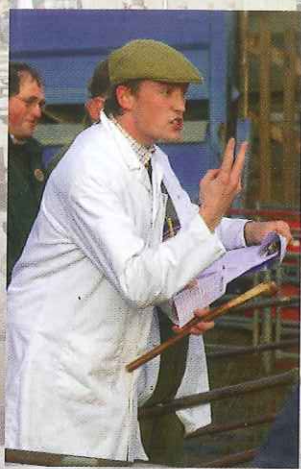


Both Bedford and Northampton Fatstock shows were held at Thrapston last Thursday, *Farmers Weekly* stopped in to catch the trade



I'll take two, sir... Auctioneer James Sealy gives buyers a clear signal of what it needs to keep trade moving.

The day might have belonged to the primestock, but a strong entry of cull ewes was also forward and in demand from buyers.



Double top... Mr Ludgate also took the Northampton show's cattle title with this homebred Limousin cross steer, pictured with the judge John Swingler. The steer later sold to Mr Swingler for 221p/kg.



Taking the Bedford show's cattle championship was Kevin Ludgate's Blue x Limousin Heifer weighing in at 460kg and selling to Edmunds of Leicester for 300p/kg.



Prize porker... Duncan Burton from Exton, Oakham, took the Bedford show's pig championship with his 70kg Large White cross. The pig failed to sell and headed home again with Mr Burton.



Champion lambs in the Northampton show under judge Chris Bustance (r) were these Beltex x Texels owned by Paul Swinford. The lambs, weighing 47.5kg, sold for £78 a head to Lee Colton.

PICTURES: TIM SCRIVENER