



A DAY'S SPORT, NEAR STRATHCONA, ALTA.

4. Norwood Sanitary Fluid.—Ineffective.
5. Flylene.—Keeps flies off well, and gums horses but little. Very satisfactory.
6. Eli Fly Chaser.—Quite satisfactory, and equal to No. 5. Does not gum badly.
7. Eureka.—Same as No. 6.
8. Cyphers.—Protects for short time only, and gums badly.

GENERAL CONCLUSIONS.

(a) Quite satisfactory: 1, Flylene; 2, Eureka; 3, Eli Fly Chaser; 4, Shoo Fly; 5, Light Coal Tar Oil.

(b) Less satisfactory: 1, Sure Thing; 2, Cattle Comfort; 3, Rippley's Fly Remover; 4, Cyphers Anti-fly Pest; 5, Recommended Mixture No. 13.

(c) Unsatisfactory: 1, Norwood Sanitary Fluid; 2, Stop Fly; 3, Recommended Mixture No. 12.

The only objection to those marked "quite satisfactory" is their cost. Even at the present cost of the commercial articles, it is believed their use is warranted, because cows remain much quieter, and horses work better and require less attention from the driver. The report suggests, also, the use of light coal tar oil as a promising substance.

The Ontario Agricultural College Stock Department uses a mixture of fish oil and crude carbolic acid, in the proportion of two to one.

Range Steer Experiment Ended.

After slightly more than five months stable-feeding, the range steers which were sent to Ontario to be prepared for market have been sold. They were stabled about the middle of December, but got little more than hay before the first of the year, as they had to be almost coaxed to eat grain and roots. In February they got 12 pounds hay, 16 pounds roots and 4 pounds of meal each per day. This was gradually increased until during the last few weeks, when they were supplied with 25 pounds hay, 40 pounds roots and 8 pounds of meal each per day. It will be noticed that although they had no desire for meal or roots at first, they seemed to relish a goodly portion after a few weeks. Their exact gains per month are not known, as it was considered not safe to attempt weighing them. The greater number of them seemed almost as wild when they were sold as when they arrived at Guelph last December. When weighed on the market scales then they averaged slightly over 965 pounds, and when weighed at the same place on June 1st they averaged 1,190 pounds, showing a gain of about 225 pounds per head in the five months. It remains to be considered whether this increase of weight is sufficient to make it pay to send the cattle from the ranges to Ontario to be fattened. As we stated in our last article the steers should be taught to eat meal before leaving, and should be dehorned. Then it is also thought that if they were enclosed in a large yard, with simply an open shed to feed in, they would make better gains, as some of those which have been experimented with were allowed to run out frequently during the last five or six

weeks, and they appeared to do better than they did while penned in all the time. The whole bunch was considered of good enough quality for export, and were shipped to England.

Judging Contests: How Managed.

The first live-stock judging competition on record was held at the Trans-Mississippi Exposition, Omaha, Nebraska, in 1898. Liberal prizes were offered, but only students of American agricultural colleges were allowed to compete. On that occasion Iowa Agricultural College distinguished itself by winning the chief honors, having on her team as winner the following Canadians: J. H. Grisdale, now Dominion Agriculturist, who carried off the sweepstakes, with W. J. Kennedy, now Professor of Animal Husbandry and Vice-Director in Iowa, a close second, and Dr. A. G. Hopkins, well-known to the readers of the "Advocate," who also occupied a prominent place. So satisfactory were the results of this event that upon the reorganization of the Chicago Fat Stock Show, being at the same time the birth of the present International in 1900, it was decided to hold another competition, to include students from the agricultural colleges of Canada. Each year since that time a large number of

young men have come forward from the chief institutions of agricultural learning on this continent, and the contest for honors in this class has come to be looked upon as one of the leading features of the exhibition. Nor has its effects been confined to the show alone, for the animal husbandry department of all the colleges have become enthused, and more attention is being paid to practical education in live-stock conformation than ever before.

In determining the skill of each competitor in these competitions, five animals are usually brought into the ring for inspection, the three best of which are required to be placed first, second and third, and reasons given for so doing. A plentiful supply of paper is always prepared for the purpose, and upon it the order of placing the animals, followed by the reasons, is written. No one is allowed to speak to or in any way interfere with the competitors after they enter the ring and are allowed to see the stock which they are to judge. When the time for each examination, which usually lasts about thirty minutes, has expired, judges who are recognized authorities on the class under consideration place the animals, noting the reasons for so doing, and upon their rating are the competitors' papers examined. The basis upon which the awards are made are quite similar to those which will be used at Winnipeg this year, published in May 5th issue of this paper; i. e., correct placing, 45 points; reasons for placing, 40 points; style of doing work, 10 points; and time occupied in judging, 5 points. The number of classes to be judged varies according to the liberality of the different breeders' associations to donate money for a competition in their particular breed, but generally there has been three each of horses, cattle, sheep and hogs.

This year at Winnipeg competitors for the "Farmer's Advocate" gold medal for sweepstakes will be required to judge heavy horses, beef cattle, dairy cattle, mutton sheep and bacon hogs, and it is also expected that for the gold medal being given at Brandon the requirements will be similar.

The educational advantages of these competitions wherever tried have been far-reaching, but a great deal depends upon the management and skill with which they are carried out. There is no reason, however, why we in this country should be one whit behind our American cousins in this matter. Our young stockmen are just as clever, and the desire for a better knowledge of animal form, as evidenced by the interest in the lectures on live-stock both at Winnipeg and Brandon last winter, is no less energetic in Manitoba than in the land of Uncle Sam. We trust that many young farmers who are ambitious to become a judge of good stock will enter the contest at either Brandon or Winnipeg, and win valuable prizes.

Mr. T. H. Lowes writes us as follows: "I am very much pleased with the 'Advocate.' I have taken it for years, and although I take two other agricultural papers, the 'Farmer's Advocate' is my choice by far. Wishing you every success, I am, Yours faithfully, T. H. LOWES, Yorkton, Man."



MAIN STREET IN GLADSTONE, MAN.