

either whole or ground, boiled into a thick gruel. Flaxseed contains a very large proportion of fat and protein, and a very small amount of starch, hence it may be fed safely in milk, as the action of the saliva is not so much needed in its digestion. Fed in small quantities at first, and afterwards increased until two cupfuls of the gruel are fed in the milk, it not only forms a good cream equivalent, but has an important action in preventing constipation and promoting that general appearance of thrift and well-being which is characteristic of the well-doer among beef cattle. The flaxseed should be continued until the calf is eating grain very freely. It is well to continue to feed milk as long as we can; at least, till the calf is six or seven months old.

As soon as possible, while the calf is yet on new milk, the calf should be taught to eat. For this purpose, a little good clover hay is very valuable. Whole oats are very soon relished, and the calf may safely be allowed all he will eat. It is very important, however, to see that no food is left in the manger. We should be careful to feed no more than will be eaten up at one feed, and if any is left, it should be cleaned out of the manger before another feed is given. In the winter a little pulped roots, or even silage, may be given with advantage. In the summer, we believe it is well to give the calves the run of a small paddock of grass, provided with a shelter from the sun during the heat of the day. Calves so treated do not present the sleek, smooth appearance of those which are kept constantly in the stable, but they develop a better constitution and do better afterwards when turned out on the grass as yearlings to shift for themselves. D.

### The Chicago Judging Contest.

The results of the Spoor Trophy judging competition at the Chicago International Exhibition were made known on December 31st, nearly five weeks after the judging took place. Iowa College secures the bronze bull for the third time. Ohio stands second and Kansas third. The Ontario College authorities elected to withhold their team from this year's competition, the public being left to gather that they were not satisfied with the methods of conducting the competition, and judging from the delay incident upon making the awards, it would appear that their contentions were not wholly groundless. If there have been unbusinesslike methods in connection with the management of this competition, it is to be hoped the action of Ontario in withholding her team and the delay in announcing the results will have the effect of eliminating every possibility of suspicion of questionable practices, and of arranging the details of the competition so that the awards may be made in the most straightforward and expeditious manner.

So far as the Ontario stock-judging students are concerned the position taken by their college authorities was most unfortunate. In withholding their team the authorities at the Ontario College evidently intended their action to be considered as a protest against the methods of managing the competition, but it must be admitted that the sacrifice they called upon the students to make was far out of proportion to the good to be accomplished. International competitions are rare opportunities in a student's life, and should be utilized to the aggrandizement of his native country, and to the strengthening of his own personal position. Such an opportunity was either neglected by the students or denied them by the authorities. As individuals their loss will be borne personally, as Canadians their action hardly tallies with the characteristic Canadian determination to do their best at every opportunity for competition, and to accept the verdict uncomplainingly, whether it be just or unjust.

### Stock-raising Declining in Scotland.

It cannot fail to strike Canadians in a disappointing sense to learn that the returns recently issued by the British Board of Agriculture show a serious diminution in the number of cattle and sheep in Scotland during the last few years. A writer to one of the Scottish agricultural journals deplored the conditions which give up the Highland hills and moors, so suitable to the raising of sheep and Highland cattle, to the preserving of deer and game for millionaires to shoot.

A different view of the above situation is given by a writer to one of the British sporting journals—a Highland laird—who thus delivers himself: "There can be no reason why the Board of Agriculture should not take an interest in preserving game, a matter which, from the economical standpoint, is of much greater importance than, for example, the prevention of scab in sheep." He goes on to lament the fate of the "mountain," which are driven from the moors by the "ill-rent, iniquitous stench" of sheep dip. What Scotland wants, and what Scottish tenants should insist upon getting, is an Act providing compulsory attendance of the Scottish lairds at an agricultural college for a course of training.

### Live Stock Sales in England in 1903.

From a specially-prepared compilation of the leading English stud stock sales during the past year, our correspondent has written the following summary, making mention as far as possible of the principal sales in each breed:

**SHIRE HORSES**, on account of the widespread interest displayed in them from the highest to the lowest in the land, naturally take precedence. Compared with the preceding year, we find that the averages realized are not so high, but in more than one instance the top prices of the several sexes have been higher. The best sale average of the year was that secured by Messrs. J. & J. Shaw, £165 14s. for 27 head; this was closely followed by Mr. J. Wainwright's £152 1s. 2d. for 33 head. Turning to the individual prices, it is found that £868 5s. was the top sale price for a mature stallion in 1903, Mr. J. Wainwright being the vendor. Another from this stud made £682 10s. Two at Messrs. J. & J. Shaw's realized £640 10s. 10d. and £336, and one at the Shire horse sale at the Agricultural Hall, London, made £241. The three-year-old stallions were in request, one at the Agricultural Hall sale making £541 10s., the top price of the age during the year; others sold at £420 (C. Keovil's), £283 (Sir A. Henderson's), £325 10s. (J. & J. Shaw's), and £231 (J. Wainwright's). At the Agricultural Hall sale in the spring the top price for two-year-old stallions was secured, £399, the next best price being £378 at Mr. J. Whitehurst's sale, and £304 at Messrs. Shaw's. Mr. J. Wainwright made top price for yearling stallions, £325 10s., and Lord Llangatock that for colt foals, £210. Lady Wantage easily led the way in respect to the prices for brood mares and four-year-old fillies, at £462 for the former and £525 for the latter; two others of the first-named age made £315 and one of the last named, Lady Wantage, in three-year-olds, also made the best price, £535 10s. Lord Llangatock was the next, with £399 10s. Mr. W. Jackson took the lead in the two-year-olds, an age that sold remarkably well, his top price being £420, Sir A. Henderson's £398 coming in a good second, whilst Lord Llangatock secured £315 for another; His Lordship making the best price for filly foals, namely, £168, and also for yearling fillies, £336.

**HACKNEY** sales have not been so numerous as in some former years, and, further, it is becoming more and more difficult to separate these sales from those of the ponies. The best price made for stallions during the year, as published in the agricultural press, is £183 15s. For three-year-olds the top price secured at the sale held by the Messrs. Mitchell was £131 15s. The two-year-old stallions made from £89 5s. and the yearlings at from £126, this price being made of one at Sir Gilbert Greenall's sale. Brood mares sold at good values. Amongst the best prices of the year are £199 10s., £176 10s., £141 15s., and £117 12s., made at the respective sales held by Messrs. Mitchell, W. Foster, James Clappison, and A. Wilson. The £173 5s., made by Mr. Clappison, was the best price for the three-year-old fillies, and £110 5s., realized by Mr. W. Foster, the best price for a two-year-old filly.

**FOR HARNESS HORSES** (singles) prices have been quite good; one being sold at the Wrexham spring sale for £420; another, Mr. A. Morton's, making £378; another, at Sir G. Greenall's, making £241 10s.

**FOR HUNTERS** the demand was a good one all through, Sir H. F. de Trafford making the top price, namely, £1,100 for one and £1,050 for a second, the average for the twenty-three being £287 3s. Lord Lonsdale made up to £472 for one, and averaged £217 7s. 8d. for fourteen.

**CLYDESDALE** sales were not many, the best prices noticed during the past year being: For two-year-old stallions, £94 10s.; for mares and fillies, £336, £145 10s., £170, and £168. The late R. Frederick, Lord Arthur Cecil, and Mr. H. Webster were the principal vendors during the year.

**SUFFOLK** sales were not very numerous, £260 being the best price for stallions, this being secured at the sale held at the Royal Show, the animal being purchased for Australia, together with another one of the same age and sex, at £152 5s. Two-year-old stallions made up to £65 2s.; brood mares to £78 15s.; three-year-old fillies to £84, and two-year-olds up to £47 5s. There was a capital demand for both colt and filly foals, the former making up to £68 5s., and the latter to £33 12s.

### CATTLE SALES.

**SHORTHORNS**.—Amongst these, first and foremost, comes the Shorthorn, at home or wherever it goes, either as a beef or milk producer. It is a breed of cattle second to none for general purposes. The sale record of the past year is a notable one, more particularly for the high individual prices realized, some of the more important of which are referred to below. The best average of the year in England was that recorded at H. M. the King's sale at Windsor, when a very notable selection of cattle were offered. The

sale averaged £22 2s. 6d., the best of the year, though Earl Manvers ran it very close with his average of £21 2s. 7d. for sixty-one head. Mr. W. Bell's sale takes the next place in the sale average list, with £268 3s. for fifty-four head; then follows the well-known annual sale at Ribby, Mr. H. Dudding's, at which sixty-two head made the fine average of £54 11s. 8d. The best prices realized at the auctions, for the several ages mentioned below are as follows: Bulls—£840 for Royal Duke, at the King's sale; £530 5s. for one at Mr. W. Bell's, whose fifteen bulls averaged £127 2s. 5d.; £367 10s. at Earl Manvers' sale; whilst £315 was reached three times, twice at the Birmingham spring sale and at Mr. Ecroyd's sale; one at Mr. Dudding's made £239 5s.; one at Birmingham £231; another at Perth made £273, and one at Mr. A. Hiscock's £183 15s. The most notable sales for bull calves were those held in Scotland in conjunction by Messrs. W. S. Marr and W. Duthie, the former gentleman making an average of £211 10s. 4d. for eight, with a top price of £630, and the latter an average of £144 2s. 9d. for twenty-two, with the top price of £493 10s. Several other calves realized over the century, amongst them one at Captain Hume Graham's, £141 15s.; one at Mr. McIntosh's £110 5s., and one at Mr. John Wilson's, £105.

**ABERDEEN-ANGUS**.—The large and widespread interest in Aberdeen-Angus cattle is clearly shown by the wide area over which the sales of this breed have during the past year extended, namely, from Perth in the north of Scotland to Tedfold in the south of Sussex. At the whole of the sales high prices for the best specimens have been the rule. The averages realized are quite in keeping with the three typical ones given, namely, Mr. John Grant's, at Advie Mains, £46 8s. 5d. for sixteen; G. R. Siach's, at Rasebrea, £38 14s. 8d. for forty-seven, and Mr. C. W. Shroeter's, at Tedfold, Sussex, £36 18s. 9d. for sixty-six head. The top price for bulls was made at the Perth spring sale, £504; another making £115 10s. at the Birmingham sale. Mr. G. R. Siach made the best price for bull calves, £73 10s. No less than five cows realized over the century: Mr. Siach's £199 10s.; Mr. C. W. Shroeter's £157 10s.; a similar price for one at Perth, where another made £115 10s., and £110 5s. at the Earl of Longford's. The best prices for two-year-old heifers were £147 at Mr. Siach's; one of Mr. Wilson's making £105 1s., and another at Perth spring sale £100 16s. The yearling heifer record price for the year was secured at Perth spring sale, £148 1s., and £47 5s. was the top figure for heifer calves.

**HEREFORD** sales this year have been made notable by the grand result secured at the dispersion sale of the well-known herd owned by Mr. R. Green, where sixty head made the notable average of £54 10s. 2d.; the best prices being: Bull calves, £273 10s.; cows, £315; the average for twenty-eight of this age being £83 17s., and for yearling heifer, £472 10s., fifteen of this age making an average of £65 14s. 6d. The two-year-olds sold from £110 10s., and the heifer calves from £37 16s.

**GALLOWAYS** have not had a large number of sales, but at those which have been held the demand has been very good indeed. The following include the best prices of the year: Bulls, £53 11s. at Castle Douglass, and cows from £40, Mr. J. Jefferson's.

### SHEEP.

All through the year the hopes of flock-owners have been in the ascendant, and prices have kept getting higher and higher, the best prices of the season being those made at the latter sales.

A brief review of the more important results disclosed in connection with the principal English breeds are given below:

**LEICESTERS**, which have in the past had so very much to do with the improvement of the present breeds of English sheep, are not at the present time so much in demand as some of those breeds which owe a good share of their present success to it. However, the sales, judging from the reports before us, have been remunerative, to their breeders, the best average for rams being £10 3s., and the top price for the same was £18 18s.

**COTSWOLDS** are not at the present time very popular at home, but still in some counties, particularly in Norfolk, there is a large demand for them for crossing purposes, Mr. D. Brown being the leading ram seller, or, rather, "Letter," in that part of the country, for he never sells, but always "Lets" his sheep for the season, after which they return to him again. One hundred ram lambs "let" at his sale made an average of £7 6s., and his rams, which made up to £18 7s. 6d., averaged £11 11s. for seventy. The best price of the year was, however, made by Mr. W. Houlton, whose flock has come well ahead during the past few years; this was £26 5s.

**THE LINCOLNS** have again secured the honor of being the breed that has produced the top price ram of the year; this sheep being the unbeaten yearling ram, sold at Mr. H. Dudding's sale to go to the Argentine at £231; Mr. Tom Casswell selling one at Lincoln at £71 8s.; and