

is the type of woman which matures most rapidly, perhaps, upon the farms of our land; this the woman who cannot tolerate nonsense and affectation; who takes the most intelligent interest in the agricultural questions which so absorb her husband; who contributes most efficiently toward helping to make the farm "pay"; who understands to the full the importance of her influence upon the home atmosphere, and does not fail in exercising that influence to the utmost. This is the woman to whom the Home Department of the farm journal should appeal most strongly for sympathy and appreciation.

It is hoped that the up-to-date man also will not withhold his sympathy, and that, while concentrating his attention upon those things which fall more essentially within his sphere, he will not fail to recognize also the equal claims of his wife and his children in their respective positions in life. The wise farmer will occasionally vary his point of view by imagining himself in the place of his wife and children; and, in his selection of farm literature, while placing at its true value scientific and practical information for his own department, may he never fail to accord its true value also to the Home Department of his farm periodical. To withhold such stores of help and enjoyment is a wrong, almost beyond estimate, to the home life of the farm. While we prize at its full value the recognition by the farmer of the service which we seek to render, we have been encouraged more than can well be expressed by the loyal and cordial appreciation by the farmer's family of the conscientious labor put forth in the making of our Home Magazine, and which has been such as to lead us to make this department still more worthy of their confidence during the year upon which we are entering.

The Invincible "Best."

Prudence and profit alike suggest that the present-day farmer in all his work and study to produce salable commodities, should stop short of nothing less than the best procurable or producible. This should be his motto and aim in his methods of farming, since in no line of business is the truth of the saying, "What is worth doing is worth doing well," more convincingly illustrated than in a good system of farming, well carried out in all its details. While it is true that the harvest reaped depends largely upon the weather of the seasons, and that a very bad season may defeat the best of farming, yet it is just as true that, as a rule, the crops sown early on land in good heart, well cultivated and well drained, will, in either a very dry or a very wet season, yield a much better return in the harvest than those indifferently treated in any of these particulars. While favorable seasons have had much to do in bringing about the good times that farmers have enjoyed in the last few years, and while Providence has been good to us in giving us such seasons, yet the proverb, "Providence helps those who help themselves," is as true as ever, and has never been more clearly exemplified than in these late years, for even an indifferent observer in passing through the country can see that farmers generally are farming better than they did some years ago. Through the natural adaptability of the West, and superior methods of cultivation and milling, our hard wheat and flour hold a position of supremacy in the great markets of the world. As another illustration of the soundness of this contention, it is only necessary to point to the remarkable expansion of the Canadian cheese trade. Years ago United States cheese held a large place in Britain, but they got down to a skim milk standard, and the market was lost, while Canada set up a high standard and captured the market, which yields a rich revenue to our people, totalling over \$20,000,000 annually. The same may be said of our bacon trade, which, owing to careful attention to breeding and feeding for a purpose, has grown into immense proportions, and the product is gaining in favor because of its quality. Every feeder knows that it is the well-bred, first-class steer that converts his feed into the biggest profit. And there is no reason why our beef may not take a first place in the world's best market if the same attention is given to breeding and feeding that has been devoted to our cheese production. We have all the necessary conditions of soil and water, of grass, roots and grain production, so that all that is needed is applied industry and skill to produce the best; and it is that which wins in the commercial world. In short, it is only by the introduction of the best methods, means and contrivances for the prosecution of the work of the farm and household; for the saving of labor, and for economy of production, that a leading position can be secured and held in these days in any occupation. The needs of the times and the requirements of the markets must be studied, and our operations made to conform to the changing or changed conditions. By producing and selling only the best, the Western agriculturist will be invincible. It is by aiming at a high standard—or "the best"—that the "Farmer's Advocate" has succeeded in securing

so large a place in the esteem of the agricultural public, and endeared it in the homes of its Western constituency, and it is the conviction that the farmer should have a still better and more prompt and efficient help that leads to its publication as a weekly paper, in conformity to the forward march of the times and the demands of twentieth-century farming.

Horses.

The Age of Horses.

To tell the age of any horse.
Inspect the lower jaw, of course;
The six front teeth the tale will tell,
And every doubt and fear dispel.

Two middle "nippers" you behold
Before the colt is two weeks old,
Before eight weeks two more will come;
Eight months the "corners" cut the gum.

The outside grooves will disappear
From middle two in just one year.
In two years, from the second pair;
In three, the corners, too, are bare.

At two the middle "nippers" drop;
At three, the second pair can't stop.
When four years old the third pair goes;
At five a full new set he shows.

The deep black spots will pass from view
At six years from the middle two.
The second pair at seven years;
At eight the spot each "corner" clears.

From middle "nippers," upper jaw,
At nine the black spots will withdraw.
The second pair at ten are white;
Eleven finds the "corners" light.

As time goes on, the horsemen know,
The oval teeth three-sided grow;
They longer get, project before
Till twenty, when we know no more.

Horse Show and Sale for Calgary.

Calgary, acknowledged as the cynosure of Western horsemen, is at the present moment strengthening her just claims as owner of such an exalted position by the movement on foot to hold a large horse show and sale within her borders next March.

The Inter-Western Exhibition committee, and City Council, backed by many leading horsemen, are unitedly exerting themselves in a most harmonious manner to make the outcome a success. The promoters are determined that the culmination of their combined efforts shall be successfully carried out on a large scale or not at all, and with this object in view they are ascertaining the pulse of those likely to be the main contributors, having fully decided that unless 400 horses will be forthcoming no show will take place. The surrounding district which accepts Calgary as its center is admirably adapted to uphold and maintain yearly reproductions of a strong equine fair, for horses of good quality can be found in abundance within it; in fact, some of Canada's very best find a home on these pastures.

The purpose is to conduct this new feature on lines similar to the successful cattle mart now so well established. Lack of stabling is, perhaps, the greatest difficulty facing the promoters, and this matter was recently discussed by a joint committee of the Inter-Western Exhibition and the City Council, with the result that tenders are out for four new stables to be erected on the Calgary Exhibition grounds, and completed before March 1st, 1904. It is also proposed to erect a main building and grand-stand, but longer time is given for their construction.

If the horse show and sale becomes a reality in March, 1904, it means three big functions for Calgary next season, namely, the horse fair some time in March, the standard cattle sale in May, and the annual exhibition in July. As an enterprising town Calgary has been acknowledged to occupy a front place, especially in commercial and mercantile matters, but now another string is being securely attached to her bow, strengthening its usefulness, and, undoubtedly, agricultural affairs are beginning to receive that attention which their high standing justly warrants.

Duplicate the Brood Mare.

Draft horses at the present are commanding high prices. They have done so for some time, yet the benefits which breeders are entitled to receive from these prosperous times are frequently not being fully realized.

In many cases young brood mares of true draft conformation are being sold for city dray work. Surely at a time of such brisk demand and promising outlook, it would have been better to use them for the purpose intended by nature. Good brood mares are among the most valuable assets of the farm, and instead of selling them it would be better, in most cases, to retain this class of stock, even although favorite geldings may have to be disposed of to make room.

Fall and Winter Care of Weanlings.

That the ultimate value and usefulness of a colt is largely influenced by the food and attention he secures during his first year, and particularly during the fall and winter after being weaned, few will dispute. Where satisfactory weaning has been adopted, we assume that the colt has not lost flesh or condition, and we should endeavor to keep it in good flesh and strong, in order that growth may continue. The nature and quantity of the food to be given should have careful consideration. I think at this period of the colt's life there is often more harm done by underfeeding than by overfeeding. The average owner appears to be afraid of overfeeding on grain. I think there is little danger of this, provided the grain be of good quality and the colt be allowed regular exercise. Where expedient, it is certainly advisable to provide a roomy, well-ventilated, clean, dry and comfortable box stall. If two or more colts are allowed to run together and occupy the same stall, they will usually do better than a single colt, but it is much better to have one alone than to allow it along with one or more colts a year or two older. Where colts of different ages occupy the same stall, the younger one is sure to get the worst of it. The older and stronger fellow, while probably not cross or vicious with the younger, will invariably (if not tied at feeding time), manage to get more than his share of grain. Of hay the colts should have all they will eat. I do not mean that hay should be constantly kept within reach—I consider this method of feeding in all cases wasteful and harmful. They should be fed at regular hours, three times daily, and get all they will eat in at most 1½ hours. Any that is not consumed in this time should be removed. The colts will then have an appetite and be ready to enjoy the next meal, while if hay be within reach at all times, more or less of it will be trampled underfoot, and the colts will be eating at irregular intervals, or more or less constantly; the digestive glands will not be given the periodical rest required, and the little animals will never have the necessary appetite for the full enjoyment of a meal. I consider it better to feed the hay off the floor than to have mangers or racks more or less elevated. When the hay is on the floor the colts are feeding in the natural manner, and this is better for them, especially for their knees, and when only sufficient is given to satisfy their hunger, none is wasted. As regards the grain to be given, there can be no question whatever that oats should form the chief if not the whole ration. Oats finely chopped, I think, is preferable to either whole or rolled oats, for at least two feeds daily. The quantity will, of course, vary according to the size and age of the animals, but as stated above, I think there is little danger of overfeeding; or, in other words, it is safe in most cases to allow them all they will eat, provided regular exercise be allowed. For a foal newly weaned at four or five months, probably a quart of chop is a fair feed, and this is, in most cases, all he will eat. The quantity can be slowly and gradually increased as he grows and his digestive organs and appetite improve. It is good practice to make the food given as tasty as possible, and I find if the chop be steamed, by placing it in a pail or other vessel, pouring boiling water on it, covering the vessel with a rubber sheet and allowing it to stand for a few hours, that the colt appears to enjoy it more than if fed dry. A feed of this kind night and morning, and a few whole oats and a carrot or two at noon, with the addition of a feed of bran, with a little linseed meal two or three times weekly, has given excellent satisfaction. Of course there are cases where a colt will eat more than he can digest, and, as a consequence, there will be more or less digestive derangement, and the little animal will not thrive so well as if fed less grain. This occurs in animals with weak digestive powers, and in such cases the allowance of grain must be limited to that which the animal can digest and assimilate.

Regular exercise in a paddock or yard should be allowed every day when the state of the weather will permit. The larger the stall the colt or colts are allowed the better, and if the stall be of considerable size a considerable amount of exercise will be taken while in the stable, but outdoor exercise is advisable, and should be allowed when possible. I may also state that the feet should be well looked after. The stall should be cleaned out at least once every week, as when the manure is allowed to accumulate it heats, and this is injurious to the feet. Even where this is attended to and regular exercise is given, we notice that the growth of horn is in excess of the wear, and, as a consequence, the feet grow too long at the toe and too high at the heel, and become an abnormal shape, which if allowed to continue, has a tendency to force too much tension on some tendons and ligaments, and too little on others, which tends to deformity, which may cause permanent injury. In order to obviate this the feet should be examined frequently, and, when necessary, dressed with a shoeing smith's knife and rasp to their natural shape. "WHIP."

Brown

Switzerland, the Swiss cattle, has dairy cattle. The her of Cantons or public, much like ticularly adapted t valleys furnish the water is always pure, and the peopleprising class ge tile and improve t cess.

Of the various country, one call for dairying, and the milk of cows refused. In this the Rhigi Mountain rich herbage. At Arth, from whence Schwytz cattle to hood doubtless exi mixed breed for ge

These imported directly from a h of the Schwytz sidered one of the region. The catt by Henry M. Clark directions, and we breeding purposes mens that could be

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They may be d solid, heavy build, yelders of rich mi ing of choice butt not heavy, but th quality of meat, a a desirous anima will weigh from 1, males from 1,600 fully developed. to light chestnut, are rather short. the tongue, hoofs there are no better Honey Creek, Wi

The Selecti

With regard to that will produce things to consider breeds differ, and of one breed may other. In the bo look at is his leg straight on his to the reason that it of bone, and you transmitted. If t to get all parts o strong, flat, flinty, stand close confin he will stand forc he is a good feeder, a good constitution. mal can be a sa indications of a depth of body, wel in the fore-flank, set apart, but the smooth coat of h should not be har the bacon hog sho dium length of no ears should not be cate a coarseness nevertheless, be of part of the neck s and the lower p shoulder should be The loin should be width as over the high-priced meat c strong back, indi There should be g backward, and the down to the hoc these points, I cor bacon hog.

Clover Bar, Alber

Every progress in the Farmer's Ad neighbors.