

looked after is the handling quality of the animal. Good handling quality indicates that the possessor is a good feeder. It shows that the animal is in good health or thrifty and capable of beginning to gain as soon as an abundance of food is supplied. We speak of cattle as possessing good handling quality when the skin is mellow and loose. A thick mossy coat of hair of medium fineness and a moderately thick skin are also desirable.

The stocker or feeder should have a good constitution. Good constitution is indicated by a wide, deep chest, by fullness in the heart girth, depth and breadth of body and good handling quality. The desirable characteristics of the best form, quality and constitution should be found in well-bred high grades of any of the leading beef breeds. However, while breed is important the individual animal should receive more attention than that he belongs to any particular breed.

In closing we might add that the ability to select stockers and feeders which have within them the possibility of making prime steers is one of the first and most important lesson for the farmer to learn. Profits in steer feeding come more from selecting or raising the right type of animal than from skill in feeding and managing the steer during the finishing period. It is seldom possible to produce at a profit gains which do not increase the value per pound of the total weight of the animal. And it is only the animal of the best type that will do this during the fattening period.

The Calgary Sale

We publish elsewhere in this issue a report sent us of the public auction sale of pure bred stock and the meeting of stockmen at Calgary last month. The results of this sale show that this method of disposing of pure bred stock is a most popular one in the West. An average of over \$95 each for all breeds sold is very good and puts the Western sale on an equality with the other government sales held in Canada during the past year or two. The offerings were from local breeders chiefly, who are to be congratulated upon having produced so many good animals. The success of the sale was in no small degree due to the efforts of the Live Stock Commissioner who spent considerable time in the West in connection with it. To Mr. C. W. Peterson the energetic Deputy Commissioner of Agriculture for the Territories the success of the sale was also in a large measure due. This sale should give a new impetus to the shipping of pure bred stock to the West.

The Galt Horse Show

The Galt Horse Show held on Friday and Saturday of last week was a success. The entries were larger than ever before and the display was very good. The management is to be congratulated upon its success.

Our Western Letter

Sugar Beets Again. Stallion Syndicates. Winnipeg Industrial. Cattle from Kansas.

Winnipeg, June 2nd, 1902.

Yesterday and to-day have been days of rejoicing in our city and province. Everywhere flags are flying mast high, bands are playing, militia on parade, everybody in holiday attire, each man shaking hands with his neighbor and thanking Heaven for the return of peace. The event probably touches Western Canada more closely than any other part of the country, for in proportion to population, we have sent more men to the front. We rejoice unfeignedly at the happy conclusion of the war and already are looking forward to another celebration, when friends and brothers now in the field shall return with victory proudly perched above their banners.

A few weeks ago reference was made to the successful efforts of the Board of Trade to secure a repetition of the unsuccessful efforts of past years to grow sugar beets in Manitoba. It now appears that a large number of our farmers who are generally supposed to be looking for money in their farming operations, are anxious to devote time and labor to the effort to extract sugar from their best wheat lands. Your correspondent is informed by the Provincial Weed Inspector, who naturally meets a good many farmers in the execution of his official duties, that farmers in all parts of the province are inquiring for sugar beet seed. They will have no difficulty in securing it, for the price charged here, 35c per lb. leaves a handsome profit to the dealers. All things taken into consideration the farmer may make as much profit as the seedman. The sugar beet may yet find a mission in Manitoba if only to turn to profit the thousands of acres of bare fallow to be seen every year in the spring wheat belt. Hoed crops have no place in the prairie farmer's rotation. Potatoes, roots and corn altogether amount to less than one per cent. of the cultivated area. The area of bare fallow yearly amounts to nearly twenty per cent. or half a million acres. Were a quarter of this devoted to roots, in which term the aristocratic sugar beet is included with the plebeian turnip, and enough dairy cattle kept to consume the product, the creameries of the province would increase in number, and those now existing would be even better patronized than now. If, therefore, the hope of sugaring their bread and butter leads Manitoba farmers to grow beets, though they will not secure the sugar, there is a chance of getting a thicker layer of butter.

Horse breeding in Manitoba shows signs of improvement. The organization of numerous "syndi-

cates" of farmers for the purchase of pure bred animals for local use is prophetic of a considerable improvement in the farm horses of the province. The animals purchased are almost exclusively of the best breeds, the Clydes predominating and the Shires a badly distanced second. "From Galbraith of Janesville" could be written on a surprising proportion of the best stallions traveling in Manitoba. Some of these are from Eastern Canada but mostly from British breeders. There are, however, a large number of Ontario bred Clydes in the west, and the visitor from the east has no cause to blush when they are pointed out to him.

The prize list of the Winnipeg Industrial Exhibition is now being distributed. \$40,000 will be expended in prizes and attractions. Last year the expenditure for prizes amounted to about \$15,000 and it is expected that the above figure will be considerably exceeded at the coming fair. The dates are July 21st to 25th inclusive. Eastern stockmen should not fail to secure a prize list of Western Canada's Great Fair, second only in importance to the Toronto Industrial.

The Anticostans have returned to their fishing and the prairie homes where well meaning philanthropists sought to install these sons of the sea, know them no longer. They have left us, but whether they have returned to Anticosti and the iron rule of Menier the Chocolate King, we know not. They found plowing the soil and reaping the golden grain not exactly to their taste and henceforth will plough the sea and reap a harvest of silvery fish. They were a worthy people, but not adapted to our climate.

A recent wire from Calgary says: A large herd of splendid cattle arrived in the city to-day, having come all the way from Kansas. They are all rising two years old and are Hereford grades and pure-breds. This breed is rapidly coming to the front as a good range animal. The herd numbers 1,090 head all told and are in excellent shape, looking as though they had just come off the grass instead of having come off the cars after a journey of nearly two thousand miles. The herd is the property of a gentleman named Reid who has invested in a fine stretch of ranch lands near Olds, Alta.

Some of our fair managers, who do not know one breed of stock from another, remind us of the city farmer, who, seeing a tree in the orchard without any apples on it when all the other trees were full, asked why this tree had no apples. Because it was a plum tree.