

DEMAND FOR PURE BREEDS.

In view of the fact that the greatest gain in weight by a steer is during the first half or three-fourths of the feeding period, it is not unlikely that we shall soon see a type of feeder that may be finished to a market topping degree in 150 days or less. The breeders and feeders of the country appreciate better than anyone else the need of such an animal and realize that it can be had only by the infusion of new blood, bringing the grade a step nearer to absolute purity.

More and better cattle should be the slogan of the patriots of this cause. Encourage the sale of pure breeds without fear that there will be an over supply. We repeat what has often been said recently, that pure-breds are worth more today than ever before in the history of the cattle business. Chicago is the natural hub of the pure-bred as well as other live stock interests. The best prices are paid here both as to individual animals and average prices on a large number. Chicago has set the pace. The sales in Dexter Park were never more successful. The whole of the country is aroused, and the wise man is buying now. Every new man in the business reduces the number of some breeder's herd and adds a few dollars a head to the value of his remaining animals.—Chicago Drivers' Journal.

Henpeck—Oh! he's a great doctor.
Hempson—You don't say so?
Henpeck—Yes sir. My mother-in-law had a cold in the head and he developed it into pneumonia.

PINKEYE.

Experiment Station, Manhattan, Kan., May 27, 1902.—There exists in this and other western states a contagious inflammation of the eyes among cattle that is popularly called "pinkeye," from the red and inflamed appearance of the eye. The disease is quite widely distributed, and while it occurs at all seasons of the year it is most frequently observed during the summer months while cattle are on pasture, as dust, and pollen from plants increase the irritation of the eye. The disease was at first observed by the writer in this state in 1890, but since that time has spread rapidly and is now quite common. The disease seems to attack young cattle more frequently than old cattle; but cattle of all ages take it and it seems to affect old cattle more severely than calves. It does not attack other animals than cattle.

Causes.—The cause of the disease has not been discovered, although it is believed to be due to a germ. The manner in which the disease is spread from one animal to another is little understood, although flies are believed to form an important part. The disease, however, also spreads during the winter, when there are no flies about. Direct contact seems to be a means of spreading the disease. There is a popular idea that pollen and dust cause the disease. They undoubtedly aggravate it, but the disease must be introduced into a locality by an infected animal.

Symptoms.—The first symptom usually noticed is a profuse discharge of tears from one eye, that run down over the face. Dust and dirt often adhere to the moist hair and a dirty streak is observed, especially in white faced cattle, extending from the upper inner corner of the eye downward across the face. The disease usually

begins in one eye, and later attacks the other eye. In some cases both eyes may be attacked at the same time. Associated with the discharge of tears is a swelling of the eyelids, which are nearly closed, partly from the swelling, but principally to keep the light from the eye, as bright light seems to increase the pain. The front part of the eyeball becomes milky white in appearance, and one spot, usually near the center, red or copper-colored. At this point an abscess or small gathering usually forms and looks to be a reddish, fleshy mass. It breaks and discharges a small amount of puss matter that escapes with the tears. As the animal recovers and the eye returns to its normal condition a white speck remains on the eyeball for a time as a scar, showing where the abscess existed. In a few cases this abscess weakens the front of the eye to such an extent that it bursts and allows the contents of the anterior chamber of the eye to escape. A few of the cases where the eye bursts will heal and the animal will recover the sight; but in a majority of the cases the animal will be permanently blind in that eye. A few cases are reported where both eyes have burst and the animal was permanently blind in both eyes. During the acute stages of the disease if both eyes are affected at the same time the inflammation may be so severe as to cause a temporary blindness, the animals being unable to see at all, and it is necessary to feed and water them to prevent them falling away rapidly in flesh. If the animal has the disease in an acute form there is often some fever associated with the disease; and in practically all cases the cattle cease to ruminate and will stand about with ears lopped and eyes closed exhibiting all symptoms of severe suffering. Milch cows usually fall away in the amount of milk secreted, or in severe cases it may be stopped entirely. Owing to a closing of the eyes together with the pain animals do not eat well, especially while at pasture, and as a result fall away in flesh.

Since practically no animals die from the effects of this disease, and only a few are permanently affected by the loss of sight, the greatest loss is in the shrinkage of flesh, that follows an attack of this disease.

If possible the disease should be prevented by keeping infected animals away from the healthy. After the disease is once introduced among a bunch of cattle, by separating and isolating the affected animals as soon as the first symptoms are shown the disease can be checked. It is not practicable to attempt to treat a large number of animals unless they should be especially valuable or suffer from the disease in a severe form. When it is advisable to treat an animal it should be placed in a darkened stable, the eyes thoroughly washed with cold water, all sections removed and a solution of boric acid, twenty grains dissolved in an ounce of water, should be applied. A few drops of Haarlem oil or a little ointment made by mixing one part of finely pulverized iodoform with twelve parts of fresh lard or vaseline can be applied directly to the eyeball by putting it on the inside of the eyelid and gently rubbing it over the surface. Cloths wet with cold water and kept over the eyes are useful in reducing the inflammation. Practically all animals make a good recovery in three or four weeks. N. S. MAYO.

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