

Teething in Young Horses.

Soon after the colt's birth, teething troubles start, although in the majority of cases of only minor importance. Animals have what are known as milk or colt or temporary teeth, and a permanent set. The coming-in of the permanents is when the trouble starts. The permanent grinders (molars) push up from below and force the crowns off. Many of these crowns are found in the feed-boxes of young horses; sometimes, however, the crowns (milk teeth) are not shed as they should be, food gathers underneath, or the sharp edges press the gums, with the result that the colt refuses to feed, slobbers badly, the feed-box in many cases being "mussed up," and he has a bad breath. The usual period for this to happen is during the second, third and fourth years of the colt's life. When such symptoms appear, soft mashes should take the place of hard grain, the veterinarian should be consulted and dilatory crowns removed. If this is done, the improvement noticed by the owner will be almost magical. The grinders (molars), are the teeth usually affected, the nippers rarely so. Changes, however, occur in those teeth during colthood, by means of which the observant are able to tell the animals' age: At three years the center pairs of temporary nippers are changed for the larger and permanent ones; at four, the pairs next the center ones are exchanged, and at five years old the corner permanents appear, at which time the horse is said to have a full mouth and has arrived at maturity.

Hackney Action.

The two engravings of horses in harness on page 209 are from photos by Mr. A. H. Godfrey, Secretary of the American Hackney Horse Society, who writes us, by way of comment on Lord Tom Noddy, that "when the Hackney lifts the knee the hind leg is thrust forward under the body," and concerning the American trotting-bred stallion "converted" to heavy harness, "when the knee is elevated the hind leg is drawn up behind."

STOCK.

Bacon Type vs. Thick Fat.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Much has been written in regard to the bacon industry and the type of animal best suited for the requirements of the trade, but much of this good advice has fallen short of the mark or failed in its good effect, as shown by the large percentage of non-select hogs that are still being marketed, to the detriment of the business and to the disadvantage of the breeder and feeder of select hogs of the proper type.

We are of opinion that the packer and the drover are to quite an extent responsible for this state of affairs, as we have repeatedly seen, during the past year, buyers paying top prices for pigs that were nothing but a lump of fat. Of course, they were within the weight, 160 to 200 lbs., but so short and fat, and had been so forced, that we would wager a new hat they were as soft as July butter. Now, what we want to come at is, were these select bacon hogs and suitable for the British market? The drover pronounced them such by paying the highest price, and thus discriminating against the feeder of what we would call the true bacon hog.

We were much pleased to see that at least one packing house had come out fairly and squarely and announced which breed they thought most suitable for the production of the very best export bacon. We believe this is a step in the right direction, and much preferable to the custom hitherto adopted of beating about the bush, for fear of treading on the toes of some breeder of the short, thick type above referred to.

What we would like to see is some system of graded prices, whereby the breeder of the proper type would be paid the advance over the thick fats which the superiority of their products warrant. We are well aware that such a system is supposed to be in use, but it doesn't seem to work in this locality at least, or probably this particular drover has not received the punishment which is supposed to be meted out to the buyer of this class of stock.

As a matter of fact, the man who continues to raise hogs of the short, thick type is not looking far into the future, but he gets the same price for his products as does the other, who raises a more expensive article, which the packers, judges, institute workers and agricultural press unite in telling us is more valuable. Truly, there is something wrong somewhere, but whose is the fault?

Hastings Co., Ont.

Our Scottish Letter.

PERTH AND ABERDEEN BULL SALES.

The bull-sale season is on, and already we have had several notable events of that nature. The trade in good bulls is better perhaps than it has been for several years, and indifferent ones are not wanted. At the same time, it is a clear lesson from what has transpired that many breeders have not yet learned that all male animals are not well designed to perpetuate their species. The trade for Shorthorns at Aberdeen, for Aberdeen-Angus bulls at Perth, and for Highland bulls at Oban, plainly taught this common lesson. There was a good demand for the better bulls, but those who had spent money in feeding the secondary animals were plainly taught that good bullocks were more profitable than secondary bulls. The ambition to be in the front rank of breeders not infrequently issues in being kept well in rear, and there is nothing more evident in this country than the great leeway requiring to be made up before the ordinary commercial stock of the country can be nearly like what it ought to be. In spite of all that has been done to improve stock and the great prices which foreign and colonial buyers are prepared to pay for breeding animals, there is as great a class as ever there was for the distribution of high-class bulls throughout the country. A tour in the districts where small farms or crofts abound reveals many inferior animals. This is mainly due to the use of indifferent sires, but the scanty feeding of calves on small farms has also something to do with it. It cannot be too often urged that any male animal is not good enough to put to crofters' cows. If there was greater enthusiasm amongst the smaller farmers and a keener desire to learn the points of good animals, they would not be so easily satisfied as they are. Unfortunately, the smaller farmer has no money to spend on attending shows, so that he seldom sees what a really good animal of any breed is like, and when a good one comes across his path he fails to recognize it. The conclusion of the whole matter is that there is abundant room for levelling-up in all breeds, if the commercial stock of this country is to be like what it ought to be.

The great Shorthorn-bull sale of the season is due next week at Perth. Meantime a sale has been held at Aberdeen, at which several of the northern breeders had forward stock. The highest price recorded was £45 3s. Deeside Hero, bred by Mr. Adam Baads, Aboyne. The average price of 134 Shorthorn bulls sold that day was £22 7s. 5d. The most extensive exposé was Mr. Francis Simmers, Whiteside, Alford, who sold eleven got by the Duthie bull, Count St. Clair, at an average of £28 11s. 9d. Several of the best bulls from some of the lots were withdrawn unsold. This was distinctly a crossing-sire sale. The bulls exposed were nearly all bought for crossing purposes, and fancy animals were at a discount. The characteristic Cruickshank type was much in evidence, and the varied coloring could not but be remarked. What length of time may elapse before the preponderating color amongst Aberdeen Shorthorns will be roan does not appear. The fancy buyer likes roans, and the nearer the approach is to such the better will it be for commercial stock. White bulls, which are so popular in the Cumberland sales, are at quite a discount in Aberdeenshire. The reason of this, of course, is that they are not wanted to the same extent for crossing with blackskins to produce blue-grays. In Cumberland, a white bull is invaluable for this purpose. The blue-gray is in great demand, and nothing produces him with so great certainty as the mating of a Galloway cow with a white Shorthorn bull.

The great event this week has been the Perth sale of A.-A. bulls. It has again been a signal triumph for Ballindalloch bulls and Erica blood. Sir George Macpherson Grant got an average of £154 7s. for eight young bulls. One of these, named Evictor, drew £378, his buyer being Colonel Smith Grant, of Auchorachan. Two years ago another Ballindalloch bull, named Echador, went at the same price to Mr. W. S. Ferguson, Pictstonhill. Three hundred and seven bulls were sold in the one day, at an average price of £27 1s. 11d. The second-best herd average was made by a tenant farmer, Mr. A. MacLaren, Auchnaguite, Ballinbrig, who got £63 14s. for three. Mr. Chalmers, of Aldbar, Buchan, who has one of the oldest herds in the country, came third, with an average of £58 9s. 8d. for five. One of his lot, named Elmslie, the winner of second prize, went to Sir George Macpherson Grant at £220 10s. Several of the best bulls in the breed to-day have been bred at Aldbar, notably Delamere, a rare-quality bull with a brilliant showyard record, which, after doing splendid service at Auchnaguite, last year went to Ballindalloch. The Earl of Strathmore, Glamis, who has an extra good herd, exposed no fewer than ten, for which he made the splendid average of £42 apiece. Why Ballindalloch should so completely overshadow all his competitors seems hard to understand. Rightly or wrongly, the public believe in Sir George Macpherson Grant's stock and back them all the time. On the following day the Aberdeen A.-A. bull sale took place, and considering that no ani-

mal shown made more than the double figures, the average of £22 15s. 3d. for 229 bulls indicated a steady selling trade.

On the same day as the Aberdeen Show and sale, Mr. Corson was selling Highland bulls at Oban. Except that too many bull stirks (or yearlings) were offered, with the result that not more than one-half of them found purchasers, the sale was a pretty fair one, and good prices were obtained for the better-class animals. The highest price was £122, paid by Mr. Bullough, of Fasnacloch, for the third-prize two-year-old bull. The leader in the same class, also brindled, made £110, and the one that divided them, which, curiously enough, was also brindled, made £70. These three are ideal specimens of the best type of beef-producing cattle. Mr. Blair, of Melfort, owned the bull which made £110, but the one which made £122 pleased fully as well amongst breeders. He has a wonderful amount of breed character, and being well haired—always an important consideration when looking at Highlanders—he was thought to be worth the money. The average price of the Highland bulls of all ages at Oban this year was £26 4s. 6d. Twenty-two aged bulls made £28 15s. 2d.; 32 two-year-old bulls made £28 1s. 10d.; and 20 bull stirks went at £20 9s. Highland cattle are a little longer in coming to maturity than the finer breeds, and most men prefer a two-year-old when purchasing.

"SCOTLAND YET."

The Curing of Meats.

In some districts beef rings have been organized by the farmers, who thus ensure themselves fresh meat during the warm weather, and, in addition, give variety to their diet. Among the farmers, however, are large numbers who are not in a beef ring or who prefer the cured meats for summer. To such people the recipes for curing beef and pork given below will be of interest:

An old-fashioned recipe for curing beef calls for eight pounds of salt, two ounces soda, one ounce saltpetre and five pounds of brown sugar to four gallons of soft water. This is supposed to be sufficient for 100 pounds of beef.

A part of the salt and sugar is mixed together and used to rub each piece of the meat as it is put into the barrel. Before packing the meat, cover the bottom of the barrel with a layer of salt. The remainder of the salt and sugar is added to the water with the other ingredients, and poured scalding hot over the meat. Place a board with a weight on top of it to hold meat under the brine.

There is a difference between corned and pickled beef that is not generally recognized. Corned beef is ready for use at the end of five days, but pickled beef may remain in the brine for three weeks or as many months.

If you wish to dry part of the beef, remove it from the brine at the end of three weeks, place it in a tub, cover it with water, and let it remain over night. Smoke it for a few days, then hang it from the ceiling over the kitchen stove until dry. Cover it with a loose bag made of cheese cloth or mosquito netting to protect it from dust and flies. When dried, sprinkle with black pepper, tie in a paper bag, and keep in a cool, dark place.

The plan adopted by one of the great American firms in the curing of their hams is as follows: The hams are placed in a large tray of fine salt, then the flesh side is sprinkled with finely-ground crude saltpetre until the hams are as white as though covered with a moderate frost, or, say four to five ozs. of saltpetre to 100 pounds of green hams. After applying the saltpetre, immediately salt with the fine salt, covering well the entire surface. Now pack the hams in bulk, but not in piles more than three feet high. In ordinary weather the hams should remain thus for three days. Then break bulk and re-salt. The hams thus salted and re-salted should remain in salt, in bulk, one day for each and every pound each ham weighs—that is, a ten-pound ham should remain ten days, and in such proportion of time for larger and smaller sizes. Thorough wash with tepid water until the hams are thoroughly cleaned, and, after partially drying, rub the entire surface with finely-ground pepper. Then the hams should be hung in the smoke-house, and this important operation begun. The smoking should be very gradually and slowly done. After the hams are cured and smoked, they should be re-peppered to guard against vermin, and then bagged. These hams are improved with age, and are in perfection when one year old.

The Result of Good Management Plus Good Stock.

At the 7th annual meeting of the Canadian Land & Ranch Co., Ltd., held at Winchester House, E. C., on January 25th, 1902, a dividend of 10 per cent. was declared, also a bonus of 10 per cent. upon the subscribed capital of the company for the year ending Oct. 31st, 1901. In addition, £2,000 (\$10,000) was placed to the reserve. The headquarters of this ranch are at Crane Lake, Assa. Mr. D. H. Andrews, well known to many of our Western stockmen, is the manager for the company in Canada.