

The inevitable result must be that, if any lowering of our British and Irish pedigree stock occurs, the foreign demand will no longer be at our command, and with pure-bred herds springing up in many countries throughout the globe, the United Kingdom may find its boasted pre-eminence as the fountain-head of all live-stock improvement becoming somewhat unstable. The suggestion may be scouted as impossible, but time will tell.

Another important aspect of the export trade which merits attention, as it is a source of frequent disappointment to exporters, is the variable results that follow the administration of the tuberculin test to the same animal before shipment and after landing. The Argentine purchasers are rightly insistent upon banning tuberculous stock, and a very large number of cases yearly occur in which high-priced bulls of different breeds are brought to South America, only to react on being tested, and partake of an untimely fate. A notable example was that beautiful young sire, Bapton Viceroy, the champion of the English Royal Show, at Derby, in 1906—a bull, which in the flesh displayed scarcely a single flaw. After the show he was sold at the long figure of £3,000, but he had only been landed at Buenos Ayres when the tuberculin test condemned him to the pole-axe.

Scotch bulls seem to be especially notorious in this respect, as a very extensive Argentine breeder, Mr. Martinez de Hoz, recently stated that over 60 per cent. of the Scottish animals imported into the Argentine react. On the other hand, Irish bulls seem to enjoy a good reputation in this matter, no doubt owing to the fact that our genial climate enables stock to be kept in more healthy conditions out in the open air. For instance, that noted exporter, F. Miller, of Birkenhead, a couple of years ago expressed the belief, as one who had bought more Irish stock for shipment than any other exporter, that he always found that the animals from Ireland stood the test as well as, if not better than cattle in any other part of the United Kingdom.

Be this as it may, disheartening must be the experience of any exporter whose selection fails to the test in the Argentine. So acute has the matter become that, while no direct insinuations are implied as to the care with which, or conditions under which the Buenos Ayres authorities administer the test, the parties interested are seeking to arrive at a satisfactory arrangement that will rid the trade for all time, of the risk of such bitter disappointments as at present occur. Accordingly, the Shorthorn Society of Great Britain and Ireland have approached the Foreign Office, and asked that body to confer with the Argentine Government, with a view to the establishment in Great Britain of a tuberculin station, in which the Argentine shall share control, for the testing of animals prior to export. It is proposed that a mutual understanding shall be come to, under which all animals that successfully pass the test here will be admitted without the further application of it when South America is reached. There should be no difficulty in the way of such a sensible and feasible scheme being worked, and the results are sure to be satisfactory.

In Ireland, it is gratifying to notice that breeders are taking special pains to exclude tuberculosis from their herds. A most notable sign of this is afforded at public sales throughout the country, at which the offer of a bull, concerning the soundness of which there is any doubt, invariably elicits a chorus of inquiries from bidders, "Has he passed the test?" The answer vastly affects the nature of the bidding and the price paid. Some of the county committees stipulate specifically that none but bulls that have passed the test may hold premiums for service under their scheme, and thus the good work goes on. At all reasonable costs, the confidence of purchasers must be secured.

"EMERALD ISLE."

### Training the Farm Dog

On the farms in this country there are a good many thousand dogs. Some of them are useful about the place, to drive stock, or as watch dogs, but the great percentage of them are good for nothing. Some of them have been spoiled one way and some another. It matters not how. The point is they were spoiled at one stage of their lives, and will be more of a nuisance than a help about the place, as long as they are kept. A good dog is a valuable asset and saves his owner a vast amount of work, but a fool is apt to make more trouble than he saves.

The articles published herewith, on the question of training dogs, have been contributed by readers, in answer to the question asked first in the issue of March 17th: "How would you train a dog for use on the farm?" The first prize is awarded to G. H. Lavender, Winnipeg, second to E. McIvor, Manitoba. The directions for training in no case are as fully given as we would desire them to be. Some useful hints, however, are thrown out in all published, and we believe may be of use to anyone having a young dog in need of educating.

### Educating the Farm Dog

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

First, you would want a dog who could be trained to take care of stock, and a dog that would be useful as a watch dog, etc., the dog for stock, I take it, being the most desirable. Now you want to choose a puppy of the collie variety, although there are many non-descript-bred dogs, which are very good stock and utility dogs. In choosing same get a good strong puppy with a sensible head, and note the expression of eye and get one which looks sensible and brainy, taking care not to get a narrow-skulled dog, but one who has a good square skull, as you may know then he has brain. Take him as a puppy and train him to be good mannered about the farm and teach him right away, forcibly if necessary to obey in following you at heel, etc. You may also, when quite young, teach him to fetch and carry. Take a ball and pitch it in your hand until he notices it, then throw it a short distance and make him return it to your feet, by command at first, then by motion of hand later, as this practice is very useful, as I will explain later. Then hide it for him as he gets a bit older and teach him to fetch it. Of course, you will have to show him at first, but later give a round motion with your hand saying, "look for it." He will run round and scent it, eventually finding it. Now is the time to give him some encouragement. Give him a small chunk of boiled liver, there being nothing more palatable to the taste of a dog than this. Always keep a bit in your pocket ready, for a certain amount of encouragement is as necessary as firmness. The pup is now five or six months old and quite used to you and everything around your place. This is the time to break him into the tending of cattle. You must be systematical, and have certain times for doing things. Let your dog be with you



A TYPICAL SCOTCH COLLIE.

always now, at your heel, unless you command him to leave you. I have found from experience that a whip or crop is a useful thing at this time. If you say "home" give him a slight cut and see that he goes, or if he gets in front of you or acts the fool, a cut will put him in his place again, and it teaches him when at a distance, to understand what a click of the whip means.

Now we want to train him to fetch the cattle from the prairie. First you will have to go with him, and when near the cattle "sic" him after them, always teaching him to heel and if he heads them bring the whip into action, but see that he goes right after them again, but at the rear always. Each time you fetch them give him larger scope to work on and always work him by motions, for instance, say his name is "Dick." When at heel pronounce his name, give a motion of the hand, saying also at the same time, "fetch em." Then you will want to teach him to stop by motion. If he is a short distance click your whip, saying "stop", but also put up your arm, then when he is older and working farther away he will understand what the holding up of the arm means. To start him again use the swing of arm again. You will find now you need lots of patience, but persevere and you will reap the reward, for soon you will note your dog will be watching for the sign to go, and he will know the different ways of the cattle and away he will go, round them up and drive them home. This is a great saving of time to you, and you will appreciate the dog for same.

I have found myself, that the best way to train a young dog, is to couple him with an old worker, if you are lucky enough to have one, and when once you have got a dog trained, start on another by this process, for you never know what may happen. I have trained dogs, and must admit there are some it is impossible to make anything out of. It is bred in the dog that is going to be a good worker and his nature will teach him far more than any human being can, but everything must be started, and taught to keep its place and that is the one thing we may do, for a good dog is often spoiled and of no use through the little we may have neglected when he was young. Now, the dog should not be spoiled in any way, and from the first always house him outside or in your barns and teach him the farm is his home. Do not take him with you when you are going to town, etc., for in that way he may meet with lots of his kin, who will not improve his manners.

Teach him to be game and not afraid of anything and if other dogs come along "sic" him after them, for I am sorry to say there are dogs that are fit for nothing else but mischief. Teach him also to make an enemy of the prairie wolf, then you will know that your chickens are more or less protected.

There is one other word I would say about the dog as a sheep dog, although sheep are not reared extensively through this western country, but I have seen and handled sheep dogs which would, after training, go out in the hills and dales and pen some hundreds of sheep in what is an incredibly short time. I state this only to show that the dog is a useful animal, not as a good many seem to think, a nuisance, "but of course there are black sheep in every flock." I have now stated the best I can of how to train a stock dog, but it is a fairly hard proposition to put it on paper, but I will advise whoever has not a good dog to try and get one and use patience, perseverance and any little hints he may pick up and make a good servant of one of the most useful animals we are able to command.

Winnipeg.

G. H. LAVENDER.

### Training a General-Purpose Dog

EDITOR "FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Being of Scottish origin you cannot rear a collie on any better feed than porridge and milk, given plenty of that the question of rearing him is easily settled. The name collie comes from Culien in the original language (Gaelic) and signifies young dog. I begin training my collie pups at three or four months of age. The first thing I teach them is to fetch and carry. For this purpose I use an old mitt or glove, or anything soft and light. I begin by throwing it a short distance and get them to fetch it back, at the same time telling them to "fetch it." It is very important that you take the article you use for this purpose and let them see you put it away. I prefer carrying it in my pocket as that insures plenty of scent being always on it. Never let the pups have it to play with when the lesson is over, as it is apt to make them careless. It would be well to give this lesson daily for four or five weeks, or oftener if you have the time to spare. Then begin by throwing the mitt when the pup does not see you and, to make it easier for him, throw it up "wind." At this exercise I take a hold of the pup and keep his head covered while I throw it away. In a short time he will soon "wind" it up.

When he gets an expert at this and fond of it, I take him for a short walk. When I get him a short distance in front of me I drop the glove and walk on some steps then I call him back saying: "I lost. Let the glove be in full sight the first few times. You then gradually increase the distance at each succeeding lesson, as he comes to understand the game. So long as your scent is good, distance is no obstacle. I have a bitch, granddaughter of the famed Wishaw Clinker, and, if she sees me search my pockets and look around she immediately runs back on my scent to hunt up what I lost without my saying a word.

In reading the foregoing instructions one would be justified in thinking they applied to sporting dogs and not to farm collies. Well, the view I take of it is: that a farm dog should be a general purpose one, and there is no breed that I am familiar with that is so well fitted for the work as the collie. I get mine to retrieve land or water, fur or feather, equal if not superior to any Tweedside. Coming now to the most important part of a farm dog's training, I may say, that so far, any kind of dog will give more or less satisfaction as a trick dog, but for stock it is quite necessary to have the largest percentage of his blood collie. Otherwise you need not expect much success. Any time from eight to twelve months of age is soon enough to begin training the pup on cattle. I've had some that were over the year before they started work. It is always easier to work a dog on a bunch of cattle anywhere over twenty as that gives him a better chance for running round them. One good way of giving him a start, is when driving cattle along the road with another dog at work, he very often starts to bear a hand of his own accord. The first lesson a dog should be taught, is to round up the cattle. Never allow him to stick at any one beast but to go clear around to the furthest away, first making it a point never to leave one behind. Then you must have him go in any direction you wish. To do this you must teach him to understand a set of words and signals by hand. Being careful to use the same word for the same work, giving the preference to short, sharp commands. Avoid the very undesirable habit of constantly repeating them.

As a rule the hardest thing to get a well bred collie to do is to "wear" the stock or drive them away. The dog's natural instinct is to head the cattle towards you. To teach the dog to drive I get in front of the cattle and make him drive them after me. Then get to one side, work him across behind, checking him when he runs towards the front. With some practice, he soon learns what is required of him. In teaching to go in any direction without the stock being in sight you use a certain command, and, by waving your hands, say the right for keeping to the right, and the left for the left side. Of course when the dog gets beyond the sound of your voice he has to go altogether by signalling. I have sent mine two miles across the prairie and two-thirds of that distance without him seeing the stock he was after.

Now as I fear I have used up the space at my disposal I will give a few hints that may be useful. Never

ask your dog to do anything that he can do. Never put a hold of him, and always keep all the excitement is gone. well be sure you tell him so. him when you don't feel just fine dog is ruined by being the humor suits, and, when I give the following incident, does sometimes do a bit of it. Having occasion to be late, ginning of this winter I he something as I got near home some distance away. This stabled without her coming to see what was wrong, four and forty or fifty cattle try sheaves I had there for w keeping them away. She d dozen sheaves altogether. know what was the matter barking all night so he coul know that they should not staying at least five hours w to hunt up lost halters on One day my watch dropped snow when spreading m getting home I missed the had lost it and sent her back few minutes she was back v with what a collie can do c well and treated kindly. I training for sheep, as, in the do justice to the subject, seem, as yet, few and far be Man.

### How to Train a

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Training a dog takes time, a trainer only. Breed is had good old English she collies, and bad ones too are three ways of training motions of the hand; second the voice. The first is pra go beyond the range of second is good and very i the most general. This I cannot make a dog under taught English and vice ve dog, one trainer and one m

Now in the selection of a has a good, width of fore gence, inclined to be frolic one that does not mind a tricks. Select one, if pos its mother, one that has ch as there is a greater ch drivers. Old experienced pup that suckles in front, will be a header.

In training, the young couraged by severe punis the stock by no one except Take him along—led by taking the stock out, or f and take trouble to get be bark. Say, "take them o give him a sharp check an When you wish him to fet go with him until you see l are. Talk to him and tel do and you will be surpris work and do it.

There is one very impo cattle or sheep. They a them steady or great d cows or in-lamb ewes, so that. Keep him on the have made an impressio want him to do. If one not require the necessa thing is to send a young stands the work, who u dog, couples the two tog long in picking up his learned it he is very usef less and often a nuisance. Man.

### Teaching th

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

In teaching a dog to c about one year old. By his playfulness and sho "stop" mean. Take a t long, and tie it to his coll and send him after the c heels, but never at their to the head give him a st is, by means of the strin drive at a moderate pa cows too fast. When yo so in a sharp clear voice, not obey you at once pi through this practice on and he will know as muc do. If a dog does not