

this problem and well worth studying, for there is no doubt that in many cases the quality of the water given is not as well considered as it should be.

The Hereford appears to be one of the breeds of cattle that are more affected by the quality of the water they have to drink than some others. It will generally be found, however, that any cattle which have been brought up during the early part of their lives in districts where mountain streams abound that are always clear and fresh, invariably take badly to stagnant ponds when removed to pastures where nothing but the latter can be had. It often happens, too, that these ponds are not kept as clean and sweet as they might be. A few rails to prevent the animals walking into them are an excellent thing; also the road leading to such drinking places should always be kept clean and hard by stone and engine ashes.

With regard to cattle having this tendency to long for the running stream, the writer knew a herd of Galloway bullocks, fattening, which during the spring months had been foddered upon hill pastures where little streams of pure water abounded, and when the time came to remove them to the fattening pastures, some of which were only supplied with stagnant ponds, the cattle were a long time in settling down, though the grass was the sweetest and richest that could be found. The cause of the discontent was the water, and this was particularly noticeable with one animal that had been observed always to go to the mouth of one of the springs to quench its thirst after the hay breakfast that had been provided for them on the hill pastures.

The bullock mentioned would walk to the pond and round its banks as though in search of the clear, running stream, and would turn away and go round the pasture bawling for something he could not find, and not until its thirst had become too intense to be endured would he drink at the pond. The result was that this one animal in particular lost ground terribly, until as the autumn came on, he and his companions were removed to aftermath, where again they had beautiful clear, running water, when they all became contented, and were evidently grateful by the manner in which they began to thrive, lie down, and fatten. Often in time of drought animals that

had access to running, clear water thrive much faster than those that are otherwise supplied, though the latter may be better off for feed.

Whether this taste for the clear and running stream is begotten of the habit of having been supplied from such a source during early life or whether the breed of cattle pure and simple has anything to do with it, may be difficult to say; but one thing has been noticed by the writer in respect of this—namely that the Shorthorn breed is, as a rule, less particular upon this point than most others, and it is not often that this breed is watered from mountain streams, or, to put the matter in another form, there are probably more Shorthorns kept upon the flat and level lands, where fewer running streams are found, than there are cattle of other breeds. It is also well worth observing how the cattle, when out in the fields, have their fixed time when the whole herd almost invariably go to quench their thirst. A. W. S.

Among the Romney Sheep of New Zealand

In the front rank of Romney marsh sheep breeders stands Mr. Ernest Short, of Parorangi, Feilding. His sheep have secured so many prizes at the leading shows, that the older breeders are purchasing his rams at high figures.

Availing myself of a long standing invitation, I wired Mr. Short, who met me at the Feilding Railway Station with his \$1,000 motor car, and we travelled. As we passed by several of Mr. Short's properties and called in to see the different

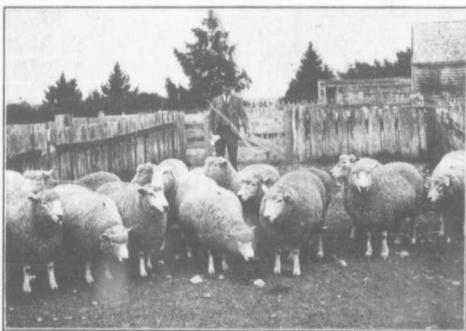
classes of sheep, I was struck with the excellent quality of the pasture.

A farm of 300 acres near his property was recently sold for \$185 per acre. Dairying is carried on in this locality, but as far as I could see sheep predominated, and these mostly Romney, a great many of which are registered.

Mr. Short is a colonial, born in New Zealand. At 16 years of age he was driving home a few Romney sheep for his uncle, when he espied a particularly nice ewe among the number. She seemed to be of a different type to the others. Mr. Short could not keep his eye off her. On reaching his destination he clipped this particular sheep and the fleece turned the scales at over 16 pounds. "Then came the determination, and turning point to me," he said, "I registered a vow that given the opportunity I would breed a flock like that one, and I have ever since kept that type as my ideal." How far he has succeeded can be seen by his records. Last season at the leading shows he secured 116 prizes independent of champions and record champions, gold and silver medals, and shields, etc. Imported rams are relegated to the background, as the old type of Romney, with his bare head, long back, low wither and light fuzzy wool has been superseded by his own breeding.

A 20-POUND CLIP.

In the champion ram "Record" (663), Mr. Short has bred his ideal sheep. It is not alone his symmetrical form, extraordinary deep brisket and perfect head, but the wool that covers this perfect sheep is of that dense and long staple, showing



A bunch of Romney ewes, bred and owned by Mr. E. Short, Parorangi, Feilding, New Zealand. Mr. Short is expected on a visit to Canada shortly.



a beautiful with no points, so After a securing 76 pounds of told me he for £1,000 his ram la \$250 each, picked his Short's reg 1,200, they to 14 pound stud two from 15 to his ordinat 8½ to 9 poi this year 26,000 sheep 11,500 ewes Mr. Short Romney ray his ambition, whole flock and to that a large num rous. The machinery, the latest n the wool : stand.

Besides sh head of H registered h also a dairy milking is d the milk tal factory. T for milk wa horses, inclu mares, hacks fill the list of which ar acres of land 500 acres, 1 stone countr stead, and away on ou