

of the really bad cases of balking being cured in this way, but since it is the best kind of treatment if it does work it should be given a fair trial before coercive measures are resorted to. I have owned many balkers during my life—never hesitating in fact to buy a horse on account of this vice—and a very considerable number of them have been entirely cured with no other than the simple palliative treatment that I have here described.

If these measures, however, are ineffective, then severer methods must be used, and the following will be found to give good results: Unharness the horse, put on a halter, tie the hair of his tail into a hard knot, run the halter rope through the hair above the knot, pull it until his head is drawn close to his tail, and fasten by means of a single turn around the tail and a loop that can be undone by a single jerk on the end of the rope. This is important, for it will not do to tie a knot that cannot be undone when desired. Now touch up the horse with the whip and he will begin to turn around in a circle. Presently he will become very dizzy and, if the treatment is continued, will fall down, but this he must not be allowed to do. Watch him attentively, and when he begins to show signs of dizziness untie the halter rope by giving it a jerk, and release him. Now while the horse is dazed, confused and dizzy, as he always is after such treatment, harness him as quickly as possible, get into the wagon or buggy and drive on. This treatment rarely fails of the desired result. Occasionally, however, an especially hardened reprobate is found whose case calls for a second treatment. In such a case whirl him the other way.

In the application of this treatment, and in fact, the treatment for any vice, we must constantly bear in mind that we are dealing with an inferior intelligence. However exasperating the horse may be, never must we give way to anger or impatience. All successful training is based upon a knowledge of the limitations of the equine mind. It is easy to take advantage of these limitations when they are rightly understood, but no one need expect success in this direction without the exercise of that calmness, patience and good judgment which are the indispensable accompaniments of good horsemanship.

Johnson Co., Ill.

W. H. UNDERWOOD.

LIVE STOCK.

Make Changes in Rations Slowly.

Stockmen should take into consideration the taste and properties of fodder to which they may be introducing their stock. If an animal does not eat with avidity a new feed when it is first placed before it, the feeder should not throw it away and denounce those, as ignorant of all principles of feeding, who may have advocated such a fodder. The fact of the matter is stock must be educated to eat a great number of the different kinds of feeding stuffs, one in particular being cottonseed meal. Many trying this at first find that their stock will not eat it, but that is no reason why it has not been a good feed or why it will not continue to be largely fed. It should be fed in very small quantities at first and mixed with other grains, in fact it should always be mixed with a certain percentage of other grains, but the quantity may be increased as time goes on.

In a previous article appearing in this paper it was recommended that dairy cows be given two pounds per day of cottonseed meal, and if necessary or desirable feeding steers might be allowed as much as four or five pounds, yet we venture to say that when this food is first given to either the cows or the feeding cattle that they will likely leave it. However, with a little perseverance and intelligent manipulation of the feed box and the grains it will not be long before all stock will be consuming this particular meal with apparent pleasure.

This applies to many other lines of feeding stuff, and since it is not advisable to change suddenly from one feed to another it is not reasonable to expect that animals will consume the full amount at first which is recommended for them. The rations given through this paper are always considered as the food allowance for an animal after it has been brought to a full ration. These changes should come very gradually, and in the process of introducing a new fodder the stock will become accustomed to any strange tastes or odors in their rations. A very small handful of cottonseed meal for each individual would be sufficient for a start. If that is not acceptable even smaller quantities should be administered.

Worth Five Times as Much.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I would not be without your paper for five times the subscription price per year, it is the best farm paper in America to-day.

Prescott Co., Ont.

ANGUS MCINTYRE.

The Bottom Out of the Cattle Market.

Cattlemen are in a dilemma as to what is best to do with their stock. Early last week prices took a decided drop on our leading markets, the first two days registering a fall of from 50 to 60 cents per cwt. on Toronto market, and even at the lower prices sales were reported as being very limited. Of late the tendency has been downwards day after day, and there have been many hold-overs to be offered on following days. This, coupled with large runs, has completely demoralized the trade. There are several reasons given for this condition, the chief one being that the high cost of feeding is causing farmers to rush their stock to market in an unfinished condition rather than feed them until really ready to market, which, if done, would be accomplished at little profit at prevailing prices of all kinds of feed material. The bulk of the cattle now going on the market are said to weigh from 850 to 1,000 pounds, and buyers state that they might well be called stockers, rather than finished cattle. Owing to foot-and-mouth disease some United States markets were closed again to Ontario cattle and the Montreal markets weakened very considerably, so that a large number of animals were diverted to Toronto.

At the time of writing export shipments are being held back and packers have their coolers filled, so that there is very little demand. It is a poor time just now to deliver cattle. Buyers

breeding purposes are sent to the butcher at a low price when they should be kept on the farm. Statistics prove that there is a shortage in world cattle already. It will only aggravate the situation to rush more of them to the market. Reports state that there were over 600,000 fewer cattle in this country in 1914 than was the case in 1913, and the decrease between 1911 and 1914 was 500,000. At the present rate of selling a still further decrease will be registered this year. It seems to us that the best policy for the breeder and feeder is to hold fast to everything which is likely to grow into a good breeding animal, and carry over all those for beefing purposes which he can possibly do. It seems certain that soon after the war is over and things right themselves all kinds of meat must go up in price, at least in comparison with the prices which will then prevail for feeding stuffs. It is certain that grain prices will drop immediately the war clouds roll by, and with cheap grain it will be possible to make a profit on feeding even at only a fair price for the finished meat. Besides this it is necessary that live stock be kept in order to maintain the fertility of the soil and building up the farm. A general switching around to grain growing would mean a backward step in Canada's agriculture. Live stock and mixed farming has been the backbone of farm practice in the best sections of this country, and it must continue to hold premier place if our farming is to go ahead as it should. There is no use of attempting to save a dollar now if it means a loss of several dollars a year or two hence. The

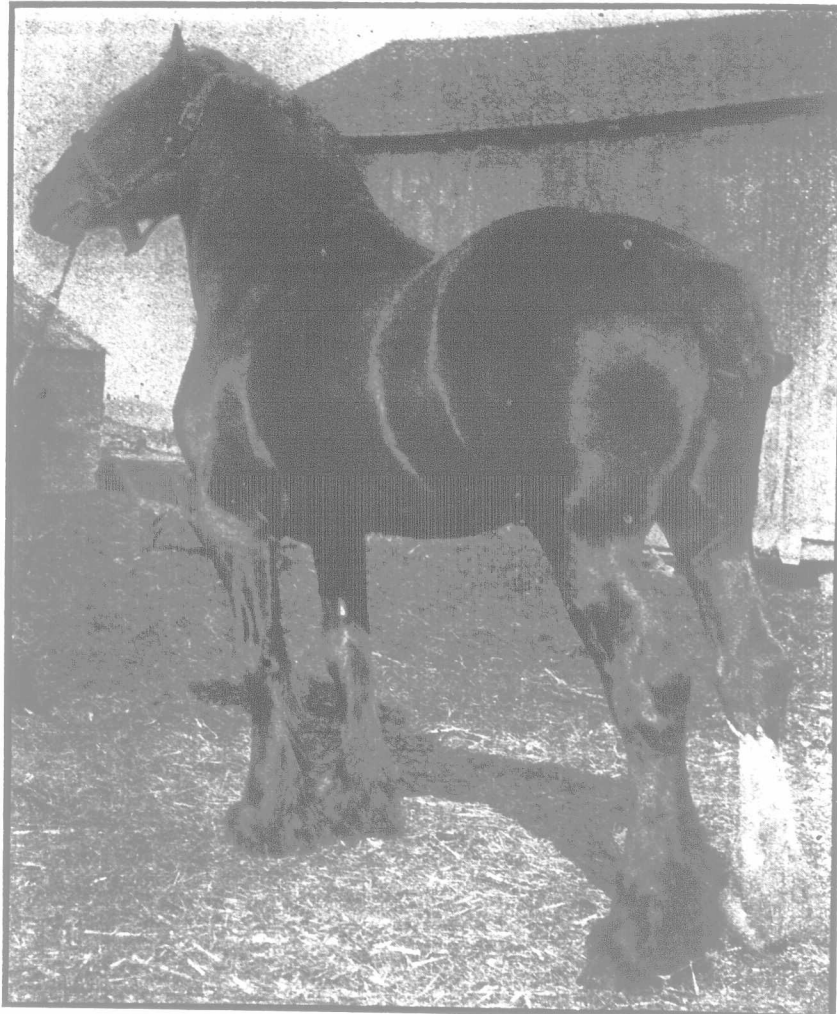
loss to this country if the present practice of rushing all kinds of cattle to market in an unfinished condition with regard only to the saving in feed is followed up, will mean hundreds of thousands of dollars to Canada's agriculture during the next twelve months. There is no use of getting panicky over the situation. It would be much better policy to watch the markets carefully, and in so far as possible avoid overcrowding, and so keep a steady stream of well-finished animals going forward. When the market is glutted and prices drop, especially when feed is dear, feeders seem to think that the most rational thing to do is to sell at once before the market goes lower; this selling means lower prices, whereas, if large numbers held fast to their cattle for a short time the market would stiffen and prices become firmer, and it would pay to hold the cattle.

We believe that the price of feed and the indications that grain will be high for possibly the next year is the main cause of glutting the markets at the present time, but we wish to emphasize the fact that only by keeping a large number of live stock and returning as much plant food to the soil as possible, can farmers hope to keep up the fertility of their land and produce the abundant harvests which are needed in these times.

Build for the Future.

It has been found that light in a stable does more than eliminate the necessity of using a lantern during the daytime; it destroys germs, helps to maintain a greater degree of dryness, and in many ways contributes to the health of the animals interned within the walls. When a stable is being built or remodelled these are things which demand consideration, viz., light, ventilation and wide passages and doorways. The former two are cleansers and purifiers, while the latter is a labor saver. If one is permitted to drive a wagon or sled through the stable, clean out and scatter the manure directly on the land it means many day's work in the busier days of spring and summer.

The high prices for grain and the slackening in demand for meat are hard blows at mixed farming, which was making such good headway. Hogs are being shot in Alberta as a more profitable practice than feeding them. When grain hits rock bottom again farmers will wish they had their live stock back.



Dunure David (imp.) [13674] (16563).

Clydesdale stallion, rising five years, by Baron's Pride, and for sale by W. W. Hogg, Thamesford, Ont.

generally look for a better price after a few weeks. It is not likely that the prices can be much lower. May and June delivery should find a better market than that which prevailed last week, and keeping the cattle until then would give an opportunity to finish them properly. However, a man that has to buy feed at present prices cannot be blamed very much if he is desirous of getting rid of his cattle rather than feed them on and run the risk of lower or no better prices in May or June.

That which a great many of those in close touch with the situation have feared for some time seems to be happening. High prices for grain are sure to encourage farmers to put in larger acreages, and to plan to sell more of it in the raw state off the farm. Larger acreages of grain means a smaller acreage in pasture and hock crops. This with higher prices for the grain means that thousands of head of cattle, as well as other stock, will be thrown on the market in an unfinished condition; in fact, we believe that many cows and heifers suitable for breeding purposes will be sacrificed rather than fed on, because the average farmer thinks only of the dollar to be made at once and does not look ahead to the future. It will be disastrous if this policy is carried on to any great extent, and thousands of head of cattle which would be very suitable for

The S...

The following hints contain parts of the Nova Scotia county of the will be present year. More to the new not so many prices but class of people join in a class of the staying present cri-

"These this letter have been themselves ceive some the public year's wor too late. "More spring. V advancing barrier to been prepa that all of crops from and barley article. M and have I and the pr over the P ditional re present tin ond, the fa tured in 19 which may germinate. better pra ordinary o sort out method, an than to de they may it may no vancing p still higher chase. "Not a prices prev their own a safe one next fall t acres of w average f thrown in, acres migh oats or ot pen, the n own flour supplies, a be required much for "There abundance Picton, an for instanc ff, however much seed cult to ample sup "Then of getting ceive prom ter I can carefully Scotia, an grown this sures to a vince rem ground. been reco help in de deling the m deliberatio

"To re and oats, become se Governmen cient supp ever, that mated s needs of t fore seedi "There tion quest Farmers' ter month