

of mercury and cantharides, mixed with two ounces lard or vaseline, gives good results. The hair should be clipped off the surface to be blistered, and the blister well rubbed in. The effect of any blister depends greatly upon the manner in which it is applied. In order to get well-marked results, it must be well rubbed in. The animal must now be tied so that he cannot get his mouth to the parts, else he will get his nose, lips and mouth blistered, and possibly tear the skin of the blistered parts. In 24 hours the blister should be again well rubbed on, and in 24 hours longer should be washed off, and the parts rubbed with sweet oil or vaseline. He may now be turned loose into a box stall, and the parts oiled every day until the scale comes off, when he should be tied up again, and the blister again applied, as at first. After this he should be blistered every four or five weeks, and between the blisterings it is good practice to use friction by hand rubbing or the occasional application of a strong liniment. The length of time required to effect a cure varies in different cases from three or four months to a year, but treatment should be continued until the muscles have regained their normal bulk and tone.

"WHIP."

THE DUBLIN HORSE SHOW.

Forcible evidence of the sustained popularity of the horse among our British people—in spite of the spread of motor cars and other mechanical conveyances—was afforded by the wonderful enthusiasm aroused last week by another of our world-famed Dublin Horse Shows. The Royal Dublin Society has seldom organized a better all-round display of equine stock, and never has a more striking demonstration been given of the superiority of the Irish-bred horse. This annual event, now in its fortieth year, is quite a national institution, and it is during its progress that the Irish metropolis generally looks at its best and brightest. As a social function, few, if any, happenings throughout the year can compare with it in attractiveness, and few create anything like the same stir and excitement. From every part of Ireland the farmers and gentry come in large numbers; cross-channel visitors are both numerous and aristocratic, and from practically all continental and colonial countries there are good musters of sight-seers, who come, not merely to inspect and admire our Irish horses, but also to buy. This year there were special expectations of an unusually large attendance; the progress of the International Exhibition within a stone's-throw of the R. D. S. premises giving good grounds for such anticipations. Doubtless a record would have been made had not Thursday—the popular day—been ushered in by a most depressing and dreary downpour of rain, which continued unrelentingly until the afternoon was well advanced. A cruel departure was this from Ballsbridge atmospheric traditions, and it sadly curtailed the attendance. Still, in spite of it, no less than just 17,000 persons were admitted. On the other three days the attendance was much larger than the corresponding figures for last year.

While in some of the sections the entries fell a little below the totals registered last year, it was freely conceded that a finer exhibition had never been witnessed, and that every evidence was forthcoming to prove that the claims which the Irish hunter has long had on the admiring attention of horse lovers are becoming stronger as time goes on. The subject of general comment on the displays this year was the rapidly-increasing quality and bloodlike appearance of the average run of the horses. The coarser types are disappearing, and their places being taken by horses that manifest clearly the influence of high-class Thoroughbred sires. The show itself, and others like it, have, of course, encouraged this improvement to a large extent, but, in addition, the scheme of the Department of Agriculture in subsidizing suitable Thoroughbred sires and placing them at the disposal of owners of approved brood mares has had not a little to say to the general improvement which is so noticeable. The advance is naturally most observable in the younger stock; nearly all the exhibits showing grand breeding and substance. Harness horses form a subsidiary feature. As a rule, the Irishman is not particularly sweet on the Hackney, but still a display of well-bred steppers always proves an attraction. In order to show the relative sizes of the different sections, the following summaries may be mentioned: Thoroughbred stallions numbered 26; Thoroughbred yearlings, 77; brood mares, 39; made hunters, 572; young horses suitable for hunters, 339; riding horses, cobs and ponies, 108; harness horses, 155.

As the fountain from which flows the main influence in improving our equine speciality, the Thoroughbred sires aroused special interest. A newcomer had the distinction of winning the championship. This was the very shapely dark bay, Flying Hackle, by Hackler, shown by Mr. P. Cullinan, of Trim, and a sire of grand substance, muscular development and choice quality, that fills the eye well. He is ten years old, and won the aged stallion class. First among the juniors and reserve for the championship was Red Sahib, by Prince II., himself a veteran prizewinner and champion at Ballsbridge on several occasions. His handsome chestnut son, Red Sahib, is now owned by Mr. Robinson, of Surrey, England, who bought him at Dublin Show last year. It is interesting to recall that this symmetrical and powerfully-built sire was selected as the champion hunter-getting stallion at the Olympia International Show in London last June. Some very shapely yearlings were forward: Mr. J. C. O'Sullivan, of Co. Cork, winning for colts for a splendidly-brought-

out bay son of Americus, full of promise, while the leading honor for fillies went to Mrs. O'Callaghan, of Brackenstown, Co. Dublin, for a very stylish and well-balanced chestnut, by General Peace. Thoroughbred mares were led in the championship tussle by Lady Tacitus, a very taking stamp of bay, that has won many prizes; the runner-up being Annagor's Pride, a deep, roomy, well-knit bay, belonging to Mr. R. Geraghty, Kilmessan.

In the hunter section there were fifteen distinct classes involved. The Hunter's champion cup and the Ussher Roberts cup were won in a keen competition by Chatterbox II., an Irish-bred horse, shown by an English exhibitor, Mr. I. Drage, of Northampton. This sprightly chestnut, five years old, won first in his class for middle weights, as the best of which the last-named cup fell to him, and he was an early favorite for the championship. All Gold, another Irish-bred horse, belonging to Mr. Drage, was placed reserve. The Coote cup, which may be described as the heavy weight carrier's trophy, went to Col. Grenfell, of The Curragh, for Sir John, a most comfortable-looking mount, with a splendid frontage and plenty of bone and muscle. The winner of the Pembroke cup for young stock was a big brown three-year-old filly, of great size and substance, generally, for her age. Her owner was Mr. Downes, of Mullingar, Co. Westmeath.

The harness classes were principally supported by cross-channel exhibitors, who brought out some perfectly-mannered teams and handled them in superb fashion.

The usual sheep show was held on the same occasion, but space will not permit any reference to it in this letter, except to say that the fine character and quality of the stock shown betokened a continuance of skill and attention in the management of the flocks represented.

EMERALD ISLE.



MacArle (63981).

Three-year-old Clydesdale stallion. First in Canadian-bred class, Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, 1907. Bred and owned by Geo. Davidson & Sons, Cherrywood, Ontario.

LIVE STOCK.

WILLING TO LET SOME OTHER DUCK TROT.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I have been getting, and am getting, many requests to act as judge at shows, which I always have to refuse, as I determined some time ago to have nothing to do with judging.

In order that I may not be misunderstood, I would like to give the readers of your paper, who are doubtless connected with such business, a little more information than I can give to each personally. I have handled a great deal of stock, and have also shown a great deal, but I have likewise done a great deal of testing of dairy cows, and I know that one cannot tell to any degree of certainty what a cow may do in regard to milk production from looking at her, or by any external examination.

There are some cows that are great producers, and show it externally, but testing proves that there are many cows which look all right externally, but do not make good when it comes to the test. We also know that there are many more cows that are not so much to look at, but when they come to business they make good. Of course,

it may not be practicable to test cows at some of the smaller shows, but then it is very questionable if some of the smaller shows are doing much good, anyway; certainly not if we cannot be sure that the best will win, as, if the awarding of the prizes is to be of any educational value, and the wrong animals are given the prize, the education will be in the wrong direction.

The best thing I can see at several of the shows is the horse-racing part of the business. It is generally called a trial of speed, but why should we be such children, and not call a thing by its proper name? Although it is well known I am not much of a sport, still, with the rest of the crowd, when at a show, I can generally be found where the horses are going. There, at least, we can be sure that the best is winning, and there is Irish enough in me, at least, to enjoy a good contest when the best can win. But that is getting away from the subject, as I only wanted to remark that I am willing to do all I can in any way to assist fellow farmers or dairymen, but I know I can be of no use as a judge of stock. When it comes to that question, I will let some other duck trot.

GEO. RICE.

MATING THE FLOCK.

As the season for mating the ram with breeding ewes of the flock is approaching, a few hints on that subject may be seasonable. Breeders who keep pure-bred flocks, and reckon on showing at the fairs, or selling their ram lambs for breeding purposes, prefer to have their lambs born the latter part of February or early in March. There is little advantage in having them come earlier than March in this country, where they seldom get on the grass before the end of April.

Those who are raising grade sheep, with a view to selling the most of the lambs to the butcher in the fall, will find it more economical to have the lambs come the latter part of April or early in May, as the ewes, in that case, will not require much, if any, grain feeding; while, when lambing is earlier, they must have some grain to keep up their strength and provide sufficient milk for the lambs. If the object is to cater to the butcher's market for extra early lambs, which bring fancy prices, ewes should be bred as early as they will take the ram, which is seldom earlier than the middle of September, except in the case of the Dorset breed,

in which some of the ewes will come in season in almost any month. Generally speaking, the first week in October is early enough to mate the flock, either for pure-bred or grade stock, and as five months is the period of gestation in ewes, the lambs, provided the ram is a tolerably sure breeder, will come early in March. The ewe flock should be weeded before letting the ram with them; that is, any old ewes that have outlived their usefulness, and any with unsound udders or teats, or that have proved inferior breeders, should be culled out and placed in a field by themselves, or with the ewe lambs, where they will get good pasture and gain flesh enough to fit them for sale to the butcher. The tails of the ewes should be trimmed short and clean before turning the ram with them. A ram one year old or over, in field condition, that has not been forced for show purposes, may attend to thirty or forty ewes without any feeding other than the pasture, if it is fairly good. If not, or he is required to attend to more ewes, or if he has been grain fed for showing, he should have a pint or two of oats morning and evening, or at least once a day, and it is a good plan to bring the ewes up to the sheepyard every morning, keeping the ram in a paddock by himself, or, better, with an old ewe or two, and let him try the flock, catching the ewes that show in season, putting them in a pen, to be turned with the ram at intervals of an hour or