

position alike for grain and straw. They are better than these below the average, and worse than those above the average, alike in respect of grain and straw. They are, in fact, good average oats, and as straw is a big element in the foddering of young cattle, a sort called "Tam Finlay" is in great favor in high-lying districts. Garton Bros., Warrington, have brought out a new wheat called Rivetts, which has turned out very well in trials of wheat varieties conducted at the Bangor College, in North Wales.
28th Feb., 1903. "SCOTLAND YET."

Percheron Registry.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—I have noticed in your issue of March 2nd that you give some very erroneous information to an enquirer. I presume that this was done under misrepresentation of the facts, and that you would gladly make right any unintentional wrong you have done the American Percheron Horse Breeders' Association. I send you under separate cover the report of the meeting of our association held in this city on February 5th, by which you will see that the old original American Percheron Horse Breeders' Association (established 1876) was in public meeting supported by ninety-five per cent. of those engaged in the breeding and importing of Percheron horses in this country. Because a few malcontents could not exercise their desired control over this association, they seceded and took out a charter for another association, with a name similar to ours. That this attempt to steal on the part of this new association has proved abortive, I call your attention to the fact that this bastard association has been enjoined and restrained by the courts here from future operation, a copy of which injunction I send you by current mail. The American Percheron Horse Breeders' Association is too large an institution to be controlled by any one man, or any little coterie of men, and we call your attention to the officers and directorate elected at our last meeting; they all are men of prominence and probity, which guarantees that the association will be conducted in the interests of all concerned in the importation and breeding of Percheron horses. We also call your attention to the enclosed warning notice to purchasers of Percheron horses, which notice is running in all the prominent stock papers of the United States to-day, with the exception of one, and this exception is an organ that was started by Dunham money and is still under the domination of the Dunham interest. We do not desire to draw you into a controversy among warring horse breeders; you are a public journal supported by the public, and should render fair play to all concerned, and that is why I call your attention to the mistake you have made. Yours truly,

Chicago, Ill.

S. D. THOMPSON,
Secretary.

[Note.—Whatever may be the issue of the contention in the Percheron camp, Canadian horsemen will in the meantime be governed by the stubborn fact that the only Percheron breed association and register at present recognized by the U. S. Department of Agriculture is the newly organized one, and that horses for breeding purposes going from Canada to the United States can only pass the customs free of duty on certificates of registry in the new record.—Ed. F. A.]

Cheap Pork.

Hogs are now realizing good prices, and it is probable that for some time they will be profitable stock to raise. It is when hogs or any other farm animal is enjoying this distinction of being profitable that the greatest leaks in the feeding operations are likely to occur. When live hogs were selling for four cents per pound at the car, farmers were careful that every pound of gain should be made in a short time and at the least outlay of food, and by so doing were able to realize a profit on feeding. Since hogs have gone up, however, we have become more liberal, and have often fed longer and heavier than we could have afforded had the price of pork been lower. It was when the price of the finished hog was away down that we learned our most valuable lessons in feeding. Necessity compelled us to feed economically, and we learned how to do it. We learned how, by feeding clover, roots and other green foods, to make a profit on four-cent pork, and the proper way to take the fullest advantage of the improved times is to feed our six-cent hogs just as economically as we did when pork was much lower. By so doing, an increase in selling price means an increase in profit, and not simply an increase in amount received. In this connection clover, rape and roots play an important part. In laying out the plans for the season's crops, we cannot urge too strongly the importance of setting apart good-sized plots for these crops, and also a plot for alfalfa. The time for feeding hogs exclusively on grain is past; intensive farming, which means the maximum of production at the minimum of cost, is now the order of the day, and there is plenty of room for its development in the hog-raising industry.

Veterinary Education.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—As a graduate of the Ontario Veterinary College, engaged in the profession, I feel, perhaps, more interested in the editorials and letters re Veterinary Education than some other readers of your valuable paper, and desire in my humble way to commend the movement to raise the standard. The air is full of talk on education. On all sides we hear criticisms of our present system, and we must admit that a good deal of unpleasant truth has been told.

When we consider the intimate relation between veterinary science and agriculture, and on the other hand between agriculture and the wealth of the country, it seems strange that the Government of Ontario (or I may say Dominion) takes no practical interest in the training of such an important body of men as her veterinary practitioners should be. I do not wish to detract any credit that is due the O.V.C. It has done a good work in days gone by, and in some ways is still doing so. In fact, for a long time its head has done about all that has been accomplished for veterinary science in this country. We must admit that numbers of good men claim the O.V.C. as their alma mater, but the teaching of twenty years ago—yea, ten years ago—will not do for to-day. The sciences are making rapid strides, and the graduates of the last ten years, and even those who graduate to-day, can not claim the teaching of their alma mater to be what it should. It is run as a private institution, just as an individual runs his business, solely for the dollars that are in it, and what are the results? Students of all kinds, some with fair education and some with very little, go through the examination machine, good, bad, or indifferent, labeled with a diploma to kill or cure, and are known usually as "Doc."

There is a remedy for this state of affairs. Almost as important as the length of study, is, first of all, a standard of education upon entering which should be nothing less than a matriculation. A student entering college with such an education is prepared to go on and understand his work, and can grasp and retain a great deal more than one with barely sufficient education to read and write. It is a shame to confess that students have gone through without sufficient education to do credit to a fourth book form in an ordinary public school. Second, there is necessity for a longer period of study and more practical work. The idea is absurd of expecting a student to attend college for two sessions of about six months each, and to take up materia medica, anatomy, physiology, surgery, disease and treatment, bacteriology, chemistry, histology, biology of horse, cow, sheep, pig, dog, and to pass a thorough examination and obtain a diploma which qualifies him as competent to practice as a veterinary surgeon, especially if his preliminary education is as limited as it is in the majority of cases. Often the veterinary profession is not one of choice; it is the only one that would accept him, and how can such a profession ever attain the standing it should as long as the present conditions exist? (Never.) To remedy this some sweeping changes are essential, and first of all the matriculation entrance. This might mean a temporary loss in revenue to the college (but who can tell how much in the pockets of the stock breeder), and the profession would be rid of the constant stream of uneducated professionals. I do not wish to infer that all those shut out would be drawbacks to the profession, but it would contain so many of that sort that they would outweigh the good qualities of the others. Contemplating these changes, the question of finances will loom up before the college officials. I have no doubt it would for a short time affect the revenue, but surely in thirty years of financial success if a period of quiet came upon them they would be able to meet all obligations, and I am sure there are enough graduates in Ontario itself who would willingly assist to shoulder the deficit, if there should be any, caused by an endeavor to uplift the profession. Has the Provincial Government no concern for veterinary education? I think it has a serious responsibility. The O.V.C. is one of the oldest educational institutions on the continent, and the foremost in its day, and can yet be made the first college, but it must bestir itself. Let it but give the highest standard of education and it will be as the Royal College of London, England, its doors sought by the foremost men on the continent. Raise the standard and you raise the class of students—your graduates will be the best. The teaching of an educational institution is judged by the character and quality of the graduates. If her graduates are men thoroughly competent, it will be but a short time until the O.V.C. once more leads the van. Take the requirements of pharmacy, of our dental colleges, medical colleges, Normal schools—in fact, all the educational institutions—look at their rising standards. Has it closed their doors? No, they are crowded with the very best students of our country, and why should this, one of the most important educational institutions, be neglected in the march of advancement?

In the interests of the stockmen of the country, of our future veterinarians, and of those at present engaged in the profession, the movement for veterinary educational reform has been too long delayed, and it is one that should commend itself to the cordial and united support of all these classes.
ROBERT BARNES, V.S.
Middlesex Co., Ont.

Thoughts on the Past and Present.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

On looking over the last Christmas number of the "Advocate," which is very fine indeed, I read with great interest Mr. Snell's letter headed, Fifty Years of Fair Going. Not because it was all new to me, for I, like Mr. Snell, had been attending the old Ontario Provincial Exhibition from the time it started, having frequently acted as a judge at Toronto, Hamilton and London, and other places, so that I became fairly well acquainted with the exhibitors from all parts of the Province. Mr. Snell's letter recalls to my mind many pleasant and profitable hours spent with some of the old exhibitors and breeders in the days long gone by, but it likewise brings to mind the fact that nearly all the exhibitors and breeders of those days have past that bourne from whence no traveller ere returns. Mr. Snell has seen many changes. Not only have the old exhibitors passed away, but those fine large cattle that they used to exhibit have likewise passed away, and instead we have a smaller race of cattle, with finer bone, etc., and I always have doubts whether we are making improvement or not. These small-boned cattle may make baby-beef, but I would not consider them the cattle for the range, and to me they always look as if they had not legs fit to carry them. This is a point worthy of consideration. We often see men with large frames and lots of muscle, weighing 220 to 225 pounds, yet active, but a man with a small frame, should he become 220 pounds, cannot walk, he can only waddle, and this is just the result with many present-day cattle. Mr. Snell must, likewise, have observed great changes in the lines on which our large exhibitions are conducted. When agricultural exhibitions were first organized in Canada, they were established on the same lines as those in the motherland, where they have always proved a great success. But a faster class of men has got hold of the management here, and have borrowed some of the so-called attractions from our American cousins, and this, like some other things we have borrowed from them, had better, in my opinion, have been left south of the International boundary line. Having had occasion to be in Winnipeg during the exhibition, I took a day at the show, to see if there were anything new. I went early through the main building, then through the other buildings, and lastly through the one where the grain was exhibited, and was reminded of the following incident: Some years ago a municipality in the County of Waterloo concluded to purchase a Shorthorn bull; they appointed a Scotchman and a German to select and purchase the animal. Amongst other herds visited was that of the late Hon. David Christie, who had a number of bulls that were in bad condition from want of care, being left in the hands of hired men. When one of the bulls was led out, Mr. Christie read over a very good, long pedigree. My friend the Scotchman asked the German what he thought of the bull? The German replied, "I tink lots pedigree but not much pull." In going through the exhibition buildings, I concluded that there were lots of buildings but not much exhibit. I went from seeing the grain to the cattle stables, and among the beef breeds found some whose legs did not seem strong enough to carry their bodies. From the cattle I went to the sheep pens; good pens, lots of them, but I have seen a better exhibit of sheep at a township show in Ontario. From the sheep I went to the pigs; here I found a good exhibit—some very good animals. From the pigs I went to the horses; there were very few out of the stables. To see a horse you have to see him out, so I did not remain long, but crossed the grounds to the implements. There is always something here to interest a farmer. I am sure Mr. Snell must see a wonderful improvement in implements since he began to go to exhibitions. In his young days we were cutting the grass with the scythe, and the grain with the cradle, and threshed it with the flail, or in some cases with an open cylinder run by a horse-power. Now we have the mowing machine to cut the grass, and the reaping machine to cut and tie the grain, and a