

it is arranged on one side only, there would seem less danger of draughts and a too rapid circulation of air.

The effectiveness of this system depends upon several factors: the thickness of the cloth, the size of the cloth opening and the tightness of the building. Naturally, the smaller the opening the looser the cloth should be, and also the more open the building, the closer the mesh of the cloth and the smaller the opening should be.

The advantages of this system are that it is cheaper to install than any other, its cost being practically nothing since the cost of the cloth is less than the cost of glass for the windows. It gives pure fresh air to the stock at all times, does not allow any draughts, and keeps the stable dry and warm at all times. It is claimed by those who use it that even when a strong wind is blowing against the curtain, forcing it inward, the cold air can hardly be detected two inches from the cloth, and then, only by wetting the finger and holding it up, can the movement of the air be noticed. The air that enters seems at once to be diffused throughout the stable, driving out the dampness and foul air and furnishing the barn with pure atmosphere without noticeable cold, in the most satisfactory and economical manner.

The system is admitted to have some slight disadvantages. One is that the cloth curtains are easily torn, another is that they must be kept clean to be effective. But the latter can scarcely be charged as a disadvantage since the stable should be kept clean anyway.

We do not know of any stable in the West ventilated in this manner, but there are poultrymen in this country who have used curtain-front houses with the most satisfactory results. All the experiences with this system in stable ventilation come from the Eastern States. There seems no reason, however, why it should not work as satisfactorily here as there. Certainly, the cost of trying it is but slight. A window or two could be removed and a lath frame covered with muslin put in its place. The whole cost would be represented by the cloth and would not amount to more than a few cents. One thickness of common muslin is all that is generally used, though some recommend doubling it. Ventilation is undoubtedly more necessary here than in the East. Our stables are more closely constructed and too few of them have any means of introducing fresh air at all. In too many of them when the door is opened there is a rush outward of foul impure air. Such stables should be provided with some kind of ventilatory system, and if the simple scheme outlined will accomplish more readily than any other there is no reason why it should not be tried. Simplicity, cheapness and ease of installation are its strong points and should commend to all whose stable stand in need of ventilation.

Livestock at Victoria and New Westminster Fairs.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The chief points that strike one about the local exhibits at these fairs are the small number of breeders, the marked superiority of a few over the rest of the studs and herds and the fact that all seem

to be just commencing to build up their stock on high-class lines. They still need, however, and will continue to need to import new blood of the best quality in order to keep up to the standard they have set themselves. In Clydes it was noteworthy that a vast majority of the local winners were direct importations from east of the Rockies and where the eastern stables competed they generally won out.

In cattle, a noticeable point, and this applies, unfortunately to most fairs on the American continent, is the almost entire lack of consideration of milk production when exhibiting or judging the Shorthorns. They are labelled "Beef Cattle" and beef cattle they are, but that is no valid reason for the almost entire exclusion of the milking propensities. In the old country there are from end to end fine herds of Shorthorns that are daily yielding large quantities of milk per cow, and these same herds provide the finest carcasses that get into Smithfield markets. Good records have been made by Shorthorn cows time and again in the past and, whilst I would not advocate the opposite extreme, I think that a serious danger to the breed exists in running this "one-purpose" idea to the limit. One chief factor seems to be the custom in Canada of exhibiting and showing young heifers in a "got up" condition—once these young animals are started on the fattening process their milking capacity is seriously damaged and a reversion seems advisable to the prevailing custom in England of showing young stock in rough condition, letting them rustle for a living without stunting their growth, and no credit being allowed by show judges for the presence of extra flesh. The same thing applies to dairy breeds but to a less extent for the notion of the necessity to have a dairy heifer well fleshed and fat is not so common. There are places in the United States to-day where a number of nurse cows have to be kept on the farm simply to bring up the young Shorthorns whose mothers have become so changed from nature's evident designs that they do not yield sufficient to support their own offspring. The Shorthorn herds of British Columbia, as shown at the two principle fall fairs, exhibited most marked tendency along these lines and they, would be rendering their breed a true service if the patron society of Canadian Shorthorns would take some active steps both among the breeders themselves and among those who are in the habit of being invited to act as judges at the fairs both large and small.

The Embargo and Protection.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The editorial in your issue of October 23rd under the caption "Further Agitation for Embargo Removal" is very misleading to those of your readers who are not familiar with the conditions which led to the conclusion of store cattle from Great Britain.

The article in question is based on the assumption that although the embargo was "ostensibly" imposed to guard against disease, it has been maintained as a measure of protection to the agricultural interests against foreign competition, much "the same as our manufacturing interests have been protected here."

For some time prior to the passing of the act restricting the movement of imported cattle the herds of Great Britain were ravaged by pleuro-pneumonia and foot and mouth disease. Local authorities were appointed in every county to stamp out these diseases, with power to slaughter affected animals and others that had been in contact with them. Compensation to the extent of two-thirds of their value was paid to the owner by a rate levied equally upon landlord and tenant farmers. After several years rigid administration of the law, under competent veterinary

inspection, and the payment of an enormous sum in compensation for slaughtered animals, these diseases were stamped out and the country has now a clean bill of health so far as they are concerned.

Canadian, American, and Argentine cattle are still admitted into Britain, to be slaughtered at the port of landing, but not allowed to be distributed all over the country, at the risk of spreading contagious diseases among the valuable herds of the Kingdom. These importations of live cattle supplemented by large supplies of beef in the carcass from the same countries amount to a large proportion of the total butcher meat supply of the people, and I think I am safe in saying that the beef furnished by the Canadian stockers before the embargo, did not amount to one per cent. of the whole. It is certainly an exaggeration to say that the "great mass of consumers have suffered hardship."

When the British people and ergo, the British Parliament, want protection, they will get it, but they will call it by its own name. They will not seek it by a petty subterfuge as your article suggests.

Man.

WM. WALLACE.

These are the arguments advanced by the advocates of the embargo upon Canadian cattle but the obstinate fact remains that there is no pleuro-pneumonia in Canadian cattle from which the British herds require to be protected.—Ed.

Roots for Farm Animals.

Roots as a part of the ration have a decided value for all kinds of domestic animals. Prof. T. F. Hunt and associates, in a recent bulletin of the New York Cornell Experiment Station, in discussing this subject, call attention to the fact that their effect is tonic as well as nutritive, and that breeders and feeders of farm animals for exhibition purposes find roots invaluable. Roots are a succulent food—that is, they contain a large quantity of water to their nutritive material. Their feeding value depends in large measure upon the carbohydrates, chiefly starch, which they supply, though the ash constituents are of undoubted value.

Comparing mangels and sugar beets, the former are more succulent, while the sugar beets produce a higher average yield of dry matter. It should be remembered, however, that because the sugar beets grow into the ground they are more difficult to harvest, and, furthermore they do not keep so well as mangels. It may seem that the yield of sugar beets is more uniform than that of mangels, but this is the fact that the yield of different varieties of mangels varies more widely than that of the varieties of sugar beets.

Turnips, as a general rule, do not yield as well as the above-mentioned roots, and, furthermore, they are more liable to attacks of disease. However, they are useful for early feeding, and are especially valuable for sheep. Carrots and parsnips, while yielding a fair percentage of dry matter, do not yield a sufficient quantity of food material to warrant general planting for stock feeding. However, they are especially good as a condimental food, and for horses.

Generally speaking, roots should not be fed alone as they carry too much water: A feed may vary from 25 to 50 lbs. per day for a thousand pounds of animal, according to the amount of dry concentrates fed. It is usual to put the roots into the feed-box and distribute the ground grain over them. For poultry, however, the whole roots may be given, allowing the fowls to pick them. It is said by some that turnips impart a flavor to milk. However, if no roots are in the milking room at the time of milking and they are fed just after milking this may be avoided.—U. S. Bulletin.—No. 305.



CHAMPION JERSEY COW AT VICTORIA EXHIBITION. QUICK BROS., OWNERS.



HIGHLAND BULL AT NEW WESTMINSTER EXHIBITION. G. L. WATSON, CLINTON, OWNER.