

Short Courses in Stock Judging

IN compliance with the requests of county boards of agriculture, the following short courses in stock judging have been arranged by the Institutes Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture:

County and Place.	Date.
Welland: Stamford	Nov. 27, 28
Allanburg	Nov. 29, 30
Brant: Howell's School	Dec. 11
Oakland	Dec. 12, 13
S. Essex: Leamington	Dec. 14, 15
Oxford: Embro	Dec. 18, 19
Brant: White's School	Dec. 20, 21
Moyle	Dec. 22, 23
W. Huron: Bluevale	Nov. 28, 29
Dungannon	Nov. 22, 23
S. Huron: Exeter	Nov. 23, 24
W. Huron: Landonborough	Nov. 27, 28
E. Middlesex: Thorndale	Dec. 11
S. Essex: Harrow	Dec. 12, 13
E. Middlesex: Riderton	Dec. 14
Harrietsville	Dec. 15
W. Middlesex: M. Brydges	Dec. 18, 19
Wardville	Dec. 20, 21
N. Ontario: Sunderland	Nov. 28, 29
W. Victoria: Woodville	Dec. 11, 12
Valencia	Dec. 13, 14
S. Ontario: Clarendon	Dec. 14, 15
East side of riding	Dec. 18, 19
B. Victoria: Omemee	Dec. 19, 20
Fenelon Falls	Dec. 21, 22
Russell: Cumberland	Nov. 20, 21
Bassett	Nov. 22, 23
Stormont: Monkland	Nov. 23, 24
Dundas: Farran's Pt.	Nov. 27, 28
Stormont: Harrison's Cor.	Nov. 28, 29
Dundas: Dixon's Corn.	Nov. 30
Dec. 1	
Winchester	Dec. 4, 5
Stormont: Finch	Dec. 6, 7
Frontenac: Wolfe Island	Dec. 7, 8
Lennox & Addington:	
Newburgh	Dec. 11, 12
Enterprise	Dec. 13, 14
Centre Frontenac: Mountain Grove	Dec. 15
N. Leeds & Grenville:	
Bishop's Mills	Dec. 18, 19
W. Durham: Blackstock	Nov. 28
Sollina	Nov. 29
S. Lanark: Perth	Nov. 30
Dec. 1	
Glenagarry: Glen Norman	Dec. 4, 5
S. Renfrew: Douglas	Dec. 6, 7
Arnprior	Dec. 8, 9
S. Lanark: Lombardy	Dec. 11, 12
E. Peterboro: Newwood	Dec. 12, 13
W. Peterboro: Bridge-	
north	Dec. 14, 15
E. Northumberland:	
Campbellford	Dec. 18, 19
E. Durham: North of	
Manvers	Dec. 20, 21
Dufferin: Geo. Gier's	
Farm, Grand Valley	Nov. 21

Making the Barn Attractive

By Caroline French Benton.

WHAT is the first thing one notices in looking over a farm? The barn, of course, since that is larger than the house. And it is this very barn, with its belongings, which makes the place so hideous that young people who are starting out in life hate their farm homes. So it is here that one must begin to alter things and make them more attractive.

Sometimes one sees an old farm which has a neat white house with a long row of outbuildings stretching back from it, ending in a white painted barn. There is the ideal farm home. Unfortunately, such few places are rare indeed, taking the country over.

The barn has been built on a scale too large for the old-fashioned way of managing, and built entirely for service, not at all for appearance. The real state of the case is too often like this: The barn stands near the house, sometimes directly across the road from it, so that the view from the house windows is into its yawning front door; sometimes at one side of the house, so near that it is impossible to escape from its odors. The doors sag, the sides are unpainted, a

pile of manure lies conspicuously at one side, and outbuildings, many of them useless, old carriage-houses, hen-roosts, wood-houses and the like, and too frequently a pig-sty. At the other side are a number of tumble-down sleighs without wheels and broken and rusted and worthless. Is it any wonder that those who must daily look on a "view" like this decide on leaving the home?

Often, however, a model farm exists, with large, stately buildings in good repair, and barns painted and kept

up perfectly and a house that looks like home, but for one such there are many of the old sort. Of course, once in a while it will be found possible to move the farmhouse away from the barn if the latter must stand where it is. Sometimes there is a little knoll adjacent where it is not a costly matter to put it, to its vast improvement. Where this cannot be done, but the two must stand in close proximity, at least the barn may be put in perfect order. The sagging doors and roofs may be mended, the manure piles carted away, the pig banished to a distance and the henroosts hidden. The

old lumber, wagons and utensils may be burned up, and the woodyard made tidy. When all is done, the barn lot may be painted to match the house; this costs money, but it is well worth some sacrifice to accomplish. Last of all, a row of willows or other quick-growing trees may be planted as a screen between the house and the barn, perpetually to relieve and delight the eyes, which may look into trees forever after, instead of open barn doors.

Cull the stock closely. Keep the best and prepare the rest for market.

Britain Has Solved The Rubber Riddle

Rubbers and Overshoes Are Cheap as Ever Today, While Other Necessities, Particularly Shoes, Have Nearly Doubled in Price.

Rubber has been one of the most insistent and intensely interesting problems of the twentieth century—and its solution is proving of vital importance to the Empire in this great war.

Until 1910 the world depended for its crude rubber on the forests of South and Central America and Africa. The supply increased slowly, if at all, while consumption, since the advent of the motor car, has grown enormously. From an average of \$1.00 a pound in 1908, the price jumped to \$3.00 in 1910. Manufacturers of rubber kept pace—no doubt you remember what rubbers cost for a year or two—and the situation looked alarming.

The search for synthetic rubber was redoubled in vigor. German chemists had been working on it, and the world seemed to expect them to come through with some ingenious process for manufacturing rubber from its known ingredients, on a commercial scale and at a low cost. But the world still waits—and so does the Kaiser, judging from his indignation over Britain's refusal to let him import rubber by registered mail.

Relief from a rubber famine came instead from the far-sighted development policy of Britain's Empire builders, who for years, in spite of general ridicule, had been encouraging the growth of plantation rubber on a large scale in Ceylon, Sumatra, Java and the Malay States. Money was advanced to planters to carry them through the seven-year period before the trees started to produce, and hundreds of thousands of acres were planted.

By 1910, when the pinch came, British plantations produced 8,200 tons—11% of the world's output. The next year saw 14,000 tons of plantation rubber—nearly 20%. In 1912 it had grown to 29%—in 1913 to 44%—in 1914 to 59%—last year to 68%—or 107,867 tons. This year's production is estimated at 150,000 tons, or 75% of the world's supply.

With three-quarters of the rubber production thus controlled by Great Britain, and the seas in the grip of her mighty fleet, the Allies are assured of an abundant supply for war purposes, while the Teutons' troubles from lack of it are growing daily more serious.

Having a practical monopoly of the supply, and the power to impose such prices as she chose, Great Britain has made it, except to her enemies, a benevolent monopoly, and has set the price of crude rubber lower than it was before the war.

To Canadians this is doubly important, because the climate makes rubber footwear a necessity. Now, when shoe prices are soaring, while rubbers and overshoes are as cheap as ever, it is clearly economy to protect expensive leather footwear with rubber, and to wear rubber farm boots instead of those made of leather. Besides the big money saving, there is the valuable protection to health. Wet feet and colds go hand in hand, with a ghastly train of ills—easily avoided by wearing rubbers.

Then there is the patriotic side. Vast quantities of leather are absolutely necessary for the army, and the scarcity is growing. Every pair of shoes we save helps to ease the situation, and so serves the Empire to which we owe this welcome cheapness of rubbers.

Save your Shoes and Serve the Empire!