breeders that now is, but someone else is now holder of the premier place. Mr. Allan died on 15th May, in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He was a great favorite with all classes of the community, and as a judge was in his time unrivalled. He officiated at all the leading shows in this country and on the Continent, and had a very large share of the foreign trade in Ayrshire. He was entrusted with many commissions and selected many animals for foreign buyers. As a typical Ayrshire farmer, shrewd, cautious, painstaking and industrious, Mr. Allan had few equals, and none survised exactly of his own type. His sons, Mr. A. Y. Allan, Croftjane, Thornhill, and Mr. James Allan, Blackston, Dalry, are well-known and popular farmers, and both are recognized as admirable judges of Ayrshire stock. Ayrshires in Scotland.—Reference to Mr. Allan naturally leads one to say something of his favorites—the Ayrshires. After a long conflict, there are

this year signs that the breeders and judges of Ayrshires have hit upon the happy medium between the show cow and the dairy cow. Complaints have long been made of the divorce between the cow of commerce and the cow of the showyard. Dairy farmers who have to supply the showyard with milk in the early morning complained bitterly that the showyard fancy for small, well-planted teats and a beautifully suspended vessel only was inimical to the utilitarian interests of the dairy farmer. The best prizes made in the sale ring and the best prizes gained in the showing were made by animals of two distinct types. When cows have to be milked at lightning speed in the small hours of the morning, the neat teat and fancy vessel of the show cow are a great nuisance, and the female part of the agricultural community have never been slow to condemn the fancy animal. Mr. Allan, although not an advocate of the fancy animal, always stated what could be said for it with moderation and precision, but he was quite ready to admit that it was one of the good things of which one could have too many. This season, more than in any preceding, evidence is furnished in the showing of a return to common-sense in the matter of judging. With a view to bringing out what was wanted by dairy farmers, special prizes have in recent years been given for what were called commercial cows, and this season in several instances these prizes have been won by the champion cows of the showyard. This happened at Kilmarnock, Ayr, Glasgow, Dunbarton and Bute shows. At the first-named show Mr. Hugh Todd, Harperland, Dundonald, secured champion honors with a lovely 3-year-old named Nellie IV. of Harperland—a splendid cow, of great scale, and just the kind of animal everyone wants to fill their byres with. The champion cow at Ayr and Glasgow was Lady Flora of Burnhouses, bred and owned by Mr. William Howie, Burnhouses, Galston, and one of the grandest cows of the Ayrshire breed on record. As a dairy cow she is unsurpassed, and it is a remarkable fact that she has not only swept everything before her for two years in succession, but there is also a strong probability that in the year that is to come she will be equally invincible. It is doubtful if there has ever been exhibited a better example of the Ayrshire dairy cow. The Dunbarton champion, Queen of Auchentullich, was also bred in Ayrshire, and is owned by Mr. John Banchop, Auchentullich, Alexandria. She is a grand, lengthy, white cow, of the right scale, with any amount of breed character. The Bute champion, Moss Rose of Mid-Ascog, was bred by her owners, Messrs. R. & J. McAlister, Rothesay, and in some respects she has no superior. She is as good a dairy cow as any, and it is rather noteworthy that she and her forebears, and also Bute of Burnhouses, the sire of Lady Flora, were all bred on Mid-Ascog. This is one of the best herds of Ayrshire cattle in Great Britain, and it is managed with consummate skill. Altogether, the Ayrshire breed is in this country at present in a very hopeful condition.

Tuberculosis as a subject of agricultural discussion is ever with us, and if Government inquiries and Royal Commissions could have cleared it away, we should have been quit of it long ago. Three separate reports on the subject have issued from authorities under parliamentary sanction, but, after all, we never seem to get any "forrader," so far as the elimination of the disease is concerned. The labors of these Commissions have not, however, been in vain. They have tended greatly to relieve the public mind in regard to the dangers arising from tuberculosis; they have made us familiar with the true nature of the disease; and they have shown that while the number of tuberculous cattle is very large, the number of such affected in the udder is by no means fitted to cause unnecessary alarm. All the men of science are apparently now agreed that unless the udder be diseased there is no risk attending the use of milk from tuberculous cows, and even when the milk is the seat of the disease, the boiling of the milk removes all risk of disease. Dairy cows are more subject to the tendency than others, but even in their case the disorder is to rear cattle so framed that they will not be predisposed to the disease as too many in the past were. Ayrshires of the type referred to in the preceding paragraph are not likely subjects for the disease, and altogether there is every reason to expect an increase in the number of healthy dairy cattle in this country. The discussions on tuberculosis have revealed a curious illustration of the provincialism which is so marked a characteristic of the British mind. In spite of the evidence collected by various independent witnesses regarding the success of Bang's treatment and method in Denmark, an extraordinary number of men in this country refuse to believe in the success of that system; and they are not inclined to listen even when told that in this country a similar success has attended the Castlecraig experiments of Sir Thomas Gibson-Carmichael. This provincialism is sometimes an advantage, but at other times it counts for nothing, and in its relation to experimental work it is calculated to do great injury to agriculture.

Hackneys Gaining Popularity.—Hackneys have been in great favor during the past few weeks in this country. We have had several sales by auction, and prices are keeping up and going up. Mr. Alexander Morton, of Gowanbank, Darvel, is the great pioneer breeder in Scotland, and for a long time he fought the battle single-handed. At length a change has come over the country, and he has now a large number of companions and competitors. During the past few years all of the

Hackney breeders have devoted their attention to breeding carriage horses, and this has proved a decided advantage to the entire Hackney interest. The Hackney which was too small for a carriage horse and too large for a pony is wanted by nobody, and better days have dawned for the breed now that all sorts and conditions of men are recognizing that it is a harness horse or nothing. At his sale in the beginning of May, Mr. Morton this year sold 54 head, of all ages and both sexes, at an average of £75 18s. apiece. A Hackney gelding named Grenadier was sold for 230 gu., or £241 10s. (\$1,150), and a pony mare made £420. She is a well-colored animal and a phenomenal mover. The average price of four pedigreed Hackney brood mares was £118 2s. 6d., and 30 harness horses made an average of £82 11. 3d. Another very good Hackney stud in Scotland is that of Mr. William Scott, Gilfoot, Carlisle. He had a sale one week earlier than Mr. Morton's, when he sold fourteen animals at an average of £62 2s. each. Of these the majority were driving horses, and three of them came to the top at the Ayr Show; while more than one was well placed at the great horse show at the Crystal Palace in the end of May. The highest prices and the liveliest biddings were made at the Limefield sale on Tuesday, 17th May. The late Mr. James Walker, of Limefield, was one of the best judges of Hackneys in Scotland. His stud was one of the smallest in the country, but it was known to be one of the most select, and when, on account of his lamented death, it was announced that it was to be sold without reserve, everybody knew there would be a good sale. A three-year-old filly went to Lancashire buyers at £300 15s., and a four-year-old mare at £230 10s. The average price of seventeen Hackneys was £84 7s. 6d. There were in the sale six brood mares with foals, four yearling fillies, and four yearling colts, as well as one three-year-old mare, one two-year-old filly, and one harness mare. It was a wonderful sale, and shows that given good blood, careful selection, and an unreserved sale, Hackneys will make almost any price in Scotland. Even the canny Aberdonians have been trying to breed Hackneys, and a successful sale of ponies and Hackneys took place there not so long ago. "SCOTLAND YET."

Exhibitions for 1908.

Table listing exhibitions for 1908 across various locations including Trans-Mississippi, Omaha, Winnipeg Industrial, Portage la Prairie, Man., Brandon, Carberry, Stanstead, Rock Island, Que., Toledo Tri State, Toronto Industrial, New York, Syracuse, Ohio, Columbus, Minnesota, Hamline, Eastern, Sherbrooke, London Western, Indiana, Indianapolis, Prescott, Vankleek Hill, New Brunswick, St. John, Bay of Quinte, Belleville, Northern, Walkerton, Ottawa Central, Wisconsin, Milwaukee, Northern, Collingwood, Peninsular, Chatham, Prescott, Lanark, South Perth, Illinois, Springfield, Peel, Brampton, Lanark, North Almonte, Centre Bruce, Paisley, Northwestern, Goderich, Prince Edward, Picton, Oxford, Kempville, Elgin West, Wallacestown, Ontario and Durham, Whitby, Peterboro, West Peterboro, St. Louis, St. Louis, Mo., Norfolk, Tilsonburg, Norfolk, Simcoe, Woodbridge, Ontario Fat Stock Show, Brantford.

[NOTE.—If Secretaries of Fair Boards will send us dates of their shows we will include them in the lists of succeeding issues of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE.—EDITOR.]

How to Lead a Wild Cow.

"A few years ago," writes a reader of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, "I purchased a highly fettled Jersey heifer. She was sent from her former owner by train, and when she arrived at our station she was so wild and excited we could not untie her in the car. In fact, we knew if we did turn her loose she would go over everything jumpable. So we threw a blanket over her head and untied her, then tied an old sack over her eyes so that she could not see. This so completely subdued her that she walked home some four miles tied behind a wagon as quietly as anyone could wish. In a few years the cow was again sold, and her purchaser, although confident he could lead any cow, could not get her home until he had taken my advice in blindfolding her with an old sack, when she again led away quite peaceably."

J. C. MURRAY, Brandon, Man.:—"I would not like to be without the FARMER'S ADVOCATE."