

in winter fodder and grain suitable for sheep will do for the goats equally well.

The kids are born weaker than lambs and more care has to be taken of them at birth. The kids cannot follow the doe for two or three days and the general practice is to keep them in the stable for a week or ten days, or until they can easily keep up with the does. The kids are weaned when between four and five months of age. The males not required for breeders should be castrated when about four weeks old. We do not know of any breeders of Angora goats in Western Canada.

Live Cattle Imports

(OUR ENGLISH CORRESPONDENCE.)

When live cattle imports were allowed from foreign countries into Great Britain, Birkenhead, one of the Mersey ports, was a great centre for the slaughter of foreign cattle. Six years ago as many as 10,000 head were slaughtered each week. At present the slaughter reaches about 2,000 head, but this smaller total is much better than the meagre 500 of a few weeks ago.

There has been, and still is, considerable unemployment in Birkenhead, as a result of the great decrease of live cattle imports, and this question is a very serious one for the workmen of the Mersey town and presents another side of the cattle importation problem. Quite naturally, these people are strongly in favor of ending the embargo on Argentine cattle, as that country formerly sent many cattle. They claim, with much force, that the lairages were originally established to prevent the spread of disease. Any beast coming from a foreign country where disease was known to exist could be examined and attended to on the spot. This is decidedly not the idea now. Only healthy cattle must come—that is healthy when shipped, and this is quite right. Foreign cattle should not be landed at an open port, but only at the lairages for slaughter. At the lairages are all the facilities for detecting disease, and live cattle landed there for slaughter could not spread disease amongst British flocks and herds. Live foreign cattle cannot be landed now—at least Argentine cattle cannot, and herein is Birkenhead's grievance.

To show how stagnant matters are there it may be noted that no Canadian sheep had been landed this year till a week ago, when 300 sheep of good quality reached the port. In English markets generally all sorts of so-called fat cattle are being marketed—stripping the country of cattle, and next year we shall probably have a big shortage of home supplies. So far as the admittance of Canadian store cattle is concerned there seems no prospect of the removal of the embargo. This is no hardship to Canada, but rather a benefit, such cattle should be fattened in Canada rather than here. English feeders might benefit by the importation of stores, but not Canadian farmers.

DISEASED ANIMALS SLAUGHTERED.

The board of agriculture followed up its prompt action in connection with the outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Yorkshire by an order to slaughter the animals on the affected farm. The order was at once carried out—35 cattle, 94 sheep, and 4 pigs were slaughtered. Subsequently a steer on an adjoining farm was found to be suffering from the disease, and a second order was issued and 34 cattle and 107 sheep pastured in the same field were slaughtered. The board will allow compensation. The cause of the outbreak is a mystery, as Ripon is nowhere near any of the great ports where cattle are imported. An attempt has been made in parliament to get

an embargo placed upon feeding stuffs, straw, etc., from foreign countries where the disease has been known to exist during the last six months. In view of the enormous imports of feeding stuffs—88 million cwts.—the board of agriculture refuse any embargo, pending the discovery of the source of the present outbreak. Straw and litter are under an existing order.

The farmers in the district affected are suffering hardships and loss through not being able to move their stock, and are appealing for a lessening of the area covered by restrictions from 15 miles to 5 miles.

The Irish department of agriculture has taken the precaution to prohibit for the present all importations of cattle, sheep, goats and swine from Great Britain. The president of the board of agriculture (Earl Carrington), speaking at the Yorkshire show, referred to the outbreak, and said that although it was serious there was no occasion for panic.

MORE SHOWS HELD.

The Leicestershire show had discouraging weather. Though entries were larger than last year they were still below the 1908 total. Shire horses were an excellent feature, and there were 138 forward of good quality, including many Royal winners. The Shire gold medal went to a grand brood mare, Mr. Bradley's "Halstead Duchess 3rd."

Cattle, too, were a capital lot. A fine yearling bull, Mrs. Dixon's "Gunthorpe Beau," took the Shorthorn Society's prize for best bull.

Sheep were in small numbers, but of right types,

more sunshine, and crops are in a more advanced condition than they were a year ago.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

Lord Richard Cavendish, chairman of the development commission, has been speaking on the work of the new board, and states that the principal object is the economic development of the country.

There are in the country two great needs. The first is that from a scientific point of view we know little of the habits and nature of agricultural produce; and secondly, farmers do not place their goods on the market to the best advantage. The chairman laid special stress on the need for agricultural research—England would have to take care not to fall behind other countries. In Canada, that land of glowing promise, no stone was left unturned by which the natural resources could be brought to the highest standard of perfection. Canada's system of research and rural education was far in advance of anything in England.

As an instance of the practical value of agricultural research he could mention Prof. Biffen's (of Cambridge) discovery that a wheat could be grown in Australia with a yield 400 per cent. higher than any yet grown in this country.

In regard to live stock so long as British farmers maintained the high character of the stock, so long would Britain be the market for the world.

The board has £250,000 from last year's budget surplus for its purposes.

F. DEWHIRST.

Auction Sales of Sheep

The Sheep-breeders' Association of Manitoba are considering holding auction sales of range-bred ewes at Brandon, October 18; Portage la Prairie, October 20, and Winnipeg, October 22, provided the demand for sheep will justify the expenditure.

The association is undertaking these sales with the hope of improving the sheep industry in the province and assisting those who wish to obtain sheep at practically cost price. The class to be offered is confined to yearlings and to shearling ewes, range bred, as it is considered that the Western-bred sheep will do better on Manitoba farms than the eastern ones.

These animals will be put up in lots of six, and no one will be permitted to purchase more than two lots at any one sale, each purchaser assuming all freight charges from place of sale to his nearest station.

The secretary of the association, Dr. A. W. Bell, Winnipeg, is sending to prospective purchasers a return card to be filled in stating the number of sheep that will be purchased if prices are right, the breed desired, and the place of sale preferred. This will enable the association to provide the right sheep at the right place; the rest is with the buyer.

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Scours in little pigs come largely from over and irregular feeding. The little pig is greedy and its stomach and intestines are comparatively small. The digestive juices decompose the food and turn it into a milky, soupy condition from which the digested material must be assimilated, or it must be pushed through the intestines. When an excess of food is given the overplus must be passed along with the indigestible matter in the faeces. The faeces are thin, soft and watery, and the animal is scouring. Lighter feeding is the remedy rather than drugs. Sudden changes in the ration should be avoided, but the amount of food should be gradually increased from day to day in proportion with the pig's development.



SHORTHORN HERDS MADE A GREAT SHOWING AT WINNIPEG

and competition was very keen in the pig classes.

The Wirral and Birkenhead show is always a big one, as about £3,000 are offered in prizes. Some fine horses, cattle and sheep were shown.

Amongst draft horses the Leeds winner, A. Grandage's massive "Gaer Conqueror," took the Shire championship.

Some grand cattle were entered. That well-known winner, J. D. Willis' "Alnwick Favorite," taking champion honors for bulls, with F. Miller's "Dairy Queen 2nd" as champion cow.

As might be expected in the great dairy county of Chester the cheese exhibit was very large, quality high, and competition keen. The Royal winner, P. V. Cooke, of Tattenhall, took the champion award for Cheshire cheese.

CROP PROSPECTS VARY.

The great need of English cereal crops is sunshine, and plenty of it. Crop prospects vary widely even in a single district, but on the whole are not nearly so good as they were a month ago. Though the harvest last year was a late one, this year's is likely to be later than for many years, as a result of a sunless July. Wheat is an uneven crop; oats are patchy in many places; barley looks the most promising of the cereals. Beans and peas promise to be well above the average. Potatoes and root crops are satisfactory, the cool, moist weather has been good for them, but they need sunshine and warmth now. Small fruits have been good, but apples, pears and plums are beneath the average. In Scotland there has been