

In this column paragraphs will be inserted from time to time, commenting upon the salient features of the live stock world; our idea being to keep our readers posted in such events.

### LIVE STOCK TOPICS.

One of the most extensive experiments on record and one, which, if we may judge from the live stock papers, is attracting a very wide-spread interest, is being carried on under the direction of Professors W. J. Kennedy and F. R. Marshall, both graduates of this College, and now of the Animal Husbandry Department of Iowa State College. The aim of the experiment is: first, to test the relative value of the various stock feeds that are on the market, such as International Stock Food, the Iowa Stock Food, and the Standard Stock Food; and second, to test whether or not it is advisable to feed the by-products such as oil meal, cotton-seed meal, gluten-meal, gluten feed, germ oil, and dried blood in conjunction with corn and other grains,—to cattle.

The commendable features of the experiment are, that it is being conducted upon a very large scale, thus eliminating to a great degree the element of individuality, and that the experiment is being conducted on the farm of one of the leading cattle breeders of Iowa, Mr. Cook, of Odebolt, who is supplying the steers and the rough fodders. The Iowa College has sent a man to feed these steers, and will supply the stock-foods and by-products. The co-operation of such a practical man as Mr. Cook with the College authorities, shows the confidence that the College is enjoying and the extent to which such men appreciate the investigations conducted by the College, and moreover ensures ordinary practical conditions

for the experiment. If we may judge from accounts in Chicago papers, the credit for starting and carrying on this experiment is largely due to the push and energy of Prof. W. J. Kennedy.

Considerable prominence is being given to the Farmer's or Dual-Purpose Cow Competition, which is to be inaugurated at the International Live Stock Exposition in Chicago, next December, and hence a brief mention of the nature of the competition may not be out of place in this column of the REVIEW.

The competition is as follows:—Cow, and her steer or spayed heifer calf under two years old, to be exhibited at Chicago in December, 1902, and prizes awarded on the merits of milk and butter production of the cow, and beef merits of the calf. The Dairy records of the cows entered are to be made during the nine months previous to the Exposition by duly authorized representatives of the agricultural experiment stations. In awarding prizes in this class the rating shall be 25 per cent. on individual excellence of the cow as combined beef and dairy animal; 35 per cent. on the butter record of the cow, and 40 per cent. on the individual merit of the calf.

The judging of dual purpose cows upon conformation and performances as outlined in this experiment, instead of on conformation alone, is, we believe, the best way of settling disputes about, and at the same time advertising, the merits of this class of cattle.

One of the most regrettable and almost irreparable losses that has re-