

tion. This is surely fair, so that if Mr. G. wishes to get rid of a particularly obnoxious official, his way is now clear. I have never at any time advised a farmer to go more extensively into hog-feeding. I am well aware that there are a great many farmers who should never attempt to feed hogs. It is a business in itself, and, like any other business, there are many men who would never make a success of it. Judging from the tone of these two letters, I should think that both these gentlemen would do well to get out of the hog business as soon as possible, and then stay out. If they have been unable to make any money out of hogs during the year that has closed, they are certainly not to be congratulated upon their skill as hog-feeders. All kinds of business have their ups and downs, and the only fair way to judge any kind of business is to take yearly averages. The year 1907 should certainly show a very favorable price average, and, from all indications, the year 1908 should make an even better showing. However, this is a side of the question which I do not intend to discuss, because this is a matter upon which every person must come to his own conclusions.

When a person occupying my position obtains any important information having a direct bearing upon the business of agriculture, it is his duty to make that information public. This is all I have aimed to do in this matter, so that I do not feel convicted of committing any serious crime.

Both these gentlemen make light of experiments, but if they would conduct a few experiments of their own, they would save themselves from making many rash statements which will not bear investigation. Apparently, they have never tested what their hogs actually cost, yet they come out and assail those who have tested the matter. They say that experiments conducted at the College are of little use, but they overlook the fact that a large majority of the hogs reported in these experiments were fed by farmers, and not fed at the College at all. I shall leave it with the public to judge whether the signed declarations made by reputable farmers who conducted the experiments, are not worth at least as much as a couple of screeds appearing in the public press, whose writers were ashamed to sign their names.

Apparently, both these men were anxious to make a little personal attack upon myself, and made this the excuse for doing so. As to the personal side of it, I have nothing to say, but I am willing to stand back of the figures as published, and for my own backing I have the signatures of the men who conducted the experiments, and who are men of unquestioned integrity.

If Messrs. T. and G. will but polish up their spectacles, and read my article once more, I feel sure that they will admit to themselves that they must have been extremely dense of understanding when they could attribute to me, from what appeared in that article, a desire to mislead and to dictate to the farmer.

G. E. DAY.
O. A. C., Guelph.

MILKING QUALITIES SHOULD BE IMPROVED.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I do not think the idea expressed in your editorial, as to desirability of improving milking qualities of the Shorthorn cows, will meet with any strong opposition or criticism from the breeders. I believe there is quite a general feeling in its favor. I fear that for a time the same difficulty in the way of the special prizes at leading exhibitions, namely, so few competitors, would prevail with a scheme for official testing. Two great difficulties are to be overcome: The disinclination of buyers to pay the value of a good combination cow, some seeming to really imagine they should get an animal for less money if a good milker or from good milk strain, even if first-class beef type; then, there is indifference to overcome.

A. W. SMITH.

Middlesex Co., Ont.

AFTER THE MILKING SHORTHORNS.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I am quite in accord with your views with regard to the necessity of a radical change in the formation of type of late-day Shorthorns. It was the Scotch cattle that wrought the change, and I think it was a great pity. Of late years I have been buying North-of-England cattle—females, I mean—and I am raising fine milkers. I am buying a few lately, and I am endeavoring to get milkers.

ARTHUR JOHNSON.

Ontario Co., Ont.

LOOKED FOR EACH WEEK.

We have taken "The Farmer's Advocate" for a number of years, and look forward each week for valuable information, which we receive from the different departments of your paper.

WM. J. PYM.

Perth Co., Ont.

APPROVES RECORD OF PERFORMANCE APPENDIX

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

While not in full agreement with all the statements made in the editorial re Shorthorn cattle, appearing in your issue of January 9th, I may be permitted to make a few observations bearing on the subject.

I am convinced that there is a difference, not only in conformation, but in hereditary tendencies and characteristics as well, between the beef animal and the dairy animal, as there is a difference in the same degree between the greyhound and the St. Bernard dog, and it will be a long time, I think, before the thoughtful breeder will find a field for himself in the production of what may be termed dual-purpose cattle. Many will continue to believe in beef cattle as such and dairy cattle as such, but the great virtue of Shorthorns is that the two types may be found within the breed, and, in my judgment, the breeding of dairy Shorthorn in Canada will work ultimately to the great benefit of Canadian agriculture. The recent importation for Macdonald College has been made in consideration of the interests of the ordinary farmer, that we may furnish him with an eminently profitable sort of cattle, and the dairy-bred bulls that we shall aim to produce may be used, we believe, successfully and to advantage on grade and common Shorthorn cows throughout the country. Our prime object is to produce a utility sort of cattle, and we are placing at present greatest emphasis upon the production of milk. We shall aim to get as much substance and constitution as must always be necessary to assure success, but we shall seek these simply to give support to our first consideration, the milking capacity of our cows.

We are in agreement, I think, that some mistakes have been made in the breeding of beef Shorthorns during the last few years. Before the special beef breeder can serve best the inter-

ing should be decided upon. If the milking qualifications of Shorthorns appeared in an appendix to the present volumes issued by the Society, those most interested could readily find out where to obtain such a class of cattle. In this way, I feel sure that the demand forthwith would very rapidly grow.

Further, if all cattle that are eligible for registration in Coates' Herdbook might be made eligible for registration here, I think a valuable step would have been taken towards the improvement of Shorthorn cattle in this country. The Canadian Society is at present sufficiently strong to free itself from any obligations to the Shorthorn Society in the United States, and I am of the opinion that such a step, if taken, would receive the endorsement of not only the farmer who breeds market cattle, but of many of the breeders now in the Shorthorn Association itself.

I cannot but wish you well in any undertaking to bring about such a recognition of the milking strain in Shorthorns in our Canadian Society, and, personally, I shall do my utmost to bring this matter to the attention of any members with whom I may have any influence.

Thanking you for the opportunity you have given me of thus expressing my views.

H. S. ARKELL,

Prof. of Animal Husbandry.

Macdonald College.

THE FARM.

EXPERIENCE WITH PLANK-FRAME BARNS WANTED.

"The Farmer's Advocate" wishes to publish at an early date a number of letters from readers who have erected plank-frame barns, and will allow usual contribution rates for concise answers to the following questions:

1. When built, foundation, size, how framed and erected.
2. Quantity, kind and cost of lumber used (a) in frame, (b) in enclosing, roofing and finishing.
3. Method of erecting, and time and help required to frame and complete.
4. Evidence of strength, durability, and serviceability.
5. Advantages of plank-frame barn over timber frame (a) in amount and cost of material, (b) in labor of construction. Give figures, if possible, to show difference in cost of plank and timber frames.

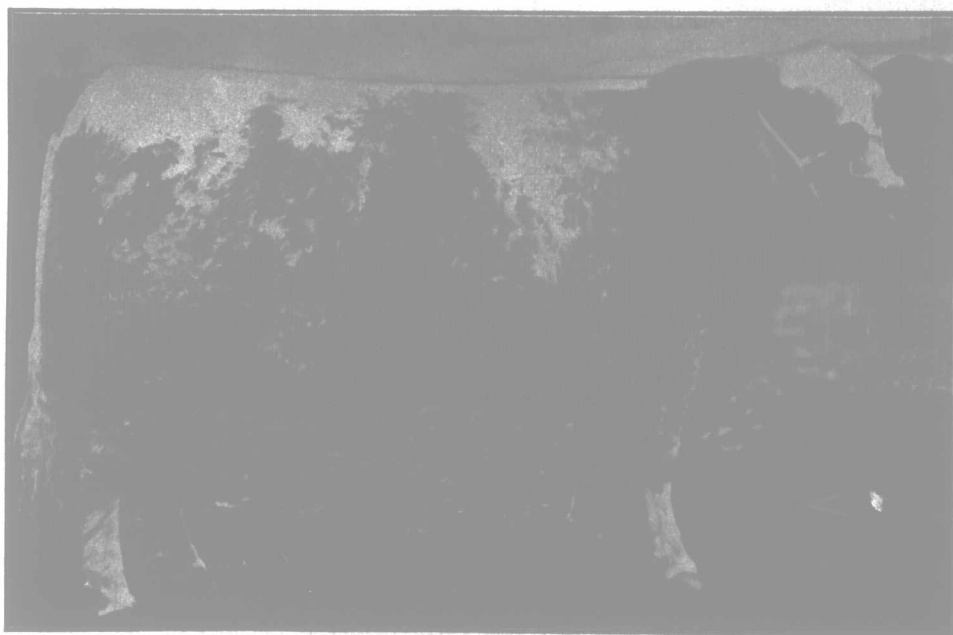
A limited number of clear photographs of plank-frame barns in the course of erection will be acceptable for purposes of reproduction.

Prompt answers requested.

WHAT'S THE USE?

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

What's the use of "The Farmer's Advocate" doing all it can to encourage the split-log drag competition? What's the use of men like Mr. D. Ward King lecturing to farmers on good roads? Our roads are of no use to us, for we can't use them in safety. The automobiles have possession from the time they are in good shape in the spring until the snow or mud makes it impossible for them to run their horse-scaring machines. Night and day, Sunday and week-day, they hold the fort against all other modes of travel. They know no law but their own sweet will, which is to go as fast as they like, without the least consideration for anything or anybody. Are the farmers going to give the roads they have built to these city aristocrats or not? If they are, why spend time and money in making the good roads (which every farmer is justly proud of), only to find out that the ditch is for the farmer and the good road for the motorist? If the farmers want the roads for themselves, now is the time to be up and doing. Get up a petition, asking the Ontario Government to pass a law prohibiting the use of automobiles on the highways of the Province of Ontario, outside of the corporation limits of cities, towns and villages. Get your petitions printed by your local paper. A few energetic men in each township will get every farmer's name in a day or two. Do it right away; let every



Waddesdon Silvio.

Cross-bred two-year-old heifer (Angus-Shorthorn). First in class and reserve champion, Birmingham Fat-stock Show, 1907. Weight, at 1,088 days, 1,690 lbs.; daily gain, 1.62 lbs.

ests of the farmer and raiser of market beef, there must of necessity be some change in his policy. I judge, however, that this change must be somewhat along the lines that I have stated in other places. He may well consider whether or not he ought, with advantage to himself, his stock and his patrons, to infuse some of this dairy blood into the breeding of his beef cattle. We hope to make some such experiment here.

In reference to the recognition of strains in Shorthorns in which the chief merit lies in the production of milk, I think that the time has come for this question to be considered. The cattle that we have recently imported, while all being registered in Coates' Herdbook, are not all eligible for registration in Canada. Judging them by the standard of utility, both in reference to their breeding and individuality, I take it that these cattle are as worthy of recognition in the herdbook as many that have come across the water. In the returns that come from them in the year, they must commend themselves to the man who expects a continuous and profitable revenue from his stock.

It seems that we are, in this country, at present, losing sight of qualifications in cattle which make them of most value to their owner, and I think the time will come soon when cattle such as we have been speaking of will receive due recognition in the herdbooks of our Shorthorn Society. For the present, I know of no better way by which they may be introduced to the public, and gain the attention that will advertise their value, than that some such scheme as you are advocat-