

## LIVE STOCK.

## Number of Bulls Loaned to Associations.

Breed	B. C.	Alta.	Sask.	Man.	Ont.	Que.	N. B.	N. S.	P. E. I.	Total
Shorthorn	35	214	234	112	84	98	1	9	12	799
Ayrshire	13	2	2		5	186	13	14	6	241
Holstein	11	4	6	5	12	35	2	3	1	79
Hereford	2	23	23	5	3	3				60
A. Angus	3	9	13	10				1		35
Fr. Can.						26				26
Jersey	10						1			11
Guernsey	3							2		5
R. Polled			2							2
Galloway	1									1
Total	78	252	280	132	104	348	17	29	19	1,289

## Distribution of Pure-Bred Sires.

The pure-bred sire, whether it be of horses, cattle, sheep, or hogs, is now considered to be a much more important factor in the profitable rearing of live stock than was the case ten years ago. Various investigations in the grading up of herds and flocks, as well as the good work done by the breeders of pure-bred stock in disseminating the blood of desirable families, has shown the very great advantage to be derived from the use of fixed type and breeding. It is quite true that many hundreds of nondescript sires are still in use throughout the country, but the pure-bred is making very satisfactory strides and Departments of Agriculture, as soon as public opinion will permit, may be expected to provide more or less compulsory measures for the extermination of the scrub male.

For some years the grade or nondescript has been looked upon with a steadily increasing amount of disfavor and in certain provinces at least, acts have already been passed making it illegal for any but a pure bred of standard quality to travel a regular route. The scrub bull, ram, and boar, however, still remain a serious menace to the live-stock industry in Canada and until the time comes when it will be agreeable to the majority to eliminate them by legislation, a strong educational campaign must be carried on. Since 1913 the Live-Stock Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture has been carrying out a policy of distributing pure-bred sires for the use of farmers who live in newly settled districts, or in older districts where sires of pure breeding are not available and where the farm are not financially able to purchase good animals for their own use. These sires distributed by the Live-Stock Branch are loaned, not given; and the loaning is done only after certain rules and regulations laid down by the officers of the Branch have been complied with. All the animals sent out are Canadian bred and purchased in Canada; as far as possible in the province where they are finally placed.

In a recent conversation with R. S. Hamer, Chief of the Cattle Division, a representative of "The Farmer's Advocate" learned that there were, at the close of

Every group of farmers desiring to benefit by the loan of a bull of any breed must organize themselves into an association under a constitution and by-laws provided by the Live-Stock Branch. A membership fee of one dollar is required. The annual meeting of the Association must be held in January and by the first of February of each year the secretary must forward to Ottawa a full report of the business of the previous year. This report covers a list of members and their addresses, statement of receipts and expenditures service record for the previous year and a renewal agreement if the association wants an animal for another year. It is also required by the Department that a regular agreement must be drawn up between the association and the caretaker of the bull, by which the latter agrees to take care of the bull and to keep a record of all service fees.

Occasionally a bull does not make good in a community for various reasons and sometimes, too, a bull loaned by the association is not given the proper care. Every effort is made to provide a satisfactory bull for the association; if it is finally determined that a bull is no good he is slaughtered, but this is not done unless necessary. Similarly, unless a bull is treated reasonably well the association is not allowed to keep him, because other groups of farmers can easily be found who will appreciate the opportunity to improve their herds.

in improving the terminals at Atlantic ports. Moreover the trade in chilled meats was one which necessitated continuous operation throughout the year, whereas the port of Montreal is closed five or six months by winter conditions.

The President stated that the delegation had been given a splendid reception, and had been assured that the matters brought to the notice of the various ministers would receive early and earnest attention.

S. A. Logan, second Vice-President of the Canadian Co-operative Wool Growers' Ltd., strongly supported the movement stating that this Association purposed taking up the marketing of lambs and mutton, and would urgently need cold-storage facilities to carry on its work. Prof. Cumming, Secretary for Agriculture for Nova Scotia, congratulated the M.S.B.A. for the unity and strength it has maintained in the face of difficulties as the one and only organization binding the activities and purposes of the three provinces together. He assured the Association that it would have the hearty support of the Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture in the proportion of the live-stock interests.

The following resolution was then proposed, and, after being spoken to by delegates from different parts of the area represented, was carried unanimously.

"Whereas, owing to limited local markets and lack of access to export markets except by shipping live stock



Entain.

Gr. champion bull at Illinois. Recently sold for \$10,000.



Hercules Diamond.

Highest priced bull at Shorthorn Congress Sale, selling for \$5,000. He is sired by a Canadian-bred bull.

## Maritime Live-Stock Men Demand Marketing Facilities.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

A large, representative and enthusiastic body of Maritime farmers gathered at the College of Agriculture, Truro, N.S., on Wednesday, March 5th, to attend the annual meeting of the Maritime Stock Breeders' Association. Among the important matters up for discussion was the fixing of the dates for the Maritime Fat Stock Show. It was decided that this exhibition shall be held at Amherst, N.S., December 15th to 18th, 1919.

The main interest of the meeting centralized, however, about the problem of securing markets for agricultural products. The President of the Association reported for the delegation recently in conference with Federal Ministers at Ottawa. He stated that the factor which had made immediate action imperative was an announcement made early in February by the Minister of Agriculture at a banquet in Toronto, given by the Canadian National Exhibition Board to the live-stock men of Canada. The Minister had there stated that the Federal Government proposed to spend nearly a million dollars in providing cold-storage facilities at the port of Montreal. This expenditure would be in the main for the purpose of creating an export trade in chilled meats.

The delegation had been appointed to press the claims of the Maritime Provinces, and in doing so had upon to pay for a transcontinental railway, which had been built for the purpose of facilitating marketing conditions, and which does not touch the port of Montreal. Millions of dollars had been spent already

long distances, with consequent heavy losses and depreciation in value, the prices received by the farmers of the three Maritime Provinces for their live stock are very unstable, and at best considerably lower than corresponding prices received at such export markets as Toronto and Montreal;

"And, whereas this condition has had a very depressing effect upon the raising of cattle, hogs and sheep, which are essential to sound agricultural practice;

"And, whereas it appears that this problem can only be solved by a policy that will give the live-stock men of the three provinces convenient access to stock yards, abattoirs and cold storage of sufficient capacity to meet the immediate needs and provide for future growth;

"And, whereas the working out of such a policy involves interprovincial and export trade;

"Therefore be it resolved that the Maritime Stock Breeders' Association do petition the Honorable, the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa to secure the services of an expert in live-stock marketing immediately, to investigate through, and with the assistance of, the Executive of the Maritime Stock Breeders' Association, the conditions in the three Maritime Provinces, and to make practical recommendations forthwith in respect to cold storage, abattoirs and stock yards, which when executed will bring about the much needed improvement in market facilities, and stimulate breeding of all kinds of live stock in the Maritime Provinces."

The proposed undertaking, which, by the way, has already been strongly supported by an editorial in "The Farmer's Advocate," represents the determination of the agricultural interests of a population of a million people to have a reasonable opportunity to develop their resources. The Maritime Provinces do

1918, 1,289 pure-bred bulls owned by the Live-Stock Branch, of which 1,259 were the in hands of associations formed for the purpose of profiting by the distribution policy. The table accompanying gives the number of bulls of the different breeds distributed by the Cattle Division to associations and their distribution in the various provinces. Since the inauguration of this policy in 1913, a total of 2,152 bulls have been purchased with an investment of \$295,125. In 1913 a total of 96 bulls were placed with local stock improvement associations; 413 were placed in 1914; 512 in 1915; 439 in 1916; 420 in 1917; 252 in 1918; and it is probable that about 500 will be placed during the present year. Applications are now coming in at the rate of about thirty a day. Stallions and bulls are loaned in the spring and boars and rams are loaned in the fall.

Among the 1,289 bulls now on hand there are 41 per cent. of those purchased in 1913; 33 per cent. of those purchased in 1914; 47 per cent. of those purchased in 1915; 63 per cent. of the 1916 purchases; 82 per cent. from 1917 and 95 per cent. of those purchased in 1918. A clear illustration is afforded of the value of buying young bulls, especially by comparing the figures for 1913 and 1914, but the difficulty here arises according to Mr. Hamer of preventing the associations from overworking a young bull. The Cattle Division does not make a practice of buying less than 18 months of age for this reason and practically all of the purchases are from a year and a half to three years old. Every bull bought is subject to the tuberculin test and no bull that reacts to the test is accepted. "No bulls are bought at consignment sales, or any public sales," said Mr. Hamer, "for the reason that it is not fair for the Government to compete with the private purchaser who wishes to improve his herd by the purchase of a better sire."

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