

Horse Owners! Use

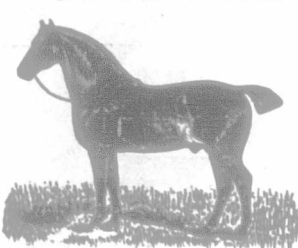


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THE STABLE FLOOR.

After light and ventilation and air and water, perhaps the most important is the floor, and cleanliness around the cattle. An ideal stable should have a good wide passage behind the cows, and between the passage and the stall a good wide gutter. My ideal conformation of a dairy stable floor, or a floor for dairy cattle, is that there should be a passage of six feet behind the cows, besides the gutter, that this passage should be 3 inches lower than the floor of the stall, and that the gutter between the passage and the stall should be at least 18 inches wide and should be 6 inches deep on the side next to the passage, and 8 inches deep on the side next to the stalls; that the stalls should have a slope of about 1 1/2 inches in the length of the stalls; that the floor of the stalls should vary in length. You know that in your herds there are long and short cows. You cannot get any two exactly the same length. Then when building a floor—which ought to be cement—why not start with your stalls 4 feet long at one end and 4 feet 9 inches or 10 inches at the other end, if you have big cows? And on the other side—if you have a double row of stalls have it arranged vice versa; that is, have the short ones opposite the long ones. In that way you lose no space, and everything is convenient. If, however, you prefer to have the short ones opposite each other, you will have a nice wide passage at the door end, which is, of course, also a convenience, that is the ideal way to build your stable floor. I have seen it in use; in fact, I built a floor this fall and built it in that way, and we have been much pleased with it. In that stable we have two Shorthorn cows, and they take 4 feet 10 inches; we also have a Jersey-Guernsey cross and she only takes 4 feet 2 inches. Every cow is placed where she ought to be, and every cow is kept perfectly clean. It is the greatest help in connection with cleanliness that I know of. Then having a big gutter is also important. Do not throw the manure up against the wall, but take it outside. If the manure is left inside, you have in that stable such an odor that it is sure to contaminate the milk, even if it is left there no longer than during milking.

The importance of having a slope to the door of the stall is very great. It saves very materially in bedding, and it saves very materially in cleaning the cattle. If we are going to have perfect milk it is necessary to clean the flanks and the sides of the cattle from time to time, and if the floor has not sufficient bedding, you all know what a bother that is. We have confirmed that by having a very good slope. The urine is always carried off and part of the manure is likely to slip into the gutter if there is straw there. The question of bedding is one that is very important in sanitation, yet I know many men who are willing to let their cows lie nearly all winter on the bare floors. The floors are of either wood or cement, and as a consequence the animals are very uncomfortable and very often they get sores.

HOW SAGE FOOLED THE LAWYER.

Russell Sage, multimillionaire, of New York, who died recently, leaving his fortune of \$100,000,000 to his wife, had a horror of lawsuits. A clerk of Mr. Sage's said the other day: "I sought out the chief one morning in his office. 'You remember, sir,' I said, 'my complaint against my wife's uncle?' 'Yes,' he answered. 'Well,' said I, 'the man is obdurate, and I think of bringing suit against him. What do you advise?' Mr. Sage was silent a moment, frowning thoughtfully. Then he said: 'Listen. When I was a clerk in Troy I had a case against a man that seemed quite as good as yours. I visited a prominent lawyer, and laid the whole matter before him in detail. When I was through he told me that he would be delighted to take the case—that it was a case that I couldn't lose. 'It can't lose,' said I. 'It can't lose,' he repeated. I rose, and took my hat. I thanked the lawyer, and told him that I wouldn't bring suit, after all. And then I explained that it was my opponent's side, and not my own, which I had laid before him."

THE INDIVIDUAL IN NATION BUILDING.

In discussing "The Individual in Nation Building," before the Canadian Club, Winnipeg, Mr. McNeil expressed a belief that there had never been given to any people, in any age, such a splendid, inviting, fascinating opportunity as was given to the people of Canada at the present moment.

Among the greatest discoveries we have made in the past generation, the greatest has not been, by any means, that of our wide fertile plains, our rich mineral wealth, our splendid highway of waters, but the discovery of our destiny as a Canadian people. Ever since the days of confederation, it might be said with some truth our political destiny was somewhat of a problem. There was the prospect of mere colonial dependence; the word "annexation" was often on the lips of our wise and intelligent men—it is not yet silent on the lips of so great a Canadian as Goldwin Smith; and there was the dream of independent Canada. Amid these Canada has suddenly realized that her destiny is wrapped up in the heart of the empire of which she forms no little part. (Applause.) The speaker here recalled two speeches by great Canadian statesmen, delivered thirty years apart from each other. The one was by Sir John Macdonald in 1864, when, in laying the whole scheme of Canadian confederation before the parliament, he said: "If you believe this scheme will ensure the maintenance of our British laws and institutions, and the protection of our commercial, social and political life, I implore this House to lay aside all prejudices and accept the scheme we bring." In the other speech, thirty years later, on the occasion of the diamond jubilee of Queen Victoria, in 1897, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, to the question: "Will the time ever come when Canada will be a nation?" answered, "My reply is, Canada is a nation." The one speech was a prophecy, the other a fulfilment of the prophecy. The Canadian people have come to the consciousness of a nation within the empire.

He believed, the opinion of Mr. Goldwin Smith notwithstanding, that the dream of annexation is forever dissipated, unless it be in the dream that we shall annex the United States to Canada. So also to the peoples of the world there has come the new recognition of our relation to the mother land and of the meaning of the empire as never before.

NEW IMPERIALISM.

The words, new imperialism, in its wider and better sense, is not empty political vapidness, the passing of one or two enactments, or one or two tariffs, but something strong, sturdy and permanent. The magnitude of the interests of our young colony has forced the attention of the old land, improved our prospects with the United States, increased our financial credit abroad, and turned the eyes of the whole civilized world upon us.

But the dream of destiny is one thing; the achievement of it is another thing altogether. It is of the achievement of that destiny and our relationship to it that I wish to speak. There are a great many forces that enter into a nation's life. There are outside forces. I believe Nature has done her very best for Canada. In the extent of our country, in the richness and fertility of our plains, in our mineral wealth, we possess a splendid stage for the building up of a great, a magnificent people. I do not wonder at the young Englishman who wrote back home about this country that 'its railroads run from ocean to ocean, and its telegraphs from pole to pole.'

But with all the contributions that other nations may bring, we have our destiny pretty much in our own hands. The individual is very largely the measure of the nation; her temper, her capacity, her ability to bring things to pass may be measured by the ability, the capacity and the temper of the individuals who form her citizenship. The nation building we are concerned with is the nation building of Canada; and the individuals we are, or ought to be concerned with, are ourselves. Emerson said, 'There comes a time in the history of every man, when he must take himself for better or for worse

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