

as were desired. A Greek writer, as early as the first century B. C., mentioned that the Belgians were great judges of horses, and Caesar states that they were willing to pay high prices for a superior class of foreign animal.

Down through the ages the horses of warring nations have been influenced by war, and no doubt the same influence will operate during the great European struggle at the present time. We understand that every effort is being put forth to conserve the breeding stock of France and Belgium, and it is reported that before long buyers from France will be on their way to America to purchase additional animals for breeding purposes. England, too, and Scotland have seen their horses disappear, and buyers from this side of the water will have difficulty in procuring satisfactory shipments in the future. After this war is over there will be a piece of history to add to that already written about the development of all the leading breeds of horses of Europe.

Horse Wastage in the War.

In this war the waste of horses is appalling. Those that first entered Brussels with the German army had been bred and trained for the purposes of war, and they were magnificent specimens. Everyone who saw them exclaimed ungrudgingly in admiration. But by the time the army reached the approaches of Paris the forced marches had so depleted the stock of horses that for remounts the Germans were seizing all they met. Those that could not keep up were shot. For miles along the road from Meaux to Soissons and Rheims their bodies tainted the air.

They had served their purposes, and after six weeks of campaigning the same animals that in time of peace would have proved faithful servants for many years were destroyed that they might not fall into the hands of the French.

Just as an artilleryman sipped his gun, the Germans on their retreat to the Aisne River left in their wake no horses that might assist in their pursuit. As they withdrew they searched every stable yard and killed the horses. In village after village I saw horses lying in the stalls or in the fields still wearing the harness of the plough, or in groups of three or four in the yard of a barn each with a bullet-hole in its temple. They were killed for fear they might be useful.

RICHARD HARDING DAVIS.

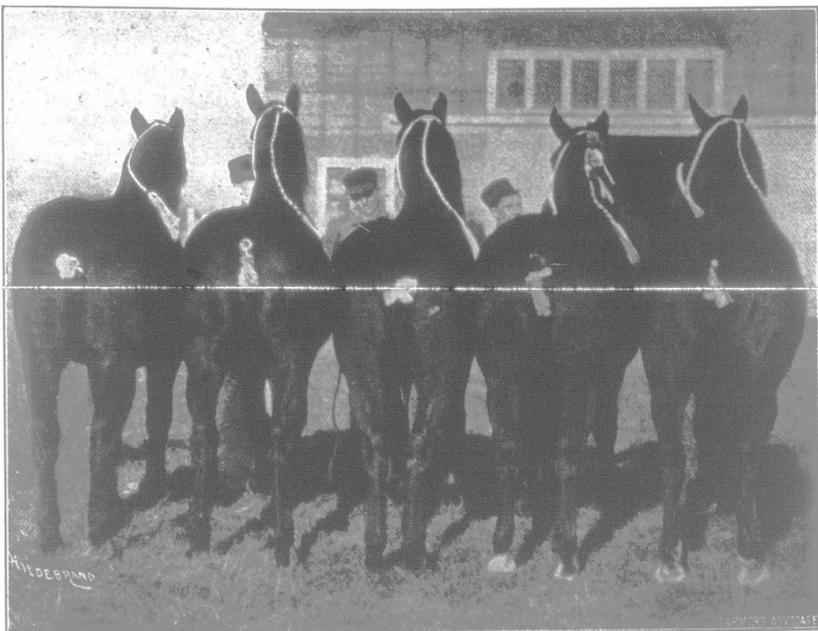
The London Times' correspondent, with the Russian army capturing Przemysl, shows that the rank and file of the Austrian forces were practically in a starving condition, but the officers and officials had been living in luxury as though nothing were happening. However, when the fall of the fortress became imminent the defenders ordered the slaughter of 1,000 valuable thoroughbred horses lest they should fall into the hands of the conquerors. The famished hosts gorged themselves upon the carcasses, and the scene was as gory as the war itself.

Cement Work in the Stable.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

With seeding over many farmers will commence work on their new barns. Many in fact are partly completed by this time and all that remains to be done is to put in the cement floors and stabling. This latter part is really the most important of all and needs to be done most carefully. The stable is the centre of interest on the dairy farm. It is the heart of the whole enterprise and success or failure is often a matter of correct or faulty construction in it. Mistakes in the dairy stable force themselves upon the owner much more insistently than errors in the rest of the building, for frequently his cows do well or poorly according as they are properly or improperly housed. The upper structure of the barn, the framing, the roof and the mows are second in importance to the stable just as the tender of a train is second in importance to the engine. So many first-class stable jobs are spoiled because of bungling in doing the cement work and there is such a call for full information about correct methods, that this special article has been prepared. It is not written solely for the benefit of the dairy farmer, but for any man building or remodelling his stable. No matter whether a man keeps fat stock or milkers he is anxious to get the best results from the money he invests in his stables; in either case he wants his place to look well, to do him credit, and to show off his cattle to good advantage.

Galvanized steel stalls have been shown in the drawings because the steel is preferable to the wood. Steel stalls are more sanitary, more durable, permit better diffusion of sunlight, allow the air to circulate more freely, are easier to clean and of course being galvanized are rust-proof. Once you have gone to the expense of putting in the steel stalling and doing the whole job properly, it is gone for a lifetime.



A Group of American-bred Percherons at the International, 1913.

LIVE STOCK.

Favors the Rutherford System.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The letter on ventilation from S. Percival Spittal, is very interesting, especially in the light of the articles on ventilation which have already appeared in your paper. The Rutherford System can be likened to an ordinary stove, the fire being the cow and the heat generated from the body and the chimney is the foul air shaft. The air enters at, or about the floor level, and goes off at the ceiling. I grant you that a barn with the Rutherford System installed may be, under certain circumstances, colder than one with the King System installed, but it is drier. Warm air naturally rises, and cold air descends. What happens in the case of the King System? The cold air rushes in at the ceiling level, strikes this warm air and condenses, causing dampness in 75 per cent. of the barns fitted with this system. The King System tries to get rid of the carbon dioxide which King claims is at the floor level, never giving a thought to the warm air at the

ceiling, for which there is no provision made for escape at all. Again, if carbon dioxide is so much heavier than ordinary air, an ordinary air shaft is not sufficient to extract this weight at the floor level, but requires the use of mechanical ventilators to produce sufficient draft. There is no perfect system of ventilation, but the Rutherford System works as natural laws direct, the King System works the reverse. To sum up the warm air rises to the ceiling level where, in the King System, there is no provision made to take it off as in the Rutherford System. The cold air entering at ceiling, condenses, causing dampness, which is the greatest objection to the King System.

Wellington Co., Ont. JOHN C. COLTHART.

Two to One.

Illustrated in this issue are 75 breeding Suffolk ewes with their 150 lambs. Such results should prove profitable to the breeder and an incentive to the shepherd. Ewes require some attention, particularly at lambing time, but on the whole there is no live stock which can look after itself so well as sheep. Careful feeding and attention always pay, and this illustration is a good object lesson for the sheepman.

START WITH A GOOD PLAN.

Don't attempt to build or remodel your barn "out of your head." Get it down on paper and have every detail decided upon before you have a single timber or turn a single sod. Be sure that you have the best measurements for the walks, mangers, gutters and cattle stands. It is not irksome to draw a plan. It is very interesting and the

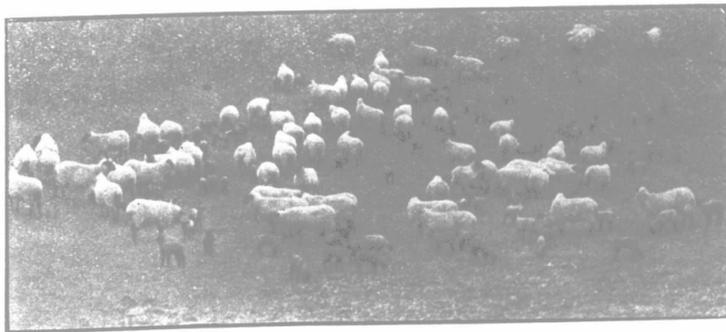
ing to plan a barn especially for you without charge.

Once you are satisfied with a plan, get familiar with it. Know every line and figure before you start. If you are remodelling or if the walls of the stable are already up see that the inside measurements of the barn, from wall to wall correspond to the measurements on the plan.

The measurements shown in this article are among the best to use and are worth remembering. The plan also is very good.

EXCAVATING AND MAKING FORMS.

Mark either on stakes or on the stable walls the correct level for the finished cattle walk floors. If the ground inside the stable walls is low, fill in until it grades 6 inches below the level marked as above. If the ground is high, reduce



75 Suffolk Ewes with 150 Lambs.

work is important enough to warrant your taking the time. You will find more than one weak spot after you have the plan made and many places where you can improve the layout without a cent extra cost. Most of the farm papers are glad to help you. If you wish, you can obtain good plans for any kind of barn from the manufacturers of building materials or stable equipment who advertise in these columns. They are usually will-

the grade of the areas on which the cattle walks and gutters will be laid and throw the surplus earth over to the feed-passage areas where it will likely be required since the feed passages will be 10 inches higher than the walks.

Level off the earth with a slope of one inch in twenty feet towards one end of the stable and wet and tamp thoroughly to prevent any settling after the floor is finished. Lay rows of tile with the