



How The Big Snow Decorated Prineville.

THE STABILITY OF PURE BRED LIVESTOCK
By Frank D. Tomson

It is remarkable how many there are, lacking contact with the purebred livestock business, who raise their voices when a decline in values is indicated as a charge against the industry. Strange as it may seem, there are countless numbers—but happily these numbers are being proportionately reduced—who should be producing purebred sires, who seem to take delight whenever a purebred animal shows a shrinkage in value. I attribute this attitude chiefly to the inertia which has hold of such people and to the natural inclination which they evidently possess to desire to hold other people to their own level of activity and enterprise.

Then there come here and there publications setting forth a part of the truth, using for illustrations the practices of individuals and applying them to the fraternity as a whole, assuming that they are rendering a useful service.

Fortunately, the main people do their own thinking. A farmer ships a load of livestock to the market. He gets a low price. His commission man addresses him perhaps in this wise: "Jim, you think you got a low price for your cattle because this load across the alley sold for a higher price. But, look here, Jim; look at the kind of cattle this man has; look at their quality; see how uniform they run in type. Do you know, Jim, that if you bought the same kind of cattle here you would

get the prices that this man does? The secret of the whole thing, Jim, is purebred sires and good care."

So "Jim" gets a lot of education in that little talk. He observes that it is dollars and cents to him and he decides to make a change in his class of livestock. He gets a better bull and in looking around he becomes interested in good females also. He has taken an important step. Gradually he pays more attention to the individuality of his cattle. Perhaps he invests in some purebred females for practical purposes. The next time he goes to market he has a different experience. He has found through actual experience that there is an actual advantage in the use of the better standards represented by the purebreds.

"Jim" is one of many thousands of farmers and all of the published propoganda and all the adverse comment has no avail. It is a matter of profit or loss with "Jim" and his millions of contemporaries:

The way to produce extra pounds and improve the quality of those pounds is limited to the one channel of better standards of breeding animals. There is no other way. No amount of feed, no amount of care will avail more than a little if the first requisite—good breeding—is not provided. The live stock growers of this country know now from observation and experience that the purebred has a closer relation to farm profits than ever before. It has become practically indispensable. Values may rule high or low. There may be speculation or the lack of it, but the need of

purebred livestock on the millions of farms in the United States is as definite as the need of fertility in the soil.

There should be just as careful discrimination among purebreds as there is among animals of common breeding. It is the standard individuality and responsiveness that is desired. Combine this with pure breeding and we have the best possible investment for any man engaged in mixed husbandry. The exact requirements on the farms and as related to markets render imperative the production of the best types of farm animals obtainable regardless of the breed. The purebred offers very much the safest investment. It will come nearer assuring adequate and permanent profits than any other of lesser worth.

The day of the purebred is here and the millions of farmers are aware of it. The argument is all on the one side. Nor is it necessary that purebreds should soar to high prices in order to draw attention to their actual worth nor in the hope of encouraging further patronage. The chief concern of the breeder of purebreds is in my judgment the production of types that will meet all of the practical requirements and make the largest possible return on that basis.

A Waterfall.

Where water takes its first leap from the top, it is cool and collected, and uninteresting, and mathematical; but it is when it finds that it has got into a scrape, and has farther to go than it thought for, that its character comes out; it is then that it begins to writhe, and twist, and sweeps out, zone after zone, in wider stretching as it falls, and to send down the rocket-like lance-pointed whizzing shafts at its sides, sounding for the bottom.—John Ruskin.

Lines to Be Remembered.

A gentleman puts words into deed, and sorts what he says to the deed. He is broad and fair. The vulgar are biased and petty. A gentleman considers what is right. The vulgar man considers what will pay. A gentleman wishes to be slow to speak and quick to act. He helps the needy; he does not swell riches.—Confucius.

Howling Dogs Appreciated.

Peritans love dogs because they are supposed to lie awake nights and drive away the demons that wait for the souls of the dead, so the more the dog howls at night the surer he is to defeat the demons and the more he is appreciated by his owner.

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