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one hears a prosperous purchaser say to a dealer "He is a very nice horse, but very light in bone." The dealer replies, "Yes, but his bone is of good 'quality.'" It is a fact that the bone of some horses is much more dense or compact, and is, as the dealer expresses it, of better "quality" than that of some others.

What causes this greater density in the bones of some individuals than in those of others? The fibres that form part of the tissues of an individual of high "quality" are more slender, more compact and tougher than those of one of less "quality." One can appreciate this even with the naked eye in examining the walls of horses' hoofs. In a horse possessing a fairly high degree of "quality," the fibres which run from the coronet down, in forming the basis of the wall, are most palpably finer than in those of the wall of a coarser individual. So with the bone; the elements that combine to form it in a horse of high "quality" are finer and more highly organised than in those of a coarser individual.

What you find in regard to quality in the bones of an individual you find pervading all the tissues of his organism. You do not find a horse with coarse bone and fine skin, or coarse skin and fine bone. If the bone is fine, or has "quality" in an individual, the muscles, tendons, ligaments, skin, hoofs, hair and all the other tissues which enter into his composition are equally fine or are of equal "quality." The "quality" of a horse's bone may be perfect, but undue or disproportionate length, or other defective form, or faulty relationship of one bone to another may make his conformation very imperfect indeed, so that it is difficult to understand why some horsemen think there is any relationship between "quality" and conformation.

A high degree of "quality" is apt to be associated with defects, or one might also state that a horse can have too much quality. Size, or, more correctly, substance, is strength, other things being equal. A horse with a high degree of quality may be so lacking in substance as to impair his power for the performance of work or severe tests of endurance or speed. He may be so light-limbed that he cannot stand the "wear and tear" of hard work and remain practically sound. We often find horses that are superfine with disproportionately small feet, and every experienced horseman knows that it is seldom that such horses do much work and remain sound. A horse, however, cannot have too much "quality," providing it is combined with sufficient substance for the purpose for which he is required. A high degree of "quality" and sufficient substance are most important attributes in contributing to perfection in horseflesh.

There are many everyday evidences of the ill consequences of deficient quality in horseflesh. You hear a horseman say that a horse has soft legs, and he points out an individual inclined to fill about the skin of the fetlocks, to show windgalls which extend up to the sheaths of his back tendons, and whose hocks are inclined to be puffy throughout. If he gets a bruise or injury of any kind to the skin of his legs, the consequent swelling is apt to extend and is inclined to remain. Abrasions, cuts, cracks and scratches heal rather tardily. Concussion and direct injury to bone are very much inclined to result in bony enlargement, such as splints that spread out and have not well-defined limits. Standing in the stable too much readily produces stocking of the legs. There is a predisposition to greasy legs. Feet are inclined to be flat, large and easily bruised.

These tendencies show coarseness of tissue and low organisation, a meagre blood supply and inactive nutrition. Horses with "quality" also develop windgalls and splints, if subjected to sufficient cause, but their character differs from those of the coarse horses in being clean cut and well defined and not having the tendency to spread out. A horse with quality may have a bone spavin, but it will show as a well-defined prominence and not as a round puffiness of hock throughout.

Draft horsemen talk "quality" just as much as those who have to do with the light breeds. The difference in the "quality" of individuals of the draft breeds is just as well marked as in the light breeds. Take for instance, a Shire or Shire, either of which will have a considerable quantity of long hair on the back of

his legs, which is often referred to as "feather." If this hair is found to be fine and silky, not coarse and wiry, you will find that it is possessed by an individual that shows "quality" throughout. His skin will not be coarse and beefy, his legs will be fluted, his bone will have a tendency to flatness showing density of structure. The hair of his mane and tail will be fine like that at the back of his legs. The eminence and depressions formed by the bones of his head will be comparatively finely chiseled. He, in fact, shows "quality" when compared to other members of the same breed that are equally well-bred as far as possessing the characteristics of the breed, and as far as the stud-book is an indication of breeding. This is a further example of the fallacy of the view that "quality" and breeding are the same thing.

#### Bridle Fighting.

Yawning at the bridle and incessantly drawing on the reins, apparently is an endeavor to rid himself of the bit and head gear, is one of the most annoying habits in the horse. It has been termed "bridle fighting"—a protest against restraint. It is a habit formed in breaking and a horse addicted to it should be neither checked up nor chastised. They need indulging like a spoiled child. Plenty of work and regular exercise will cure the fault in a young horse. If a colt is found developing the habit, tire him out once or twice with a long journey and he will not be fighting the bridle very strenuously at the end of the trip, or give him plenty of hard work on the farm. A couple of object lessons will generally supply a permanent remedy.

"I must say that I have never (since commencing to read your paper) lost an opportunity of recommending it to my friends, always adding—which is perfectly true—that I like it better than any of the many agricultural papers I subscribed to in the Old Country. I frequently mail the Advocate to my friends both in Ireland and England."

J. S. BROADBENT.

Calgary, Alta.

## STOCK

### Thinks More Farmers should Feed.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

I have been following the articles on stock feeding lately pretty closely in the ADVOCATE, but not having had a very wide experience in feeding, I have some hesitation in saying much on the subject. However, I have had a few experiences that if of any value to you you may publish. Some years ago I was hailed out and the following summer I followed the land in June with the result that a heavy crop of wheat came up all over. This I cut green and fed all winter, it making excellent feed. In fact I never had as good success feeding as I had that winter. This fall after the frost came I cut a large quantity of wheat which I intend to feed in the same way. I stable my cattle letting them out each day with access to water and oat straw, leaving them out as long as possible according to the weather but never letting them suffer from cold. In the stable I intend feeding the green wheat and oat sheaves with some chop as the season advances.

Now, as for the results—three seasons ago I fed all the small three-year-olds that I did not sell in the fall, the highest offer I got for them being \$30.00 which I would not accept. The two-year-olds I would presume would be worth from \$20.00 to \$25.00 per head, as that is what stockers were being sold for in this district.

I sold these cattle to be delivered on or about the 15th of June; they went 1st July. They were on the grass for two months having taken them off the chop as soon as the grass became good.

My four-year-olds that I was offered \$30 for brought \$64, and the others a little over \$50 on an average; making as I considered pretty good returns for the little extra feed and care I gave them. I consider if a man can any way near double the price of his cattle he is well paid for his trouble considering he has to keep them for two years to make the first half, to say nothing about keeping the cow to produce the calf.

I might state that one of the great advantages in handling cattle in this way is that you put

them on the market when they are wanted and you have not to coax the different firms to take them off your hands as is often the case in the fall. Although the prices of cattle are not what they ought to be I think if more of us farmers were to turn our rough feed into beef and handle it in like manner, we would see better results for our work. Although as I said before, I have not had much experience in feeding yet I have handled my cattle in the last six years in this way and have had not much to complain of; only this year when they were not fit to go soon enough in the spring, feed being scarce, and having turned my attention of late years more to purebred stock. This year, however, I intend to feed all my young cattle and feel confident that I will have good returns for my work.

Sask.

R. M. DOUGLAS.

### National Live Stock Association.

A meeting of the executive committee of the National Live Stock Association of Canada was called for November 7th, to make arrangements for another general meeting of the main organization, to be held in Ottawa, probably during February next. It was mainly through the instrumentality of this body that the present National Record system of Canada was promoted and, while its control is not vested in this Association, but under a Board directly representing the various breed-record associations, there will doubtless be some review of or allusion made to the workings of the new system. The convention which will be composed of representatives of the live stock and other organizations in all the different Provinces of Canada, will have to deal chiefly with other problems affecting the importation, export, transportation, inspection and quarantining of pure-bred and other stock. Grievances from time to time crop up in connection with the administration of regulations for the preservation of the health of live stock, transportation charges, and the care of animals in transit over the railways. There is also the pressing need for a more rigid and uniform regulation regarding the registration of breeding stock coming into the country duty-free, and for the general adoption by exhibition associations of the rule requiring all pure-bred stock competing for prizes to present certificates of registration in the National Records of Canada. It is, therefore, advisable that careful preparation should be made in all the Provinces, not only for the selection of clear-headed and representative delegates, but by careful collation of the facts bearing upon cases to the problems dealt with. A thorough consideration of some of these in advance will facilitate their adjustment upon a more satisfactory basis than when hastily improvised on the eve of a great gathering like the one to be called. If the FARMER'S ADVOCATE can be of assistance in the ventilation and solution of substantial grievances, our columns are open for that purpose.

### The Cattle Trade.

Adversity continues to associate itself with the range cattle trade. The advantage gained by the Red Deer shippers who sold a train load in Chicago early in the season was only short lived. A mysterious shortage of stock cars developed at those points from which it was desired to ship to Chicago, so that in one or more instances shippers, who showed a disposition to break away from the beaten path where level prices rule, and who had their cattle out at the railway, had to send them back to the range. Later a second shipment from Red Deer to Chicago met with a dead market without money. To secure an improvement in the cattle trade seems to be a tremendous undertaking and like all other movements for freedom and openness in trade seems destined to spread from the country to market centers. Persistent endeavor in the right direction will no doubt result in better facilities and higher prices. They are due the producer; they are just and will take the place of injustice and avarice.

### Marketing Underweight Hogs.

Quite a large percentage of hogs marketed in Winnipeg go into the light weight classes. The proportion of "lights" while it is not so great as a few years ago, is still large enough to have a serious affect upon the market prices of hogs. Selling hogs before they have reached a reasonable weight, say 160 to 200 pounds, is a mistake on the part of the man who sells them, and must