

gs. for the beautiful roan three-year-old Lavender Lady II., and Mr. A. M. Gordon, of Newton, gave 210 gs. for the roan three-year-old Lady Dorothy XXVIII. Scotland repaid Mr. Mills' enthusiasm for the Scots type by buying many of the best females, although frequently the Argentine buyers proved too many for them. Mr. Fletcher got the highest-priced two-year-old heifer, Ruddington Countess Farewell II., at 410 gs. A red heifer of the same age went to Senor A. Olivera, at 330 gs., and others made 280 gs., 260 gs., 210 gs., 205 gs., and several were below that figure, but over the 100 gs. Lord Winterstoke, under which designation is concealed Mr. Wills, of Bristol tobacco fame, was a good buyer in this section. The best animal in the sale, age considered, was the yearling heifer, Dainty Lass' Daydream, an uterine sister to Mr. Duthie's 500-gs. cow. Mr. Duthie wanted the yearling also. She is a wonderfully well-finished, level-fleshed, gay roan. He bid hard, but many more were of the same mind as himself regarding her, and one of them was Senor A. Olivera, who had not crossed the South Atlantic for nothing. He held on severely against all comers, and carried off the youngster at 420 gs. Shorthorn breeding is certainly not "done."

STOCK SHIPMENTS TO CANADA.

While South Americans have been buying Shorthorns, Canadians have been buying Ayrshires. A magnificent shipment of dairy cattle left a week ago by the Donaldson liner Athenia. Messrs. Robert Hunter & Sons, Maxville, Ont., had 51 head, and Mr. R. R. Ness, Howick, Que., an equal number. The gratifying thing about these shipments is the fact that such numbers of Ayrshires can be gathered together from existing herds, passing the tuberculin test, and, to a great extent, proved to be superior milking strains of stock. Stockmen are slow to move out of their accustomed grooves, but sooner or later they recognize that the commercial test is the final, and from it there is no appeal. Mr. Ness was piloted mainly by Mr. Andrew Mitchell, Barcheskie, Kirkcudbright, and Mr. Thos. Barr, Monkland, Kilmarnock; and Messrs. Hunter had as their chief guide Mr. A. W. Montgomerie, Lessnessock, Ochiltree, who knows his way about among Ayrshires with the best of them.

Clydesdales have also secured attention from these shippers and Mr. Carruth, from the Northwest, as well as Prouse & Innes, Ingersoll, Ont. Altogether, stock-breeding is proving, as in the past, the backbone of the British farmer. If he had not his pure-bred stocks to fall back upon, it is difficult to see what he would have.

The highest-priced Hackneys sold at Thornhome a week ago, including the champion, 1,175-gs. mare Menella, have all been shipped to New York. This confirms, in another department, what has been suggested by the trade in Shorthorns, Ayrshires and Clydesdales.

"SCOTLAND YET."

Weaning Pigs.

An expert in hog-raising says that the method of weaning will depend somewhat on circumstances. If the pigs are so little dependent on the sow's milk that she is gaining rapidly in flesh and lessening in milk flow, the weaning may be abrupt, the sow being taken away out of hearing. If she is still milking considerable, she may be returned to the pigs once a day for two or three days, or the pigs may be taken away in detachments, beginning with two or three of the strongest, then the next strongest, leaving the weakest ones of the litter to complete the drying-off.



Ratcheuh With.

Shorthorn heifer; calved, Sept., 1902. Winner of first at Bath and West of England Show, 1905. Bred and owned by Mr. W. Bell, Alnwick, Eng. Sire Baron Abbotford (76087), by Abbotford (66588), bred by Mr. W. Duthie, Collynie.

Live-stock Judges.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Your editorial on appointing judges at fairs, in the April 5th issue, was interesting, and as you asked for the views of interested persons, and as for two weeks I have not seen any, I am writing this, hoping to have some opinions and improvements offered, as I, with many others, am interested. I agree with you, that the present system is not perfect, although I believe it a great improvement over the old one. The political influence you mention I don't know anything about, and doubt. The difficulty the Superintendent has in securing capable men is great. The idea of breed associations making the selection is a good one, in so far as that breed is concerned, and should be followed as far as possible, but he should not be allowed to judge any other breed, and he should not be partial to any family in that breed, and should give his reasons for the awards he makes as information to the anxious spectators, not necessarily as an accomplished orator, but as a man who knows what he is doing, and that he is doing it as an instructor. If any man believes it beneath his dignity to impart information to a desiring audience, then he should keep away from stock-judging at fairs.

Now, I believe it would be advisable to have all judges pass an examination and obtain certificates after taking a course of instruction in judging; that the student should carefully train his eye and touch, become intimate with the standard of excellence of the class of animals he is going to judge, irrespective of breed, and familiarize himself with the different breeds and their breed characteristics. He should study anatomy and physiology, so as to know why certain form and action are desired. A course of instruction along this line could be given at the O. A. C., where so much valuable and much-needed instruction has already been given in the short-course judging classes. I sincerely hope many capable and interested men will give their views on this very important subject, and that out of them good will come.

J. STANDISH.

Bruce Co., Ont.

Raising Bacon Hogs.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have read with great interest in "The Farmer's Advocate" the much-discussed hog question, and I firmly believe the hog producer has not had fair play, which has been a detriment to the industry. However, there is not much ground for complaint at the present time, especially in regard to prices; but why should prices fluctuate so in such short a time? Probably it is in accordance with the law of supply and demand. However, our attention should be turned to an equally if not more important subject, namely, rearing and marketing a good and profitable hog. To raise such it is very important that we keep good brood sows, which, I consider, should be pure-bred by all means. If belonging to the easy keep or fat kind, they should be crossed with the typical bacon sire to farrow for the first time at the age of one year. I keep two brood sows—a Tamworth and a Berkshire—crossing the former with a Berkshire, the latter with a Tamworth, each sow raising two litters a year, farrowing about first of April and first of September, raising in all on an average thirty-six pigs a year. I prefer the Tamworth as a mother. She being the more active is less liable to lay on her young; she also has a more roving nature, and her offspring take plenty of exercise, making them better feeders, and far superior as a bacon hog. In the grass season my sows pick their living, and farrow where they choose. In the winter they have the barnyard to run in and a comfortable pen to sleep in. I feed them a little chop, but chiefly roots; a few handfuls of whole oats each day, thrown in the straw, is very good to keep them

in exercise. By handling them in this way I have little or no trouble with the young, as they come strong and healthy. When they are three weeks old I begin feeding them skim milk and shorts, and at weaning time—which is six weeks for spring litters and eight for fall litters—they are quite accustomed to barley meal, and eat readily. I feed moderately, giving them plenty of time to grow; marketing them at between seven and eight months old, weighing from 200 to 225 lbs. I have fed some that weighed 150 lbs. when four months and six days old, never allowing them to run out, feeding warm skim milk, shorts and barley meal, rape and stock food. My opinion is that in giving them a little longer time we produce better bacon hogs, with more profits, especially spring pigs.

Edg. Co., Ont. SUBSCRIBER.

The Condition Powder Cure-all Fake.

"Cattle Medicines," is the title of Bulletin No. 117 from the Laboratory of the Inland Revenue Department, Ottawa, which exposes a form of charlatanism it is time to have shown up for the information of farmers and stockmen. Without going into analysis, we may content ourselves with giving the introductory comments of Thomas McFarlane, the Chief Analyst, who reports to the Deputy Minister as follows:

I recently had the honor of reporting to you the results of examining samples of the cattle feeds and stock foods which are offered for sale to the agricultural public of Canada. At the time these were collected, there were also obtained by the food inspectors samples of condition powders, so-called, which were supposed, like the stock foods, to have good effects in improving the appearance of the animals to whom they were administered. Of these condition powders, or cattle medicines, there were collected in all 35 samples, which are described in the tabulated statement appended to this report. They were sold under the following names:

Condition powders	24	samples.
Regulators	3	"
Pheno-chloro	1	"
Cattle medicine	1	"
Hog powder	1	"
Worm powders	3	"
Colic cure	1	"
Heave cure	1	"
	35	samples.

It will be seen that only five out of the 35 samples are cattle medicines intended for use in cases of specified disease, while the other 30 are supposed to be applicable to all the ills that cattle flesh is heir to. This supposition is sustained by the claims actually made on behalf of about two-thirds of these samples on their labels or wrappers, and noted in the column headed "Inspectors' report." Others were sold in bulk, and without any claim having been made. Some of the claims recorded would really be comical as regards the universal applicability of the medicines, if it were not too serious a matter for the poor animals to whom they are to be administered.

The condition powders consist largely of linseed meal, oil-cake meal, or bran, in which are distributed more or less of other substances which are supposed to have purgative, diuretic, haematinic or tonic effects. These powders are, in fact, the proprietary or patent medicines supposed to be good for farm animals. They vary very much as regards composition. Some condition powders contain chlorides and nitrates; in others, such salts are absent; a third class has sulphates, in addition to chlorides and nitrates; in a fourth only the sulphates are present in considerable quantity; in some, free sulphur appears to be the characteristic constituent, and in others, antimony. It does not seem fair to the farmers that remedies differing so much in their ingredients should be sold under a common name, nor can it be advantageous to his animals to have medicines administered without much regard to the nature of the disease. The "regulators" contain, as a rule, iron salts, but otherwise are just as diverse in composition as the condition powders. Among the specific remedies, the worm powders exhibit similar diversity in composition, and do not seem to contain the drugs usually prescribed by veterinarians as vermifuges.

That there are remedies for specific diseases, used in veterinary practice, which are sold as such, is no doubt the case, but as regards the universal cattle medicine or "cure-all," it is very doubtful as to whether the farmer obtains value for his money.

"Choke-full" of Good Reading.

Dear Sir,—I received the farmer's knife and harmonica all O. K. The knife is a good one—just as you represent it. The harmonica is a beautiful instrument. It is lovely to play on, for which I am well pleased, and accept thanks for the same. May "The Farmer's Advocate" live long, as it is choke-full of good reading.

Dundas Co., Ont. R. H. TIMMINS.