

ground that the sole field of endeavor for the local agricultural society is, to hold a show. If we look at the two leading agricultural societies of the English speaking world, the Royal and the Highland, we find that while both these societies hold shows noted throughout the world, they do excellent work in other fields, and their example is one we can well afford to emulate. Too many districts and towns have permitted themselves to look upon the annual show as mere distribution of so much government money and a day when the eating house coffers can be replenished, and the sporty chaps get together for a horse race. No objection can be advanced to having the show day one of enjoyment for young and old, provided the society does not forget its paramount duty, the sole reason for which it was created, namely, to aid Agriculture. The enforcement of the Horse Breeders' Act and the enlightenment of the people of the district can well be undertaken by each local society, with profit to all concerned.

New Agricultural College.

The resolution of the grain growers urging the establishment of an agricultural college brings up a question that in the new provinces of the West requires serious consideration before any action is taken. These provinces are rich, enormously rich, from an agricultural standpoint; they will no doubt some day each have an agricultural college but to urge the immediate establishment of such an institution seems scarcely to be the part of wisdom and reflection.

Agricultural colleges are splendid things when they are needed. They form the capstone of a system of agricultural education; but unless a real demand exists, unless the organization of the common school, the higher school, and the agricultural societies has helped to awaken the interest and kindle the demand for more advanced work the agricultural college is unnecessary.

Ontario has had such an institution for many years but for years its work was only nominal and it is more than probable that had the same amount of time, money and effort been thrown into other means of education during the first few years of the work of the college better results would have been obtained.

The new provinces will be well advised if they go slowly. Let them lay broad and deep the foundation of their agricultural education, and let the college come later as the natural result of a demand for higher training coming from a thorough knowledge of the basic principles of the science of agriculture.

HORSE

If all the first-class stallions contiguous to Regina turn out to the spring show there will be a horseman's carnival.

If you are one of a syndicate who has a breeding stallion see that he is getting plenty of exercise and outdoor life. It means health and vigor.

Several syndicates throughout the country are offering to exchange horses. There is no reason why there should not be much mutual advantage in this scheme. A notice of a desire to make a shift inserted in our Want and For Sale columns would facilitate a deal.

If the fees from the stallion do not quite pay for his keep and make an annual payment on his cost do not reckon him a bad investment. He is probably worth thousands of dollars more to the neighborhood than any horse a private individual could keep.

Dry hair, harsh skin, and lack of spirit are common complaints at this time of year. Look after the teeth, give some boiled feed, flax or oil cake, increase the grain allowance and if necessary feed a tonic. Half the trouble in keeping horses in condition during summer may be avoided now by fitting them up.

Trade in Clydesdales in the States has been more than ordinarily brisk. After the last International, Secretary Ogilvie sent out six hundred circular letters to Clydesdale breeders asking if they would contribute to a combination sale in Chicago, but only two replied that they had horses to sell, and these had but three and four.

The Seriousness of Glanders Not Appreciated.

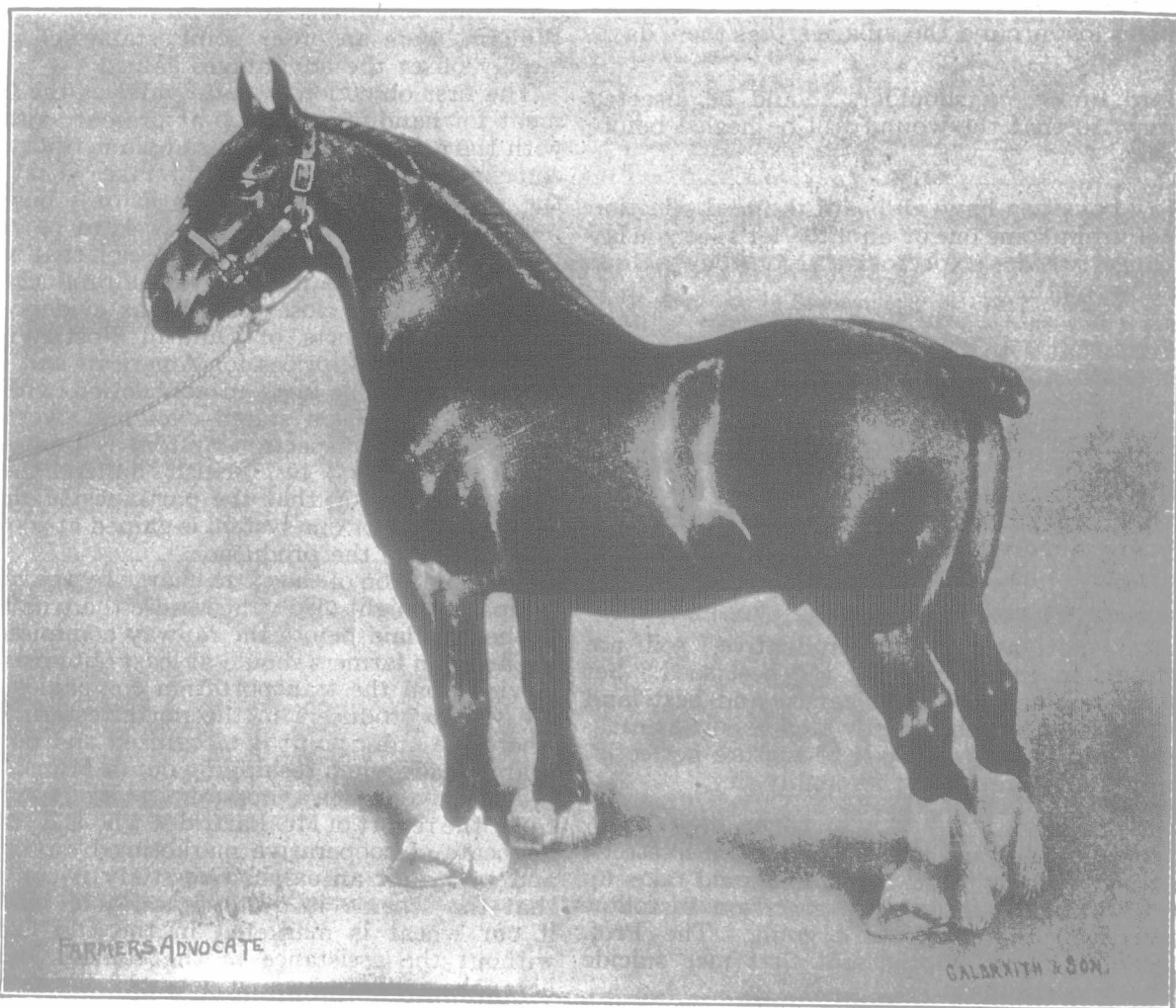
A correspondent writes as follows:—

I am writing you to try to obtain the influence of your paper, in order to stir up many—very many—of the farmers and horse owners to realize the seriousness of the outbreak of glanders and the urgent necessity of every one helping to fight the same. Possibly many have no idea how widespread the outbreak is.

Any settlement around here has had, some many some few (out of the few tested), glandered horses shot. Some very bad cases discharging, etc., and some that were not at that stage but equally—or more dangerous—because they were not suspected. Now these horses have been in other stables, and other horses have been in theirs, also drinking from same trough, feeding, running at large on the prairie, etc., etc.

What one wants to impress on these horse owners is the danger that is lurking in any horse that has been running out or mingling with other horses. No doubt many say, "well mine are O. K., no lumps on jaw or discharge and so on, in fact I know of several who did say this and were vastly surprised when they were ordered to shoot their horses.

Now there are dozens of men nearby—and the same in other infected districts, who have had their horses running at large and in strange stables, where glandered horses have been shot from. Yet nothing will induce these men to avail themselves of the test.



PRINCE AILSA
CLYDESDALE STALLION, OWNED BY ALEX. GALBRAITH AND SON, BRANDON. (SEE GOSSIP)

Now is the time to stamp the disease out, and start clean in the spring. The way things are pointing, as men around here who know, matters will go from bad to worse. If you can in any way put fear or common sense into some of these men, you will earn the gratitude of many readers.

Thinks Lien Act a Dead Letter.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Thinking the proposed Horse Breeders' Act, which you published in a late issue, a very doubtful benefit, I write a few observations as to the lien on foals, theoretically it seems good, practically it's a delusion. In discussing it with the originator Dr. Rutherford, he informed me that, so far as the stallion owner was concerned it was only incidental and was primarily for the protection of the public, in order to show them which were properly registered stallions, it being taken for granted that all eligible would register in order to take advantage of the lien. Very few kept it up. The great majority of farmers pay up as soon as they possibly can, and one does not want to enforce a lien against them. Of the dishonest minority most of those who refuse are those whose mares have aborted, or died, or foals died, and in some cases mares sold at a distance and of course the lien is no use against any of these. In other cases the bailiff, goes to seize, there are several colts on the farm, the owner will not assist or say which is the colt, the bailiff, afraid of seizing the wrong one does nothing. Another, seizing a wild unhalter yearling requires several men or an expert cowboy and dragging it off is more bother than it's worth besides the risk of injury. Again the owner of a colt says it has strayed

and does not know where. All these cases have occurred and though occasionally (especially where the owner of mare and stallion live near enough together for the latter to know the other stock) it enables the stallion owner to collect, on the whole it's unsatisfactory and the only effective lien would be one on the dam.

As to registration of stallions, on principle I am not in favor of this sort of grand-motherly legislation, but if such an act is passed it should be very exact in naming hereditary unsoundness; for instance, sec. 6. says "bony exostoses," this may mean anything. I have a horse with a "bony exostoses" from a kick on the shin; is this hereditary unsoundness? I should object strongly to splint being called hereditary unsoundness, in fact I do not consider it unsoundness at all. I have had dozens of horses with splint and never had one the least inconvenienced by it and have very rarely met with one lame from it, and your report of the Chicago Show, says that a first prize horse, in a strong ring, had two splints and many good horse-men fancied that horse for Champion of the breed (and what does etc. mean?). Again, who is going to enforce the act against those who do not register, or who register falsely? The owner of a registered stallion travelling the same district will not gain by doing so, for it is sure to be said that he does so because he knows the other horse is a better individual than his and he is afraid of him—the general public will not interfere—in practice the act will be a dead letter. Why have we not got a public prose-

cutor anyway? Not for this, but to follow up and prosecute all the acts of perjury that are committed in the courts, it would keep a good many officials busy for a while.

One more good word on this subject, I find that the majority who pretend that they do not know that certain horses pedigrees are not registered and approved, do not want to know. They are going to breed to that horse anyway because they like him and like his price, and I think should be at perfect liberty to breed what they like. I may say that I have never kept or intend to keep anything but registered stallions. But I know that there are sound registered stallions which are bad individuals with very short pedigrees and not so good to breed from, as a first rate individual with perhaps three or four straight crosses though not eligible for registration. Of course these are the exceptions.

Lorne Municipality.

A. J. MOORE.

If all those branch lines are built to feed the three trunk lines where is the farmer going to find a ranche?

Ontario fruit growers want a tariff that will keep American fruit out of the Canadian West when they have any surplus to sell; tariff commissioners should develop into inventors.

When Saskatchewan decides where the capital shall be she will then be called upon to select a location for the agricultural college. Our youngest sister has to make some sage decisions.