

GOOD FOR PRESENTS

HORSE MARKET STRONGER

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The rapidly improving situation in the iron and steel trade, and in manufactures in general, has already been responsible for a marked improvement in the demand and prices for heavy horses. Good sound geldings, weighing over 1700 pounds, have averaged around \$300 per head recently, even in lots numbering from six to ten head, and demand for the good ones is steadily increasing. Well informed market men estimate, from a knowledge of horses already exported, that approximately half a million horses have already been sold on war orders. The value of these is close to one hundred million dollars and the demand seems greater than ever. Buyers are scouring the country in every conceivable, district, in the United States and even in northwest Canada. Every effort is being made to buy as cheaply as possible, but artillery horses promise to cost more before the war is over. Fully ninety per cent. of the artillery horses are sired by draft stallions, out of small mares, and the demand for draft stallions is gaining in consequence, especially on the western ranges. Ranchmen have been able to obtain much higher prices there for their grade drafters than for any of their light horses and the lesson has been driven home in dollars and cents.

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All breeds of draft horses in Europe have been heavily drawn on for war purposes and the Belgian breed has been, practically destroyed. Percherons have also suffered, for the need for horses on guns and transports has been so great that virtually all available horses have been taken by the army. M. Miteau, foreman for one of the American importers, who is a very reliable observer, travelled all thru the Perche district in July and August of this year and reports that all horses three years old or over, except the most valuable stud stallions or mares nursing foals, have been commandeered and that it would not be possible to find two hundred stallions suitable for export to America, even if exportation were allowed. This drives home most forcefully the fact that North American horsemen must depend on the product of North American studs for draft sires for many years to come. Exports to foreign countries will unquestionably occur before we have any more importations.

American bred horses have been brought forward this year as never before, exceeding in type and size those of previous years. The champion mare at the Iowa State Fair and the grand champion mare and reserve grand champion stallion at the Panama Pacific Exposition were all

American bred and came from three separate studs, located in Illinois, Iowa and Virginia respectively—again bearing testimony to the wide distribution of good Percherons in the United States. More than seven thousand American bred Percherons have already been recorded by the Percheron Society of America and the fiscal year is not yet closed. Transfers show an increasing activity in the sale of Percherons in all sections, especially in yearling and two year old stallions.

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Feed Colts for Development

The most important development in the past eight months has been seen in the marked preference given to colts that have been so liberally fed as to permit of full development. Such colts have sold readily at prices that have left a handsome profit to the breeder. Half starved or stunted colts have met with slow sale and at low prices. It is to be regretted that so few breeders feed their weanling, yearling and two year old Percherons enough of the right kind of feed. Many believe they feed enough, when as a matter of fact they are not furnishing half what the colts ought to have. The horses already referred to as winners of championships in our largest shows against the best of imported horses never knew what it was to be hungry from the time they were foaled. Oats, bran, bluegrass pasture and alfalfa hay furnished most of the ration, and the colts had all they would eat up clean. Percheron breeders in America have the best of Percheron blood and an opportunity never dreamed of. Those who meet it adequately will reap both fame and fortune.—Wayne Dinsmore, Secretary, American Percheron Breeders' Association.

BEWARE OF GOLD BRICKS

Money has just as much attraction for crooks as the proverbial jam pot has for flies. With large yields this fall, farmers as a class are comparatively well off, and many have money to spare. Right along with the money—and after it—are the men who have marvelous new varieties of wheat to sell, beautiful fruit lands—at beautiful prices—in Florida, or somewhere else, and the thousand and one other get-rich-quick schemes which can only bring profit to the seller and sorrow and loss to the purchaser. Every successful business man carefully investigates any scheme which is offered for his consideration. Farmers as a class are not quite so careful. Be thrifty this year. Invest some of your surplus

in good livestock. Instead of thinking twice before making any questionable investment, think a dozen times, talk it over with the wife, and in addition write for information from some reliable source.

satisfying qualities.

"THE BROWN MOUSE" By Herbert Quick

In this book Mr. Quick presents the new conception of the rural school in the form of a story. He shows the advantage of practical activity over mere book work, indeed shows that where agricultural school gardening, manual work, social gatherings and all related activities are made the central features of school life, all other things, such as the "three R's," will look after themselves. In short, Mr. Quick suggests that life rather than mere book study is the measure of a school. Readers will be quick to agree that for children over twelve years of age the new conception is a great advantage on the traditional rural school. It will attract children because it offers something worth while, and, after all, it is upon attraction rather and, after all, it is upon attraction rather than compulsion that we must depend for getting children to school. Unfortunately there is little in Mr. Quick's book that will directly apply to children under twelve years. They, however, will be attracted by the school gardening, the play, and by the spirit of the new school. The rural school program for children under twelve has yet to be arranged. It is true that in "The Brown Mouse" Mr. Quick has given nothing new in education, since the ideas have ew in education, since the ideas have been set forth repeatedly in school journals, magazines, and school reports, as well as in standard school texts. Yet all honor must be accorded to a man who has reduced the idea to popular form. The book will be eagerly read every where, and it would pay the provincial governments to put a copy in the hands of every rural school trustee.-W. A.

Note.—Copies of this book will be mailed to any address for \$1.35 postpaid.

—Book Dept., Grain Growers' Guide, Winnipeg.

LAND VALUES TAXATION

Let it be observed that when land is taxed, no man is taxed; for the land produces, according to the law of the Creator, more than the value of the labor expended on it, and on this account men are willing to pay a rent for land.—Patrick Edward Dove.

CRIME AND CRIMINAL PROCEDURE

In addition to its other activities the People's Forum, recently explained in these columns by its founder, J. S. Woodsworth, has established a fund for the publication of addresses given from its platform. A beginning has been made by printing in pamphlet form the able and valuable address on "Crime and Criminal Procedure" delivered at the People's Forum last year by R. W. Craig, K.C., of Winnipeg.

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Thru his experience as Crown Prosecutor and his other professional work Mr. Craig has studied his subject at close range. In indicting much of our judicial system as crude and inefficient he knows, therefore, whereof he speaks. Mr. Craig's pamphlet is one which no social worker, and no one interested in public welfare, can afford to be without.

The main portion of the pamphlet is divided into four sections, as follows:—

(1) Canadian Criminal Procedure, (2) Punishment, (3) Reformation and (4) Prevention. These sections are preceded by a history of criminal law and procedure, including a review of ancient methods. This section is followed by one on modes of punishment in vogue in modern times and at present. Under causes of crime Mr. Craig discusses heredity, disease, poverty, lust, acquisitiveness, intemperance, immigration, juvenile delinquency, environment and prison life. Finally the preliminary portion has a section on "The Delinquent Himself," sub-divided into (1) The Habitual Criminal and (2) The Single Offender.

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Mr. Craig's work is characterized by a broad sympathy and sanity. He desires to see radical reforms in our judicial machinery and in prison management. He pleads for a whole-hearted change in our treatment and conception of the criminal. There is no sentimentality in his pamphlet, but, on the contrary, a strong practical sense. In one of his concluding paragraphs Mr. Craig says:—

strong practical sense. In one of his concluding paragraphs Mr. Craig says:—
"There is a social responsibility here that cannot be avoided. 'Love thy neighbor as thy self' has rung thru all the years with an increasingly suggestive answer to the question—Who is my neighbor? In the realm of delinquency the delinquent is my neighbor. What are we going to do with him? We must find out why he has gone wrong, and having regard to his individuality and the welfare of the state, we must make the best of him and help him to make the best of himself. We must not injure him."

"Crime and Criminal Procedure" can be procured from the Book Department of The Grain Growers' Guide, price 15 cents, or by mail 17 cents.