

## THE HORSE.

### More About the Clydesdale Judging at Toronto.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

In your issue of September 11 and October 2, the latter in reply to a letter written by J. W. Wheaton, Secretary of the Clydesdale Association, appear some comments on the judging of Clydesdales at Toronto Exhibition this year, which we fear make insinuations in a somewhat veiled and apparently carefully studied way, reflecting on the judges who have officiated there for the past few years. A reflection is also cast on the Exhibition authorities amounting almost, if not quite, to a charge of favoritism and on ourselves and the quality of the horses we have exhibited. What you insinuate is, to put it in plain language, that we have received prizes to which we were not entitled.

We know the disadvantage of writing to the public press, because the editor has the last word, but in fairness to ourselves, the judges concerned and the Exhibition there are some facts which deserve attention, and we think we have succeeded in conducting an honorable business and in acquiring an honorable reputation for fair dealing, the best evidence of which consists in satisfied customers all over America.

Second—If favoritism is shown to us at Toronto it must have been with the connivance of the Judges. Since 1911 the Judges at Toronto have been Alexander Gemmel, of Scotland; Robert Copeland, of Scotland; Peter Christie, of Manchester; John Boag, of Queensville; Professor Pew, Professor Cumming and Albert Ness. Will you have the hardihood to suggest that any of these gentlemen is not above being a party to a scheme to deprive other exhibitors of their just rights, for that is really what you do insinuate? Please do not hide behind the phrase you use, "the impression has been abroad." If you do not see grounds for this impression, you should not have published it.

Third—In 1912 the Peer, which was champion at Toronto, was also champion at Chicago, as was Fyvie Baron, the 1913 champion. In 1914 Baron Ascot, champion at Toronto, was also champion at Guelph, as was Lord Gleniffer in 1915. This horse also won at Toronto in 1916 and repeated his performance at the Ottawa Winter Fair. Our champion mares have also been champions wherever shown. In fact, we do not

it is not fair on the part of anyone to seek shelter behind the reputation of others. When the report of the last Canadian National Exhibition was written we were anxious to see the impression referred to (and the existence of which neither Graham Bros. nor the Secretary of the Clydesdale Association has denied) cleared away for the lasting benefit of the Exhibition, exhibitors and the Clydesdale breed. Those from whom we expected sympathetic co-operation have, for unknown reasons, shown themselves antagonistic, a spirit which will only tend to deepen the feeling and cast reflections on the intelligence, judgment and opinions of many horsemen who, for a long series of years, have frequented the Toronto show-ring.—Editor.]

### Care of Horses' Feet.

Every horseman recognizes the importance of good feet in a horse. There is a great deal of force in the old adage "No feet, no horse." While some horses have congenitally weak feet, and require very careful usage to prevent disease, many go wrong in their feet as the result of careless or ignorant treatment. The foot of a horse is a complex organ, and subject to many diseases, the causes and symptoms of which we cannot discuss in one article, hence will discuss only the means of preventing disease.

The main object to be observed is the keeping of the feet in as natural a shape and condition as possible. There is, under normal conditions, a constant growth of all the horny or insensitive and non-vascular parts of the foot, as the horny wall, horny sole and horny frog, and we can readily understand that if there be not an equally constant waste, the organ will assume an abnormal size, and as a consequence become ill-shaped. Of course, during youth, while the animal is growing, the growth of the feet, like that of other organs, exceeds the waste, hence they increase in size. In the state of nature the natural wear and tear on the unshod foot equals the ordinary growth, hence keeps it in proper shape and of proper size, but, owing to the artificial manner in which horses are of necessity reared in cold climates, their feet require more attention than they frequently receive. Interference is seldom necessary, until the first winter, as during the summer months when the colts are at large the natural wear will suffice, but when the weather becomes cold and they are kept in the stable the greater part of the time, often in stalls that are not regularly cleaned out, (which state favors

put on, at longest every six weeks, in many cases every four weeks. During cold or damp weather no particular attention is required other than having the shoes removed regularly and cleaning out the feet daily, but in dry, hot weather, horses that are kept in the stable should have artificial moisture supplied to their feet. During the seasons when the roads and fields are hot and dry, and the stable floors in a like condition, unless some means be taken to supply moisture to the feet they also become dry and hot, and this predisposes to disease.

Moisture can be supplied by the use of a soaking tub or soaking-boots, standing in wet clay, or packing the sole with any substance that has the tendency to absorb and retain water. For the purpose there is probably nothing so satisfactory as a rock or clay commonly called "white rock" that can be purchased in almost any high-class harness shop. This will retain moisture for a long time and, of course, the portion of the foot which is in contact with it will absorb some of it.

There are a great many "hoof ointments" advertised and highly recommended, and while some of them may be of some value (at least in improving the appearance of the feet) there is nothing quite as valuable as water for supplying the necessary moisture. Horses that are on pasture a few hours or longer daily, do not require the same attention as those that are stabled, as the dew and rain on the grass will have the required action. If more intelligent attention were paid to the feet, we would notice much fewer lame and groggy horses on the streets and roads.

WHIP.

## LIVE STOCK.

### Do Veterinarians Want Class Legislation.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Noting that almost before the Premier-elect of Ontario had been selected and seeing articles recently in farm journals, no doubt from the same source, asking that veterinary surgeons, who are graduates of a certain school, be given the exclusive right to treat sick or injured animals in this Province, I cannot help but state a few facts as I see them.

First, we have laws made by lawyers for lawyers, and greatly, in some cases, to the detriment of justice. Second, we have laws made by doctors for their benefit and theirs alone. And now the veterinary surgeons are asking for laws to create a monopoly for the graduates of a certain school. The school referred to, in my opinion, is at present equal, if not superior, to any on this continent, but was such always the case? In my opinion, and I have some knowledge of the facts, the Ontario Veterinary College twenty-five years ago was inferior to several other veterinary colleges as far as giving practical knowledge to its students, and I believe there are a number of men practicing in Ontario now who are not graduates of the Ontario Veterinary College that are more capable of practical work than the older graduates of the O. V. C. These men who have spent the best part of their lives and given good satisfaction to their patrons would, I think, be very unfairly dealt with if legislation were passed prohibiting them from following a calling which has made them unfit, at their age, to enter into other pursuits. I have no sympathy with the man who at present starts to practice as a veterinary surgeon after taking a correspondence course and having no previous experience, when we have an acknowledged practical school in our Province, but I repeat that the majority of those who have practiced for the past twenty years or more are, I believe, as proficient in their calling as those who graduated from the Ontario College at that time.

Oxford Co., Ont.

C. M. MCCALL.

[NOTE.—In other Provinces of the Dominion, where more advanced veterinary legislation than we have in Ontario is in force, all veterinarians are fairly dealt with. That is to say, when a competent veterinarian is practicing and giving satisfaction he is allowed to continue, but no new man without satisfactory credentials is permitted to begin. This proposed veterinary legislation is a safeguard for the future, and is not intended, as we understand it, to deal unjustly with any competent man engaged in the profession.—Editor.]

Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, Guelph, December 5 to 11. Toronto Fat Stock Show, December 11 and 12. You cannot afford to miss these educational fairs.

As one of the best ways of improving the flock is by the use of better sires the Live-Stock Branch at Ottawa have devised a scheme of proving the value of a pure-bred ram on the breeder's own farm. The Dominion Department of Agriculture will grant a sum of \$5 annually for two years for each pure-bred registered ram used up to the number of four on farms where a pure-bred ram has not previously been kept. The rules and regulations for obtaining this assistance are not difficult. They are set forth in pamphlet No. 19 issued by Live-Stock Branch, Ottawa, and an application blank will be found in the pamphlet. There is no reason for a grade ram being used in any flock.



Judging Aged Percheron Stallions at Toronto, 1919.

recall a single instance in all our show-ring career where one of our Toronto champions has been shown by us and beaten at another show by any of the animals shown at Toronto.

Fourth.—When our Toronto successes, not only in Clydesdales but also in Hackneys, have been repeated at Guelph, Ottawa, Winnipeg, London, Madison Square, New York, and the International, of Chicago, does it not strike you that it would be fairer to look for the secret of our success in the quality of our horses and our ability to fit and show them rather than in mean insinuations against our reputation and that of the Canadian National Exhibition, a fair without a peer anywhere?

Fifth.—Many of our horses sold to the United States and in Canada have in other hands won the highest honors at leading shows in the fastest company. We think in fairness to yourself, as a paper desirous of impartially recording and publishing facts, you will consider it a duty to publish this letter and at the same time make it clear to your readers that apart from the fact that our horses have won, there is no other foundation whatever for any insinuation of unfairness in the judging at Toronto. We trust you will not simply point out that you have made no direct charge but that you will make the "amend honorable."

Just one thing more. You say "The Clydesdale Association have got some housecleaning to do around the Toronto Show-ring." We should appreciate it if you would be good enough to be explicit and say just what, in your opinion, the Clydesdale Association should do short of making it a condition of their grant that we should not be exhibitors.

GRAHAM BROS.

[NOTE.—The self-praise artfully woven into the foregoing letter—which purports to air a grievance—requires little comment. We felt it our duty to place the matter referred to by Graham Bros. before the Clydesdale Association and the Exhibition Board, in some concrete form—and we did so—but that placed us under no obligation to locate the cause of the impression or substantiate charges of other people's construction. We have twice made it plain that recent judges or their work were not under discussion, and

the growth of horn) the wear becomes infinitesimal, and unless attention be given, the feet become abnormally large, deep in the heels, long in the toes, and abnormal in shape to such an extent as to render it impossible for the animal to stand or move naturally. This condition abnormally increases the tension on some of the tendons and ligaments and correspondingly decreases that of others. If this is allowed to continue the ultimate value and usefulness of the animal will be affected.

In order to prevent this the feet should be pared or rasped down to the normal size and shape every few weeks during the period of stabling. The heels should be kept well pared down, the wall rasped off on the bearing surface all the way around, and the toes not allowed to become too long. It is not often necessary or advisable to pare either the frog or the bars. In order to avoid thrush or other diseases from an accumulation of filth, the sole and the cleft of the frog should be cleaned out daily by the use of a foot-hook. In the spring we often notice colts with long toes, deep heels, and with the lower margin of the wall turning inwards. In such cases the owner probably thinks it wise to have the feet trimmed before turning them out to grass. When a foot is lifted and the sole cleaned out, preparatory to trimming, it will be noticed that the frog is narrow and shallow and often there is a foul-smelling discharge from its cleft. This is due to neglect of regular attention, and, as the frog should be large and strong, and so deep that it presses upon the ground when the foot is planted in order to support its proper share of the animal's weight and tend to prevent contraction of the heels, it can readily be seen that anything that tends to a decrease in size, or prevention of development of this important part of the foot is a serious matter. The feet should have regular attention until the time arrives when shoes are required, after which the shoeing-smith will cut and rasp away at each shoeing a sufficient amount of horn to keep the foot of proper shape and size. The intelligent horseshoer is careful to not cut the bars down nor pare any off the frog or sole, except portions that become partially detached. Horse owners should see that there is not too much rasping and cutting down in the shoeing-forg.

The shoes should be removed and re-set, or new ones

be an unco' thing, at, Uncle Sandy," re- table an' startin' to that I would turn the at what's the matter a few o' these enter- o a pointer or two on Masses,' for instance? v, Uncle Sandy?"

ary. (A. RLE. household pest in many etle, quite commonly, the "Buffalo Moth." n carpets and woolens e year in well-heated

a minute, broad-ovaj n inch long, black in y minute scales which appearance. It has hich widens into pro- disturbed it folds up ath.

appear in the fall, and winter and the fol- ing the females lay conditions hatch in pidly if the tempera- at. If conditions are ve for an indefinite little growth. The ates in the last larval splits down the back led, and some time pupa cases. and when not engaged the light. They fly found on the panes gh an open window s of certain plants, and the handsome al cultivated *Spiraea* d to be the gather-



a of the carpet beetle.

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hide, hydrocyanic und to be effective eettle, but the first dle, the first being extremely deadly ne to a room and the treatment is

the use of linoleum ugs, and the use of way of cleanliness ld pests.