

of lovers of all dairy cows, especially the fore-udder, which is universally very full, well rounded, and extends well up on the belly. Her teats, which are in some cases too small, are beautifully placed. I do not think I ever saw a more beautiful sight than the string of aged cows in the Pan-American show-ring. Canadian breeders made a splendid showing at the World's Fair at Chicago in 1893, and at the Pan-American in 1901, winning the bulk of the best prizes.

The Ayrshire is a great feeder, with a voracious appetite, and will profitably utilize more coarse food than either the Jersey or Guernsey. She is a great browser, and is not at all particular what she eats; generally clearing everything before her. She breeds true to type. She has a docile temper, and is less excitable than the Jersey, and she is an easy milker.

#### MILKING QUALITIES.

The Ayrshire cow is a heavy milker. She does not give as large a quantity of milk per year as the Holstein, but will average more than a Jersey or Guernsey. I have before me the complete milk records of a prominent Ayrshire herd in this country (the U. S.) from the years 1880 to 1903, both inclusive. It includes every cow or heifer in milk in the herd, averaging 19 head per year. The quantity of milk given per cow and heifer varies each year, running from 5,480 lbs., the lowest, to 7,289 lbs., the highest, and the average for the 24 years is 6,450 lbs. per head. Under the spur given by the Ayrshire Advance Register, the breed in this country are improving in the yearly milk yield. The fat is less than the Jersey or Guernsey, and will average more than the Holstein; from 3.5% to 4% is about the limit, and the average would be about 3.75% fat.

In the "Home Tests," conducted under the direction of the Ayrshire Breeders' Association of the United States, 51 cows gave over 6,000 lbs. of milk, 26 cows gave over 7,000, 9 cows gave 8,000 each, 3 gave over 9,000 each, and one gave 11,000 lbs. In this test 58 cows each gave over 250 lbs. of butter, 30 each gave over 300 lbs., 14 each gave over 350 lbs., 3 cows each gave 400 lbs., 2 cows gave 450 lbs., and one cow gave 475 lbs.

### The World Eating its Sheep.

Consul Williams, of Cardiff, Wales, furnishes an interesting and instructive report on the world's sheep, published in the American Sheep Breeder:

"The world is eating up its sheep. Its flocks have been declining for three decades, and that decline has become perceptible in so many countries that it is regarded as the most remarkable agricultural movement of our times. A number of independent causes have co-operated to bring about this result. The first to be noted is the modern method of studying Hebrew history and literature. This has brought to light the fact of the preponderance of mutton in the meat diet of the Hebrews from the earliest times, a preponderance that accounts in part for the character of their civilization, and their persistence as a race. The dread of tuberculosis and pleuropneumonia in some countries, and of trichina in others, has led to the substitution of mutton for other meats by several classes, especially those influenced by the lurid accounts in the sensational press. The high price of beef in recent years has forced many others to make a like substitution. But the principal cause of the decline of sheep has been the movement of the agricultural population to the industrial centers in the towns and cities. This class, with an already acquired taste for mutton, is able to gratify that liking to a greater degree in the town than in the country, both on account of the better opportunity offered by the open market and the increase of its purchasing capacity by the higher wages paid in the towns.

"These and other causes have operated everywhere, and the decline of flocks has been very marked, except in countries where agriculture engrosses the attention of the people. To appreciate this it is only necessary to study the tables compiled from the annual report of the British Board of Agriculture for 1904.

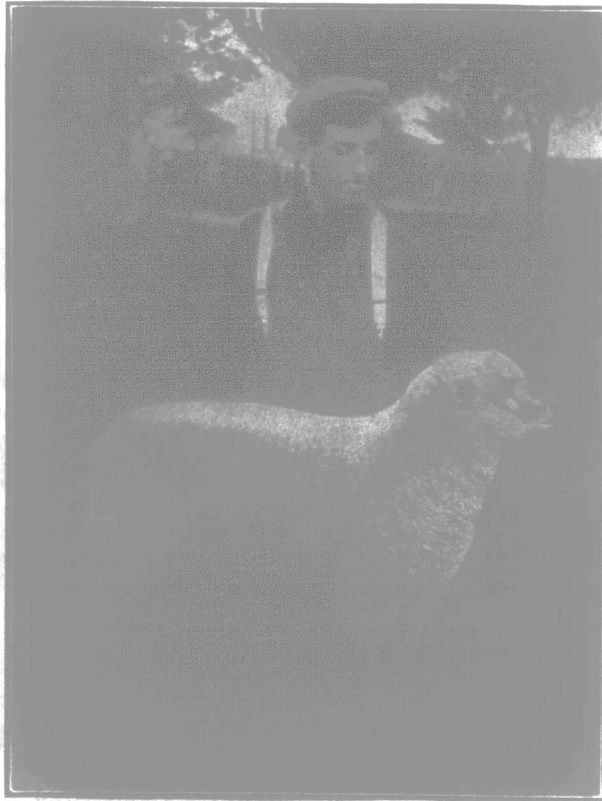
"The losses in some countries have continued for a generation. For instance, the first report for Germany is that of 1873, and its flocks have declined ever since, the total decline to the end of 1904 being over 60 per cent. Austria-Hungary's flocks have declined nearly 45 per cent. since 1869, those of France 30 per cent. since 1873, and those of the United Kingdom 15 per cent. in the same period. The decline in the latter country has been retarded by the heavy annual importations, both of mutton and live sheep. For instance, the importations for 1904 were as follows: Mutton, 3,530,659 cwt.; sheep, 382,240 head. And yet the decline of sheep in the same year amounted to 432,619 head.

The figures indicate that the flocks of the world have declined at least 93,000,000 head since 1873, an average of more than 3,000,000 head a year. This decline, which must continue

while present conditions prevail, is the opportunity of the American farmer, but he has not yet awakened to the fact. America's share of the British trade in 1904 was as follows:

|               | From U.S. | Tot. Imports. |
|---------------|-----------|---------------|
| Sheep, number | 294,804   | 332,240       |
| Mutton, cwt.  | 7,420     | 3,530,659     |
| Wool, lbs.    | 1,087,650 | 314,468,016   |

The American farmer secured the bulk of the sheep trade, but he was not a factor in the mutton market, and he furnished only three-tenths per cent. of the wool imports. The latter articles were furnished largely by Argentina, Australia and New Zealand. It would appear that there will be more money in sheep for years to come than in any other agricultural product, and the American farmer will doubtless find it profitable to devote more attention to this domestic animal."



Southdown Ram Lamb.

Winner of second prize at the Canadian National and first at the Western Fair, London, 1905. Imported and owned by Col. R. McEwen, Byron, Ont.

## FARM.

### Making a Westerner.

Man is a creature of environment. From the cradle to the grave he is the victim of circumstances and of the forces that prey upon his life. The companions of his boyhood, and even the atmosphere and scenes by which he is surrounded, operate toward one end—the production of the finished character, a compromise of good, bad and indifferent—a composite thing: a man. The child whose mother wisely permits him to finish his cry and go quietly to sleep, will grow up a stronger, steadier man than he whose mother has dandled him in the lap of luxury and answered to his every beck and call. And he whose youth has been spent by sounding sea or rugged mountains, takes upon himself a part of the very atmosphere of things by which he is surrounded, and develops traits of character very different from the settler on the prairie's rolling plains, and thus it is that we in Western Canada are witnessing the development of a type of Canadian differing in many respects from the people of the older land. Western Canadians are broader in their hospitality, more generous in their welcome to strangers. In the smaller villages—those foundation spots of towns to be—everybody wanders over to the station at train time, for the arrival of the train is an important event, and the stranger is soon told of the good points in the district, for every man, woman and child is true as steel to the town of his or her adoption, and rarely will any one admit that anywhere within the earth's bounds is there a spot to equal "this place here."

Two or three weeks after Alberta's inauguration I was again a visitor to the twin towns of the north—Edmonton and Strathcona. The arches were still standing; even the sheaves of wheat which decorated them on that great day still remained, but above all, in big letters, were the

word WELCOME, and even when the rest of the arch was removed, the last thing to be seen was WELCOME—welcome to everybody who comes, for, as Sir Wilfred Laurier put it, "Canada is like the Kingdom of Heaven in one respect—those who come, even at the eleventh hour, are gladly received; and thus does the Westerner welcome to this country those who come to work in her broad fields of effort and breathe the atmosphere of energy and optimism which everywhere prevails in Western Canada."

Someone has recently said that the large measure of success which the newcomers have achieved is not due entirely to the improved conditions and increased opportunities of this new field of effort, but rather to the inspiration of the change and the casting aside of old ideas, and there is at least some truth in the statement. Men come here who have failed in other lands; with us many of these failures are successful, and this success is, in part at least, due to the fact that they have left the past behind them, and catching the spirit of the present, have learned to look up and lift up for better things. Here, where so many who have failed in other lands have succeeded in rebuilding their fallen fortunes, you will find enthusiasm in the air, and in such circumstances where equality of conditions prevail, the friction of competition generates the electricity of progress, and man meets man with hope in his heart, and, freed from the trammels of the past, lives for the present and the future.

Even the Chinaman, who has always claimed patent rights for absolute indifference to new ideas, undergoes some change in Western Canada. He is not always a laundryman. Frequently he is a market gardener or a progressive business man. A few weeks ago I was in a life insurance office in the City of Calgary when I walked a "Chink" bearing the euphonious name of Luey De Foo. Luey remarked that he wanted to pay his premium, which had just come due, and he forthwith drew his check-book from his pocket, wrote out the check in a good plain, legible hand, and gave it to the manager. Think of it! A Chinaman with his life insured, and the policy payable to his father in China! Do not the conditions of life influence the habits of men? And what a mighty lifting power does one progressive race exert upon the other. This mingling together of the different races in the West produces its effect, even without intermarriage, and the stranger who comes to Western Canada adopts Western ways, and even the foreigner changes his habits to meet the altered conditions of life.

Circumstances have made the Western citizen less conservative than his Eastern brother, and more willing to gamble for success. A country in which one cereal crop has been the leading product, affords an excellent opportunity for a plunge into speculative business. Mixed farming is profitable, more profitable in the end than wheat farming, but stories of \$33,000 worth of wheat sold in one year from two sections of land, are enough to fire the blood and overcome the conservatism of the most conservative. The average Westerner, whether he hails from Canada or the Western States, does not try to resist the temptation; he "takes a fling" at whatever appears to be the best money-making proposition, leaving to others the pursuit of riches by slower means. Yankee and Canuck—that is, those of the "made in the West" brand—are alike in this particular. In fact, Eastern and Western, as applied to men, implies far more differentiation in habits of thought, and modes of action, than the terms American and Canadian. Thus does geography run amuck in the delineation of boundaries, for a line drawn southward from Winnipeg down the valley of the Mississippi would more nearly divide the people of America along the lines of race type than can any parallel of latitude, no matter where it may be placed.

In this we have only hinted at a few of the influences that are making the Westerner what he is. Association with other races, possibly intermarriage, and even the climate and methods of work, will each have an influence, but with it all we may rest assured that the citizen of the future, cradled on the rolling plains, brought up amid the freedom of the West, will at least be a Canadian worthy of his country and a credit to his native land.

R. J. DEACHMAN.

### French Agricultural Schools.

Consul General Skinner, of Marseilles, writes in Daily Consular Reports regarding agricultural schools in France: There are 86, some public, some private. They give instruction in agriculture, paying particular attention to scientific methods, to intensive farming, to the care of cattle, the planting of trees, vines, etc. Many of them devote a great deal of time and attention to the dissemination of knowledge among rural populations that are not able to attend schools. They are divided into national and superior schools, of which there are 11; schools that give free instruction in agriculture, of which there are 5; agricultural schools and centers, 16; schools of practical agriculture, 12; agricultural schools and stations, 26; miscellaneous agricultural schools, 3; and classes, 16.