

A Difference in Terms

That the agricultural and arts associations, in common terms, the fair boards of Winnipeg, Brandon, Portage la Prairie, Killarney and Neepawa should be on the same basis as the agricultural societies with respect to the financial aid they received from the government was the unanimous opinion of the recent convention of agricultural society delegates recently held at Winnipeg. But before presenting this opinion to the minister of agriculture, a happy idea, originating with certain representatives of the above named fair boards was interjected.

To place the agricultural and arts associations on the same footing as the agricultural societies would mean that the former would get less and the latter more money and it was well known that the supply is limited, so, why not reverse the proposal and put the agricultural societies on the same basis as the agricultural and arts associations, thus increasing the financial aid of the former without reducing that of the latter, which, in the language of Euclid, is absurd? But the proposal was adopted by the representatives of the agricultural societies and was presented to the first minister of the government, who, as his chief concern is to husband the resources of the province rather than to distribute aid to agricultural societies, lost no time in revealing the real position of his petitioners.

Such was the joke over which some chortled and some raved, and which, so far as the government is concerned, put it in the position of a benefactor rather than of a servant of the agricultural societies.

A Lesson to Emigrants

Some sensible opinions are expressed by a writer in THE TIMES of London, England,—the nation's thunderer—of February 2nd upon the problem of supplying an efficient class of emigrants for farm work in Canada. The article referred to says

"Sir,—Every one familiar with the Colonies is aware of the prejudice, alluded to by your Toronto Correspondent in his admirable letter of December 30, against a certain type of English immigrant. Danes, Swedes, and Norwegians are in general preferred by the Canadian farmer, and although it may be exceptional for advertisements expressly to state that no English need apply, such cases are not unknown. A year or two ago the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, published at Winnipeg, endeavoured to remove what it termed the "misconceptions of the English," and pointed out that "the good type of Englishman is one of the best assets Canada can have." This is true, but that one of the most prominent agricultural journals felt it necessary to emphasize the fact is significant. To some extent the prejudice is a relic of the past. During the boom in the corn-growing States of the American Union, and when Manitoba first came into notice, it was the fashion to regard those districts as an obvious dumping-ground for the sons of the upper and middle classes who had failed at home. The "remittance-man" became a by-word for incompetence and vice. Matters have improved in this respect. It is now realized that success in the Colonies demands the same qualities as in England, and that to deport our failures from a desire to be rid of them is nine times out of ten simply to accelerate the *descensus Avernii*. But the bad impression created in the seventies and eighties still lingers.

"For the attitude of many Canadian farmers to-day however, other and more definite reasons must be assigned. The material sent is too frequently not the material required. It compares unfavourably with the product of the Scandinavian countries. It does not possess the same steadfastness of purpose, thrift, adaptability, or resourcefulness. It is less amenable to authority, while it lacks the power of initiative, inherent capacity for work may be equal, but the disposition to work is not. These defects characterize the laborer here, but their importance is perhaps not so manifest. The conditions of life upon an English farm differ widely from those which obtain in Canada. The work is lighter and is commonly performed in a half-hearted manner; in the Colonies there

is no room for the shirker, and a man can neither maintain nor improve his position unless he throw his whole energy into every task. The hours are shorter; The Canadian labourer works from 12 to 16 hours a day in the busy season. With us, assistance from outside is summoned whenever a trifling accident occurs; the blacksmith, the carpenter, the wheelwright, and the mason are always available. The Canadian farmer has to rely mainly upon his own resources; the labourer that he wants is the man who can cope with difficulties as they arise, can drive a nail and use a saw, and bring intelligence to bear upon all that he undertakes. The man accustomed to our easy-going habits cannot readily adapt himself to a new environment, nor has his early training in any way hitherto qualified him to do so. The remedy lies in sounder methods of education. We must concentrate our efforts less upon learning out of books and more upon the development of practical instruction. The use of the hand and the eye are of infinitely greater moment than the exercise of memory. To be conversant with things, to observe accurately, and to think clearly constitute the best equipment for every lad, whether destined to emigrate or not."

HORSE

Have you enrolled your stallion for the season of 1909?

Trade in the heavy draft stallions has been brisk this last two months. If there is a district that needs a horse and has not yet got him, there should be some smart moving as spring will be on us in a few weeks.

The customary late winter enquiries on how to get rid of lice and worms have been reaching us. See the advice by our veterinary in the Questions and Answers column from week to week.

Spring sales of work horses have begun. Demand seems to be brisk and fat prices are being realized. The problem is, why do farmers not raise their own horses? Is such a condition known in other parts of the world where farmers buy so many horses for farm work?

Certificates with Unsound Horse

A correspondent asks: How do owners of unsound stallions get these horses enrolled with the department of agriculture at Winnipeg as being sound and free from hereditary disease. I know some stallions that are enrolled that have roars, ringbone, side bones, bog spavin, thoroughpins, sprained tendons and lameness due to other causes. Last summer, I saw Prof. Rutherford refuse a prize to an enrolled stallion on account of side bones.

Man. H. B. There are several ways by which the law may be evaded or broken. The section of the act under which a certificate of soundness is given reads as follows.

"In order to obtain the Department's endorsement of soundness on the license certificate, herein provided for in form A in the schedule hereto, the owner of each pure-bred stallion shall sign and make a statutory declaration before a commissioner for taking affidavits or oath before a notary public that such stallion is, to the best of his knowledge, free from hereditary or transmissible unsoundness or disease, or in lieu thereof may file a certificate of freedom therefrom signed by a duly qualified veterinarian, licensed in Manitoba, and shall forward such statutory declaration or veterinarian's certificate, together with the other necessary papers relating to his breeding and ownership, to the Department. The following diseases are considered as hereditary unsoundness disqualifying a stallion for breeding purposes: Bone spavin, cataract, curb, navicular disease, periodic ophthalmia, sidebones, ringbone, roaring, thick wind or whistling, thoroughpin or bog spavin."

This clause is about as explicit as laws can be made but no law can make a man absolutely honest, and when any one sees this law clearly violated he should consider it his duty to notify the secretary of the Horse-breeders' Association, A. W. Bell, Winnipeg.

The most common excuse for the violation of the law above is that, "I did not know the horse was unsound." It is surprising how blind a man can be to the faults of his own horse. And, as a matter of fact, there are lots of men who are honestly ignorant of the symptoms of the unsoundnesses mentioned in the act.

Neither Clydes Nor Suffolks

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

I have been reading with a good deal of interest the discussion going on in your paper re Suffolk Punches and Clydesdales, and I beg a little of your valuable space in which to express my opinion about draft horses. I fear that both Messrs. Jaques Bros. and Mr. Turner, in setting forth the various points of vantage in their favorite breeds, have overlooked that most important feature in a all horses, viz. his usefulness, hence, in the following lines I wish to look upon the horse entirely from the user's point of view.

With this in view, I believe that the ideal draft horse is neither the Clydesdale, the Suffolk nor the Shire, but the Percheron.

The American people are the greatest users of European breeds of draft horses in the world, and you will find on their farms and in their cities more of the big blacks and greys than of all other breeds combined. It is natural for the Scotchman to favor the Clyde, the Englishman the Shire or Suffolk, the Frenchman the Norman or Percheron, and the German, the Belgian, but the American, having no distinct breed of his own, has tried all the breeds, and settled as a natural course on the breed which best filled the bill, viz. the Percheron.

The admirer of Clyde and Shire will immediately say his pasterns are too short, his hips too sloping and his legs are not feathered.

The admirer of the Suffolk or Belgian will say, he is too large of frame, too big in hock, and too heavy of bone. But what matters any of these to the users, if he is capable of doing more draft work than any of the other breeds, which distinction is certainly his, if the numbers in use on this continent count for anything.

I class him far above the Suffolk or Belgian because he is made up more of bone, sinews and muscle than of fat, and fat certainly adds nothing to quality.

Then I class him above the Clyde and Shire because he is capable of moving just as heavy a load as they, and then he can move it faster and with less injury to himself. In fact, he is just as good a draft horse as they, in every particular, and then he has better action, more ambition, and better staying qualities.

The non-feathered legs and sloping hips add to, rather than detract from, his beauty. In the early threshing days of this community, I have seen Clyde and Percheron teams put on the horse power together, and almost invariably the Clydes would give out while the Percherons were still fresh and vigorous.

Now, as to their respective crosses on western mares. I have seen but few of the Suffolk crosses, but what I have seen were light of bone and small of frame. In my opinion, a horse of the Suffolk type could produce on western mares nothing but farm chunks.

The Percheron always breeds away the slender neck and the Cow hock, and produces a neat-boned, close-ribbed good limbed horse, which is very useful on the farm and even in the city.

Some of the good points and features of the Percheron are his clean, hard, bone; round, smooth feet, large but close-set frame, hips rather inclined to be sloping, full neck, small head carried high, large, intelligent and docile eyes, and very ambitious, with especially good action.

Alberta.

C. W. SHIPLEY.

Grain Feeds for Horses

To what extent may other grains than oats be fed to farm horses? I am a little short of oats this season, but have a quantity of barley, also some frozen wheat.

Sask.

J. L. G.

If one were to choose a single grain for horse feeding, the oat probably would be first choice. Oats, however, are not universally considered the most valuable grain for feeding horses, either draft horses or those performing labor at a more rapid pace. Not so much in this country, but in the western states, in Europe, in Africa and, to some extent, in the Orient, barley is extensively fed. Experiments indicate that 4 pounds of barley equal about 6 pounds of oats. It may constitute one-fourth the grain ration, but should be either crushed or boiled before being fed. Frozen wheat has a feeding value about equal to bran. Fed in large quantities it disarranges digestions and may cause an itchiness to the skin, but used in moderate quantities and mixed with barley and oats it may constitute a quarter of the grain feed. You might try a mixture of two measures by weight of oats, to one of barley and one of wheat, grinding the grains and feeding about one quarter less by weight than you are accustomed to feed of oats.

Suffolk Punches

H

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The Suffolk is a capital horse. I once had a little one for a man. She had a fine colt. I once had a little one for a man. She had a fine colt. I once had a little one for a man. She had a fine colt.

She was bred to a horse (Hunter's Impre) had a fine colt. This hunter's class, but he him out of the running judges, and they were 1.

The owner of the h colt to saddle for his ride him further than harness horse, though Her next colt by a d just the same class, pretty fair also as a y ful slave for light work.

If a man wants to b Thoroughbred, or q The Thoroughbred wil man who gets him to, probably sell the be His knee action sells hi be very patriotic to ti and from a life-long ex it is to breed hunters, takes to educate them.

I have done quite a saddle, once a thousan I think our western p best mount a man co hardly keep him in line brutes poor Tommy ge Alta.

In order to determin has to make several tr that the little mare r individual as a saddle imagined in the breed seen some easy riding riding Thoroughbreds whatever breed, and th little when utility is re free stride to be an e hard muscles to stand respect, the typical Th while in the other, the deal to commend him, a cross would give both.

Millet Injur

Will you please let me k fed? I am feeding to ing any grain with it, she does not put on m potatoes, say three tim any grain, or is there millet?

Though, from a chen hay should be superio being considerably rich perience of horsemen d out. Experiments at t ment Station seemed oughly that millet whe feed was injurious to ducing an increased acti in causing lameness an third, in producing in joints; fourth, in desti bone, rendering it less t causes the ligaments loose." Johnstone, i still more emphatic, c Hungarian hay "is a says it is remarkable tl extensively in various der this serious charge sibly hay from this pl districts while harmles vising horsemen to use i be noted, he points out, trouble arose, millet h for roughage. In sma mittedly, it might, per In fact, we have used it bad results. Nothing i millet hay for cattle and ported. The experience light on this subject.