

HORSES.

Breeding the Farmer's Horse.

The well-known Ontario horseman and Institute lecturer, Dr. J. Standish, formerly of Walkerton, has established himself as quite an equine authority in Nova Scotia, where he is attached to the staff of the Agricultural College. Dr. Standish is ever ready to talk horse, handing out good advice in liberal infusions. At the recent convention of the Nova Scotia Farmers' Association he discussed horse-breeding from the standpoint of the agricultural horse, as required by the majority of farmers.

To show that horse-breeding is one of the most profitable lines of farming, it is possible to breed colts which at present prices will sell for \$250 to \$300 at three years of age, and which will not cost much more than half that amount to raise; there is, or may be, a profit of from 50 to 100 per cent. on the cost of production.

The agricultural horse does not differ materially from the draft, except in being, from the nature of its breeding, a little lighter. It is obtained, generally, by crossing a pure-bred stallion of the draft breeds with an ordinary, well-built grade mare of the same breeding. The speaker strongly deprecated the use of grade sires.

During pregnancy, the mare should have exercise and muscle and bone-forming food, the same food to extend over the period of suckling the colt. He recommended clover and timothy hay, oats, bran, and a little flaxseed and turnips.

North Dakota Stallion Regulations

The first report of the Stallion Registration Board of North Dakota, organized to enforce the Stallion Enrollment Act, that came into effect on January 1st, 1910, has been issued. The licenses issued in 1910 number 2,346, of which 1,007 were pure-breeds, and 1,339 grades, percentage of pure-breeds being 43, and of grades 57. Percherons are leading draft breed. Of the 1,007 pure-breeds, there were 614 Percherons, 93 Clydesdales, 62 Belgians, 53 Shires, and 61 French drafts, the remainder being light horses.

PERCENTAGE AFFECTED DISQUALIFYING DISEASE.

UN SOUNDNESS.	Per Cent. of Total Examined.						
	No. of Stallions Affected.	Percheron.	Belgian.	Shire.	Clydesdale.	French Draft.	Other Breeds.
Cataract	15	1.14	.....	1.89	1.07	.....	.4
Amaurosis	1	.....	1.6	.....	.....	.....	.....
Periodic Ophthalmia ..	2	1.6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.07
Laryngeal Hemiplegia ..	26	1.24	.....	1.89	.....	1.64	1.1
Chorea	3	.31	.....	.....	.....	.....	.07
Bone Spavin	36	1.14	.....	.....	3.28	1.85	.....
Sidebone	83	4.56	9.7	1.89	.....	3.28	3.2
Ringbone	10	.31	1.6	.....	.....	.....	.48
Curb	17	.31	.....	.....	1.07	.....	.96
Glanders or Farcy	2	1.6	.....	.....	.....	.....	.07
Genital Infection	1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.07
Maladie du Coit .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Urethral Gleet .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total	176	8.93	12.93	5.7	2.14	8.2	8.

The table shows that 176, or approximately 7 per cent., of the total examined, were affected with some unsoundness or infectious disease, and were refused licenses. It shows that sidebone was the prevailing unsoundness. This unsoundness represents 47 per cent. of the total cases of unsoundness.

How the Stallion Laws Drive Scrubs Out.

Many points of interest were brought out during the meeting of the National Association of Stallion Registration Boards, held in Chicago recently. In Wisconsin the stallion law now in force has put 1,226 grade and scrub stallions out of business in the last four seasons, and the percentage of grades and scrubs has fallen from 65.5 to 55.5 in that time, according to the Horse World. Almost 500 stallions have recently been given licenses as "mongrel or scrub," in place of "grade" certificates, and it is expected that few of these will be renewed. In fact, the law is fast putting such stallions on the retired list, and many unsound stallions of all kinds have been retired, driven out of the State, or castrated. The grade and scrub stallions are finding it difficult to obtain patronage. Similar results are being achieved in the other States where stallion licensing laws have been in force for a sufficient time to show effects. In Minnesota, the percentage of undesirable stallions has fallen materially, and this may be said also of Pennsylvania, North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Montana and Utah. Good work, also, is reported from other States. Illinois has licensed some 9,500 stallions, of which about 50 per cent. are pure-bred and registered. Some 170 stallions have been rejected as unsound. In North Dakota, upwards

of 180 have been rejected since Jan. 1st last. In Kansas, the scheme of advertising the unsoundnesses discovered by the veterinarians, is said to be resulting in unpopularity for the animals so exposed, and some of them have left the State.

Re Cost of Horse Power.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have read with a great deal of interest the different letters that have appeared in your paper of late on the cost of horse-power on the farm. Now, I would like to ask what constitutes horse-power? If a man goes to the stable in the morning, feeds, cleans and harnesses a team, will they then develop a reasonable amount of horse-power if left standing in the stable all day? Certainly not, and yet that is where every one who has written to you on the subject has left them. If I engage a man who owns an engine to furnish power to drive an ensilage-cutter, and he comes along with his engine, gets up steam in the morning, and then makes no attempt to start it, will it give any power of its own accord? Certainly not. And if you had a dozen men standing around, waiting for the cutting-box to start, and he told you he had done all that was necessary, you would very likely use a few big D's in telling him that his services were no longer required. But that is just where my farmer friends left the horse; in fact, they left him so early in the day that I was surprised that they had cheek enough to put in a bill for harnessing him.

Now, you cannot get horse-power in that way, so, in order to get a reasonable amount of horse-power for the feed and care, you must have a man after them all the time; and the better the man, the more power you will get every time. Well, then, in order to arrive at a proper estimate of what horse-power costs on the farm, you must add to all other expense the price of a man's wages, or, rather, part of his wages, according to the number of horses he drives. Now, from personal experience, I believe that the average teamster of to-day will get more work for the money expended with a three-horse team than he will with a two- or four-horse team. I know a great many will say that I am wrong, and that the four-horse team is the most profitable to drive. But I would like to ask them how many men they have been able to hire in the last ten years who have been able to drive and care for four horses as they should be cared for. I know that there are a good many men who can and do,

Cawdor Cups and Challenge Shield

Explanation of the history and nature of the special premiums named in the caption of these notes, annually donated for Clydesdales at leading Scottish shows, may be of interest to admirers of the breed. When the late Earl of Cawdor, an enthusiastic breeder of Clydesdales and a warm friend to the Society, was president of the Clydesdale Horse Society, he intimated to the Council his intention of presenting to it two challenge cups, value £50 each, to be competed for annually, for the best male and female Clydesdales, respectively, on such terms as the Council should decide. This generous gift was gratefully accepted, and it was resolved that the stallion cup should be offered at the Glasgow Stallion Show, held in February, and the mare cup at the Highland, in July. This arrangement has always been adhered to, with the exception of the stallion cup in 1904, which was offered at the Highland, at Perth. The first competitions took place in 1892.

Another trophy in the Clydesdale world is the very handsome Shield, value 100 gs., which Robt. Brydon, the Managing Director of the Seaham Harbor Stud, presented to the Glasgow Agricultural Society for competition at the Annual Stallion Show. As a supporter of the veterinary inspection of exhibited animals, and a strong advocate of reasonable size and weight as being essential in any draft breed, Mr. Brydon attaches the following conditions to his gift. The winning stallion must fulfil the following conditions:

(a) If four years old or upwards, he must be 17 hands or over, and if three years old, 16 hands 3 inches in height, with width and weight in proportion.

(b) He must be passed free from all hereditary disease by one or more veterinary surgeons chosen by the Society.

(c) He must be entered in the Clydesdale Studbook.

The first competition took place in 1904.

LIVE STOCK.

On a Scottish Stock Farm.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

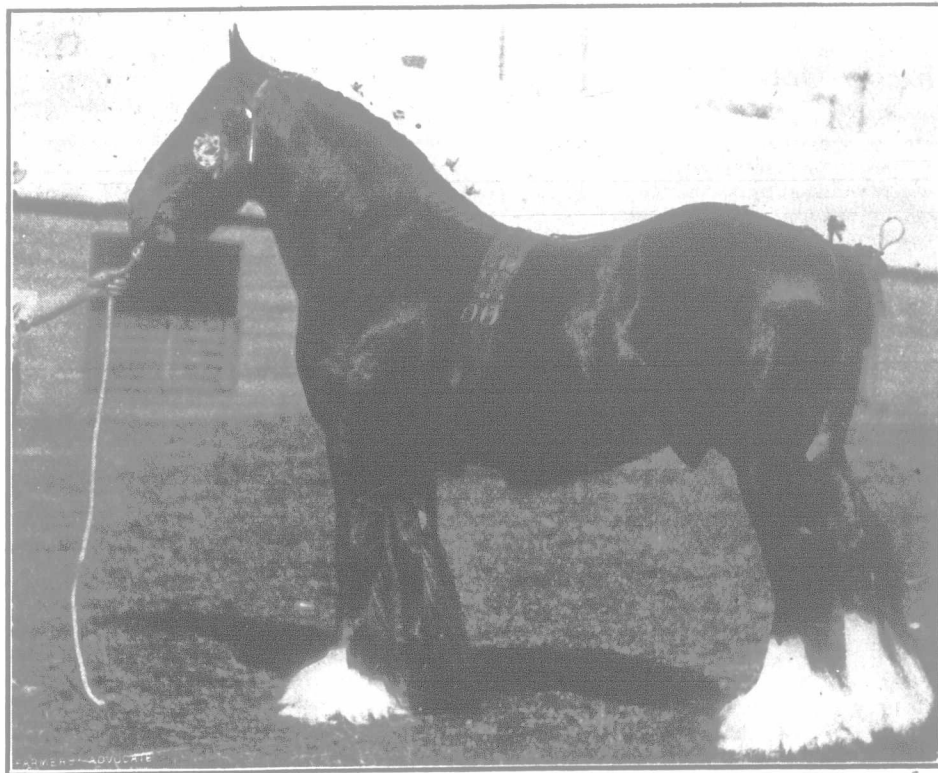
It may be of interest to your readers to have a description and details of management of a mixed farm situated in the Lowlands of Scotland, and some 250 feet above the sea-level.

The area, all told, of the farm in question, is about 500 acres, 200 of which are in old pasture, laid down fully sixty years ago, and the remainder worked on a nine-year rotation, of which I shall give particulars later on.

The stock consists of 90 dairy cows, six Clydesdale mares, one driving horse, one odd horse, 140 breeding ewes, and six brood sows, with young stock of all the various kinds, together with about 150 head of poultry. The cows, of which 45 are Ayrshires—pure-bred, but not pedigreed—and the other 45 Shorthorn-Ayrshire crosses, are mated with pedigreed Shorthorn bulls—a milk-bred white, and a beef-bred dark-roan, respectively. By mating the Ayrshires with a pure-bred bull, the produce is in most cases a fairly light roan (pure whites are very rare),

showing a good deal of the Ayrshire type, especially about the head and udder, and in fineness of bone. The Shorthorn sire gives the cross more size in body and teats, and the result is we have an almost perfect type for a dual-purpose breed, and one that suits the dairymen in and around our big cities, who feed heavily for milk production, and fatten off the cow usually after her second calf.

As this dairy is worked principally for cheese-making, the cows are all timed to calve as near as possible between 1st February and 1st of April, so as to have them at the height of the milk flow when grass comes, usually about May 10th. Unless grass is scarce, the cows get no hand-feeding after May 20th, till the grass begins to fail in September. Twenty-five heifer calves, as far as possible, off the best-milking Ayrshire cows and



Lord Rothschild's Shire Stallion, Halstead Blue Blood.
First-prize two-year-old and reserve champion at the 1910 Royal Show.

but the average man who tries, or, rather, does not try, simply lets them wander over the field any old way, missing a great many spots in plowing and harrowing, till it is only a question whether it would not be better to let them try to drive only two, instead of four, horses. Now, if we agree that three horses make a team, then, in order to arrive at a proper estimate of the actual cost per horse-power, we must add onto the other expense one-third of a man's wages, which, at the wages I am paying now, namely, \$400 per year, would be \$133.33. Now, if you will add this on to the estimate given by David Caughell, which I believe is not far astray, you will have a total cost per horse-power of \$280.68 per annum, instead of \$94.35, as estimated by J. B. T., in your last issue.

R. J. KELLY.

Oxford Co., Ont.