

is too short, or too long; it is better to let the young ones, do not look for the best; if cheap, so at service generally. Having got your years old it will to sell it your next least two hundred ing only used one, for me to pass an I believe that this of horse peculiar to as active, as any in dly own the shag- ist apologies to the is are made use of, "RUSTICUS."

## Horse

With I notice a letter correction to make it s of the case: Mr. wers in London who ydes for their drays. ames of these firms esdale, as I know ; gelding buyers and wers of the English i a few Clydesdales er brewers or manu- hese are called van- Then again he goes l of the dray horses or bred from them. if we did not know the buyers for the the principal dray l; Corporation of h-western Railway; ailway; Great Cen- i Railway; Midland any and Thompson put a few of these er admires on the are chiefly bought England and of the lers there is not one drop of Clyde blood; cannot be got from a few years ago in f heavy dray horses Co., he told me that firm with geldings.



STOCK YARDS

and in fact he had been obliged to come to Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire and Nottinghamshire to get his supply. Therefore if a Scotch railway company could not get their small order filled, I think it is hardly likely Liverpool or any other English city could get any of these Clydesdale geldings which Mr. Turner fancies are so plentiful.

With regard to the Clydesdale studs in England, Lord Cecil has a small stud in Kent and there was a Lady Talbot in South Wales who had a small stud, but I believe it has been disbanded. There are no Clydesdales to be found, with the exception of Northumberland, Durham and Cumberland, in England, besides the two studs mentioned. I am sure you could not find ten Clydesdale stallions on the road outside of the districts mentioned. With due respect to Mr. Jacques and Mr. Turner in defence of their favorites, the draft horse of England is the Shire and it is this horse that you see moving the heavy loads in all the cities of Great Britain, and we all know that it takes weight to move weight, and the Shire is the only one that possesses this most essential point.

Mayton, Alta.

TOM RAWLINSON.

## A Quiet Horse Chat

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

I wish to give the readers of the *Advocate* a few observations made while I was visiting the states last fall. In travelling through Montana, Idaho and Utah I wondered why our horses and cattle were so much better than theirs. Our cattle are so much larger. In studying the cause, I found in the first place they do not have the abundance of grass to pasture on while growing, their pastures are small in most cases, and overstocked, there is not the moisture to keep the grass growing as in this country through the summer season, consequently cattle start the winter thin instead of fat and sleek, and then I found farmers did not take as much pains in their breeding operations, especially in horses. They do not have as good mares as we have, although they have some good stallions. Some seem to think the only thing necessary is to have a good stallion, but I would rather have ten good mares with a first-class horse of the same breed, than thirty or forty scrub mares with a first-class horse, especially now that the open range is almost a thing of the past and land is becoming more valuable.

While in Utah I visited a state fair. There were some 30,000 people at the fair each day. The attractions were many, and the exhibits were first-class, but I was somewhat disappointed in the horse exhibit, considering competition was extended to other states some of which took advantage of that privilege. I am proud to say that Lethbridge and Cardston have put up, during the past two seasons, as good a showing in breeding classes of horses as did Salt Lake City, and that without having to draw from so long a distance. I will, however, except one class—the coach—but I understood most of them were furnished by other states.

I cannot see why Western Canada should not become one of the greatest horse-breeding districts on the American continent. Our land stands pasturing better than any land I have ever seen, the sod is so heavy it is next to impossible to tramp it out, we have plenty of good water in most places. Timothy and other tame grasses do well here, alfalfa also does well in some localities, and I do not know of any place where oats yield like they do in Western Canada, and as flour mills are being built all over the country, chop, bran, etc., will be available, besides, this seems to be a healthful climate for all kinds of stock, as well as for people.

I read with interest the account in the *Advocate* of Dr. Henderson of Carberry bringing some thoroughbred horses from the breeding farm of Col. Milton Young of Kentucky, and selling them again to persons wishing to invest. This stock will certainly improve some of the light breeds. I think any man who brings in pure-bred stock of any kind is a benefactor to the country in which he resides. I believe in variety. We should not breed just one kind, but all kinds and if we breed the best of each breed we shall soon be in a position to furnish other countries with whatever they want. I see no reason why the thoroughbred standard or saddle-bred could not be raised here, as well as all the draft breeds. I often wonder why Canada does not try to preserve and breed up the Canadian-French horse as the United States is doing with the Morgan. I can remember when the Canadian-French horse was very much sought after in the States. I remember him when a boy as a very wiry, tough, active horse, a good traveler, and he would pull anything you hitched him to. I have not seen any for 30 years, but thought I would see them when I came to Canada.

I like to read the history of stock I never expect to breed and be posted on the best families of each breed. I certainly like the way the *Advocate* is planned with the different departments so arranged that you can find what you want without any trouble. I sometimes wish the horse department was a little more lengthy, but in that case it might crowd out something else that is more interesting to other readers.

Alta.

D. P. WOODRUFF.

# STOCK

Discussions on Live-Stock subjects welcomed.

The question for discussion this week is upon a live stock subject:—Do you consider it would pay the average farmer to go in more for hogs? Tell how to handle hogs on the average farm.

The same rules as announced in the January 13th number will also govern this contest, and which are repeated this week at the head of the farm department. This is one of the important subjects on the average farm, and we look for some valuable replies. We shall, in all probability, publish several letters received in reply.

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A movement is on foot to hold a pure-bred live stock sale at Lacombe, Alta., shortly after the provincial sale at Calgary in April. The local agricultural society and the board of trade of Lacombe are behind the movement. It is proposed that each breeder's entries shall not be more than two females not exceeding six years in age. As many bulls may be entered as is desired. As entries for the Calgary sale are limited to 180, much stock will be excluded from the provincial sale, and the intention of the Lacombe breeders is to dispose of such surplus as will remain in that district by holding a sale of their own. As the Lacombe country contributes largely in the entries at Calgary, there is no reason to doubt that enough stock could be gathered in to make a good sized auction. The country to the north, too, buys a good number of pure-bred stock each year.

## Sheep Husbandry in Canada

This is the title of the latest bulletin issued by the Live Stock Branch of the Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. The bulletin was prepared with the object of stimulating interest in the sheep industry, which, for a number of years now has been in a backward condition. The author of the treatise is Mr. J. B. Spencer, B.S.A., of the Live stock Branch. The work is the most thorough of its kind ever issued by the department, and the most complete treatment of sheep husbandry yet offered to the Canadian farming public.

Sheep raising in all its phases is fully discussed, the origin, development and characteristics of eleven of the leading breeds of sheep in this country, with illustrations of representative individuals of each breed are given. The proper method of establishing a flock, managing and in every way caring for the farm flock, is thoroughly gone into. Feeding and pasturing are taken up in detail and valuable information given as to the relative value of different rough feeds, grain and pasture plants. Special attention is given to the feeding of the breeding flock, managing the lamb crop, fattening and sheltering sheep. An instructive part of the bulletin is the specific information based upon experience, contributed by sheepmen in various parts of the country, on the value of sheep as weed destroyers, indicating the various weeds which sheep help greatly in keeping down.

The treatment of diseases in sheep which forms a valuable part of the work, has been contributed by J. G. Rutherford, Director-General and Live stock Commissioner of Canada. The diseases sheep are liable to in this country are described and the most approved method of treatment outlined.

The condition of sheep industry in the different provinces is described in detail and a brief resumé given of the introduction of this class of live stock into the various parts of the Dominion, the work ending with a general review of the Canadian wool industry. Taken altogether, Sheep husbandry in Canada is one of the most instructive contributions made in recent years to the live stock literature of the Dominion. Well written and profusely illustrated, it is a production creditable to its author and contains, in its hundred and twenty-five pages, information of value to every sheep owner or would-be sheep owner in the country.

The Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, will distribute this bulletin free to all applying.

Write for it. It is Bulletin No. 12, Sheep Husbandry in Canada.

## Should Maintain the Ranch Country

One of our correspondents, Mr. A. J. Dorrance, who has farmed successfully in the Moose Mountain district for many years writes us of his impressions of the country south of Medicine Hat where he recently took a trip. As a grain farmer he was not impressed with the aspect of things. To him it appeared eminently suited for ranching, but there are a lot of settlers located along the creeks who seriously interfere with stock-raising by fencing off the water fronts and the moist land. Mr. Dorrance thinks such land should never be thrown open to homesteading, but should be retained by the government to be used for ranching purposes. He found many of the ranchers raising good stuff, but others are apparently quite careless, seem to think that any calf is better than none. The range is quite heavily stocked with both horses and cattle which gives one the impression that stock have not as good a chance as they deserve. A singular thing to Mr. Dorrance was the prevalence of tumbling mustard—"Holy Rollers"—which in the fall goes rolling over the prairie, scattering its seed. Some good crops of fall wheat were noticed on some of the settled land.

## Treating Hogs for Rheumatism

In the early stages of rheumatism give from one to two ounces of sulphate of magnesia or two drops of croton oil in a spoonful of sweet oil. If this does not cause purging, in fifteen hours repeat the dose. There is no remedy that will give so much relief in acute rheumatism as a good physic, and I have had the best of results from the use of croton oil. Follow this by giving ten to fifteen drops of the oil of gaultheria in a spoonful of sweet oil or raw linseed oil three times a day.

Iodide of potassium in ten-grain doses three times a day is also useful, or the bicarbonate of potassium in ten-grain doses along with the food three times a day. In case of inflammatory rheumatism when the pulse is full, fast and strong, three to five drops of tincture of aconite every two hours in a little water will be found useful to reduce the fever. Then give the oil of gaultheria. In cases of chronic rheumatism I have found arsenic to be of great service, when I give five to eight drops of Fowler's solution of arsenic in the food at a dose three times a day and continued for several weeks.

Local treatment: When the joints are swollen, hot and tender to the touch, use a mixture of one ounce of tincture of opium, one ounce fluid extract of belladonna and half a pint of water; bathe the swollen parts several times a day with a little of this. In cases where the joints are swollen but neither hot nor tender, the use of cantharides will sometimes work wonders. The strength should be one part of cantharides to four parts of lard. The dose should be repeated in a week if necessary. I have seen hogs that could not walk from swelling and deep-seated pain, in two days after the application of a cantharides blister be able to walk and soon get well. In milder cases camphorated soap liniment well rubbed into the swollen parts will often relieve the pain.—Diseases of Swine, D. McIntosh, U. S.

## English Notes

The year 1908 proved a successful one for British agriculture. The only crop at all seriously damaged was hay from excessive rain. Wheat and oats were above an average crop and barley but slightly under. Prices of grain have been upon a remunerative basis, wheat especially being much higher than in recent years. There has been little disease amongst live-stock. Beef and pork have averaged higher in price, but mutton has been lower.

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The Board of Agriculture's official return on the crops of various countries credits Europe with a wheat area of 124,000,000 acres in 1908 and the British Empire with 36,000,000 acres. Russia is by far the greatest European producer, having 47 per cent. of the total, while India has 62 per cent. of the Empire's contribution. Since 1881 wheat acreage has increased by 5,000,000 acres in Canada and Australia and this increase is partially offset by a decrease of 1,500,000 acres in the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

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The death is announced of Sir Philip A. Muntz, M. P., one of the most prominent breeders in the country of Shire horses and Shropshire sheep, and a well known exhibitor at all the great shows. Sir Philip was president of the Shire Horse Society in 1897, and was created a Baronet at the Coronation in 1902. It was at one of his sales a few years ago that the famous Shire mare, "Dunsmore Gloaming" sold for 1,010 guineas—a record price.

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The excellent demand for Shire horses is shown by the prices obtained at the autumn sales. At the last sale of the year, at Derby, prices were 15 per cent. higher than at the same time last year. At the Shire Horse Society's various sales in 1908, the average attained was £100.13s as against £98.11s. 6d. in 1907. For foals the demand is brisk and good prices are offered.