

of wool they wanted, the condition they required it in, or any information whatever on the subject. What sort of wool is this they have imported, to the extent of over 8,000,000 pounds per annum? Could not our farmers grow it if educated as to the quality? I would like an answer. If the spirit of this letter is acted upon by our Dominion Government, the water powers of this country will be harnessed by linen mills, additional to the consumption of pure wool, then the manufacturers can say grown in Canada and made in Canada, an improvement on their present motto (made in Canada). Pure food to each and clothing from pure fiber only should be the motto for every person inhabiting this Dominion.

Russell Co., Ont.

Re the Scrub Bull.

We have heard and read a great deal lately about the scrub bull. Farmers and feeders especially are by degrees wakening up to the importance of keeping cattle bred only from pure-bred bulls of good type. But is it not surprising how many scrub bulls are yet kept in this fair country of ours? We can count several just in our own community. Just think of a farmer in this age keeping a \$15 or \$20 bull year after year for his neighbors to breed stock from. What a hindrance to progress, and how a man will, by little enterprise, keep a whole neighborhood back. How are we going to remedy this? Some say make those who keep a bull not registered pay a license fee or fine of \$15 or \$20 a year; others suggest something else. But, do you know, I think if farmers were better educated on these matters, if they would read more good agricultural papers and become more enlightened, the results would be quite different. Only a very few attend the Farmers' Institute meetings, and only a small percentage take a real good farm paper, and consequently many are not posted in these things. In conversation with a big farmer the other day, I said, "Do you take the 'Farmer's Advocate'?" "Oh, no," he said, "but I take a farm journal printed in the United States that costs me only ten cents a year." Just think of it! And this man has boys who would relish a good farm paper. I honestly believe if our Government would place the "Farmer's Advocate" in every home of those who will not take it, it would give this country a lift that would be felt for generations to come. We need something to come into our homes every week, saying, "Wake up! You must try and do better!" And the "Farmer's Advocate" will do that, bringing a reliable and practical budget of information, at a cost of less than three cents a week.

Bruce Co., Ont.

Rape as a Food for Pigs.

In this connection it is interesting to observe some important conclusions which have been arrived at as a result of experiments carried out at the Wisconsin Station on the subject. The deductions drawn were:

That with pigs from four to ten months old, representing the various breeds of swine, an acre of rape, when properly grown, has a feeding value, when combined with a ration of corn and shorts, equivalent to 2,436 pounds of a mixture of these grain feeds.

That rape is a better green food for growing pigs than good clover pasture, the pigs fed upon the rape having made, on the average, 100 pounds of gain on 33.5 pounds less grain than was required by the pigs fed upon clover pasture.

That pigs are more thrifty, have better appetites, and make correspondingly greater gains when supplied with a rape pasture in conjunction with their grain feed, than when fed on grain alone.

That rape is the most satisfactory and cheapest green feed for pigs that we have fed.

That rape should be sown in drills 30 inches apart, to facilitate the stirring of the ground and cultivation after each successive growth has been eaten off.

The pigs should not be turned upon a rape pasture until the plants are at least 12 to 14 inches high, and that they should be prevented from rooting while in the rape field.

That rape is not a satisfactory feed when fed alone, when it is desired to have any live weight gain made in pigs, though it has been found that they will just about maintain themselves without loss of weight on this feed alone.

"Farmer's Advocate" in Wisconsin.

Enclosed please find \$1.50, for which please extend my subscription to December 31st, 1905. I enjoy reading your paper very much, and the fact that it comes from beyond the line that separates your country from mine serves to make it all the more interesting. Wishing you continued success, I am,

R. F. D., Eau Claire, Wis., U. S. A.

Questions for Mr. Fawcett.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—In your March 30th issue, Mr. Bliss M. Fawcett, of New Brunswick, criticizes what Prof. Grisdale has said about cost of producing a pound of beef on a steer from two to three years of age. Mr. Fawcett might tell us if he ever calculated what it cost him to produce such a pound of beef. If he did not, how can he say that Prof. Grisdale is wrong? Mr. Fawcett might also let us know how many farmers of his acquaintance, mentioning localities and names, have made money in producing beef in the conditions spoken about by Prof. Grisdale. It would be interesting to know if these men did not make money with some other line of their live stock or farming operations, and lose money putting on a certain number of pounds of beef on a two-year-old steer. If Mr. Fawcett calculates the crops raised on the farm at cost price, he loses what he could have made by selling these crops; and if Mr. Fawcett calculates the crops raised on the farm at the price he could have sold them, I believe he will find out that Prof. Grisdale is not far out. Is Mr. Fawcett ready to send a two-year-old steer to one of the Maritime Provinces Experimental Farms, and let them calculate what a pound of beef will cost, till he is three years old? If he is we could see what it costs to produce a pound of beef on a three-year-old steer in the Maritime Provinces.

GUS. A. LANGELEIR.

Wensleydale Sheep.

These appear to be the modern form of an old breed, once known as Teeswaters. They are said to be closely allied to the Leicesters, as their general appearance would indicate; and it is claimed for them that they, as well as the old Lincolns, were employed by Bakewell in his work of improvement of the Leicester. These long-woolled races of Leicester type appeared to have occupied the country from Yorkshire on the North-east, to Devon and Somerset on the South-west, and to have extended through Nottingham, Leicester, Warwick, Worcestershire, Gloucestershire and adjoining counties. They, therefore, occupied a broad band in the Midlands and in the North-eastern and South-western counties of England, following, indeed, the Northern boundary of the chalk formation, south of which the Down breeds chiefly have their home, and north of which the harder mountain breeds are to be found.

The Wensleydale long-wools took their name about the time the Yorkshire Agricultural Society commenced giving prizes for them, being more extensively cultivated in Wensleydale than in other parts. The present type has long been fixed, and no one who has achieved any success as



Royal London 904.

Wensleydale Bluefaced Two shear Ram. Winner as a shearling of First and Champion prize at the Royal Show, England. As a two-shear, first at the Great Yorkshire, the Royal Lancashire (and champion), never having been defeated. Property of executors of Estate of Thos. Willis, Manor House, Carperby, Yorkshire, England.

a Wensleydale breeder has deviated from a line of pure breeding. The Wensleydale is a large, high-standing sheep, with a characteristic blue in the skin of the face and ears, and which sometimes extends to the whole body, though the shade is deeper on the face and shanks. The dark color is said to be cultivated because of the extensive use of the rams for crossing with the Black-faced Mountain ewes. It is found that the dark blue rams throw dark-faced lambs—a point much valued. The wool of the Wensleydale is of uniform open character, and of finer quality than any other long-woolled breed. Long, silky locks cover nearly the whole surface of the body, including the forehead, between the eyes, round the

ears, and on the belly and scrotum. In the class for "any other long-wools" at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show in 1903 and 1904, the Wensleydale wool won over all competitors, including Cotswold, Romney Marsh, Devon Long-wool, etc. It is claimed for them that they are unsurpassed for hardiness and strength of constitution, and that the quality of their mutton cannot be excelled, being noted for the absence of patchiness or excess of fat. The Wensleydale Bluefaced Sheep Breeders' Association and Flockbook Society is incorporated, Mr. John A. Willis, Manor House, Carperby, being Honorary Secretary, who will gladly give information respecting the breed. The Royal Agricultural Society of England gives a full prize-list for Wensleydales, and there are usually about as many exhibitors in this class as in most of the other breeds in the list. It is strange that this excellent breed has not been introduced into Canada, where its merits would seem to entitle it to a prominent place. There would seem to be a promising field for some enterprising breeder to establish a flock of Wensleydales in this country.

Molasses for Live Stock.

An Old Country exchange has the following to say regarding the British child's bread-appetizer and sweetener, familiarly known as "treacle":

"Some years ago, when the use of these substances for stock-feeding purposes was first introduced, treacle was very largely employed, and in some cases with such lack of discrimination as to be productive of injurious results, for it was found that when given in quantity to breeding animals it had the effect of injuriously affecting their procreative powers. On account of this, a reaction against the use of molasses for stock of any kind set in, and the consequence was that for a number of years foods of this kind labored under a heavy handicap, because of the prejudice generally entertained against them. For fattening stock the objection, which held good in the case of the breeding animals, did not apply, and the consequence was that many who might have profitably employed treacle for this purpose, were needlessly prevented from doing so by the dread of injuring their animals. Treacle, like all sugary compounds, is very fattening; and the experiences of our best feeders go to show that, when used with discretion, it is capable of being very advantageously employed in the fattening of farm stock. It is, of course, best adapted for use when the animals are being house-fed, and the most effective plan of giving it is to dilute it with hot water, and pour it over the chaffed fodder which the animals are receiving. In the use of treacle—as, indeed, in the use of all foods—moderation must be exercised at the commencement, and only a small quantity given. A pound per head per day is quite enough for a beginning, but when the systems of the animals become accustomed to it—for, as is well known, it is very laxative in its effects—as much as three pounds per day may be given with advantage to full-sized cattle."

What it Costs to Export a Sheep to Britain.

Sheep handlers are protesting against the vociferous manner in which exporters of live mutton have advertised their losses of late. In the history of the trade there never was a time when either cattle or sheep exporters admitted that their books balanced on the right side. "Their actions repudiate their talk," remarked a sheep man. "As a matter of fact, sheep sent across the water have made money this season. Take a 130-pound wether, costing 6c. on the Chicago market. It represents an investment of \$7.80. An additional \$2.00 will lay it down in London or Liverpool, and as the pelt is worth that much, the cost of the carcass is thus \$7.80. Such a sheep will dress not less than 48 per cent., or 62½ pounds of mutton, costing a little less than 12½c. per pound. Now, the stuff has been fetching 13c. and 14c. right along on the other side, when sheep are worth \$5 and \$5.80 here; and lately 16c. has been paid on British markets, a price that leaves a good profit. If exporters lose money right along, why do they continue operations?"—[Live-stock World.]

One Indication of Masculinity.

In the selection of their rams in autumn, flock-masters are always careful in avoiding animals with long, narrow necks. And very properly so. Experience shows that animals so constituted lack the masculine character and great constitutional vigor which it is always of so much importance that a sire should possess. A thick, stout neck, with a good arch, or crest as it is called, may always be taken as an index to constitutional vigor in the sire possessing it. The remark applies as well to horses and cattle as to sheep.