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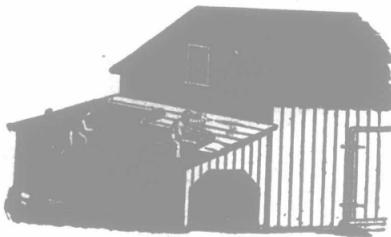
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Show-yard Judges and Their Types.

Leslie Smith, writing in the Horseman and Stockman, says:

A close study of the winning types of the various beef breeds for the past quarter of a century in the show-rings brings to our minds the question, "Are we showing a better class of beef cattle than we did in years gone by?" When we think of some of the stars and champions shown in times past, and in memory compare them with the present-day champions, we are forced to admit that all the different beef breeds are more nearly of one type than they were twenty-five years ago. Time was within the recollection of men living to-day when size and weight were the first consideration in determining the value of a beef animal. "What does he weigh?" was the first question asked a thousand times a day by as many visitors at the fairs as they paused to view the animals on exhibition. The same question can still be heard from the present-day visitor, although not quite so often as of old. Anyone who can recall the champion fat steer of 1884, at Chicago, and compare him with the International champion of 1905, will admit that there was considerable difference in the type of those two animals.

We can take the circuit of shows which each year closes with the American Royal, at Kansas City. How many in the four principal beef breeds carried the same honors right along with them? True, there were some that were never turned down, but a good many went up and down. One case in particular, I recall, where a female won first place, and went as low as seventh, one of the same company being placed first that stood along with her when she was placed first. Truly, this judging is a conundrum, but it is a very easy matter to criticize the judges, and the criticism is very often done by men who did not even lay hands on the animals, and outside appearance is often deceptive. Put those same critics in the judge's position, and they would be like a captain with his ship on the ocean without a compass. We know that many men have many minds, and animals don't all look the same to judges, but the shows are supposed to be for the education of the public, and a judge when called on to give his reason ought to be able to do so, and not be like Dr. Fell:

I do not love you, Dr. Fell,
The reason why I cannot tell;
But only this I know full well,
I do not love you, Dr. Fell.

But never advertise yourself by denouncing the judges. Remember they are very often selected or recommended by your different breed associations, and whether you got what was coming to you or not, the world will always believe that you got both an intelligent and honest rating, and their only comment, if any, will be, "Listen to that kicker."

Just a word as to the course of the judge in the performance of his task in the show-ring. It is presumed that he knows his business from experience, as a breeder; that he has confidence in his own judgment, and is honest and unbiased. It is well, after a general look over the animals, to draw out a few of the most likely, and after a close and careful examination, have them walked around a circle to see how they look in motion, and then place them in their order of rating. Always keep your breed type in view, and if you commence with a certain type follow along down your class as far as you can go, so that your work will show uniformity. Your work then, if well done, will be an education to those who need to learn the best type of the breed. On the whole, most of the judges of the beef breeds who are up-to-date, look for nearly the same type of animal. Of course, there are different characteristics of the different breeds, but we all look for the same broad backs and smooth forms, thickly-fleshed loins, long, level quarters, well-sprung ribs, thickly covered with natural flesh, mellow to the touch, yet firm and not flabby, and carrying coats of soft, silky hair—cattle that carry the bulk of their weight on their backs, where the highest-priced cuts of beef are found. We sometimes hear men describing cattle that suit them as low-down, blocky, wide as a wagon, and all the rest of it. That may be all right,

and it may not. I am not very sure but that you can get them too low down. The nearer we put their bodies to Mother Earth, the more weight we will have under, and that means more cheap meat. Then, again, your very deep animals don't always carry as much width as they ought.

Some years ago, along with a noted cattleman, I was looking over a bull I had thought of purchasing. I remarked that I thought he was rather flat along the ribs. My friend said on account of his great depth, it made him look flat. I said that the rule would work both ways, that on account of his flat ribs it made him look deep. Intelligent breeders have all been working with the same end in view, to get the greatest weight of the cuts that bring the highest price in the world's markets. The science and the art of breeding comes not from fine-spun theories, but it is largely an intuition which comes to the man who lives with his stock, studying their nature and individual characteristics, watching and directing their feeding and development.

GOSSIP.

The imported five-year-old Shorthorn bull, Royal Kitchener =50084=, is advertised for sale by Ira B. Vannatter, Ballinafad, Ont., near Erin (C. P. R.) and Georgetown (G. T. R.). Young stock, sired by this bull, are also for sale.

A GRIM RETORT.

A medical practitioner was recently an aspirant for a district councillorship, and, being a popular fellow, soon had plenty of willing workers to assist him in his campaign.

At one of his meetings a well-meaning supporter endeavored to impress the audience as to the candidate's fitness for the honor by extolling the many good things he had done for the benefit of the community, winding up an eloquent address with the following remarks:

"Why, you are all aware that previous to the doctor coming amongst us we were saddled with the upkeep of the local cottage hospital, which was a costly institution. Now, you know, he has been the means of relieving us of that burden, and it has been pulled down, there being no further use for it."

But, alas! a vindictive member of the opposition was present, and a stentorian voice from the back of the hall bawled out:

"Aa, lad, it's true enuef, is that, but that's forgotten tae mention that we've had to buy a new cemetery!"

ST. ANNE'S JERSEYS.

The year 1871 saw the foundation of what has continuously since that date been one of the most noted winning and producing herds of St. Lambert Jerseys in Canada, founded by the late W. A. Reburn, now the property of W. A. Reburn & Co., Massawippi P. O., Que. The herd is now some thirty strong, straight St. Lambert blood, the produce and descendants of such noted cows as Lady Fawn of St. Anne, with a butter record of 16 lbs. 12½ ounces in seven days, and 47 lbs. 11½ ounces in 21 days, when fifteen years of age, and Hebe of St. Lambert, both being daughters of that great bull, Victor Hugo 197; Pet of St. Lambert, the dam of Oaklands Nora, one of the most celebrated cows of the breed, and Jolie of St. Lambert, these last two being daughters of Victor Hugo's greatest son, Lord Lisgar 1066. These cows, coupled with bulls carrying fifty per cent. blood of Victor Hugo and Stoke Pogis 3rd, two of the most noted bulls of their day, constitute one of the richest-bred St. Lambert herds in the country. The present stock bull is Lord Roberts of St. Anne, also strongly impregnated with the blood of Stoke Pogis 3rd. His lieutenant in service is Queen Jolie of St. Anne's Son, he being rich in the blood of Victor Hugo. Among the foundation cows of the herd might be mentioned Jolie of St. Lambert 5126, whose three daughters were winners of "The Farmer's Advocate" special prize—a silver tea service—for the best three cows of any age, showing the greatest profit from food consumed in three days, they showing a profit of 132 per cent., the largest on record. From such richly-bred producing stock as this are animals of both sexes and all ages for sale.