

THE HORSE.

One way to save feed is to groom consistently, handle the team carefully and, when idle, make them comfortable.

Take good care of the horses' feet and legs. A little cleaning and drying will prevent a great deal of trouble from scratches and mud fever.

Keep the foal growing. At no time in the life of a horse will it give better returns for the feed consumed than during the first year or two.

Since the enforcement of the Stallion Enrolment Act has been a less contentious matter in Ontario than formerly, the Board are seemingly giving more attention to the science of breeding as well as to the care and treatment of animals. The last report of the Stallion Enrolment Board contains, in addition to the tabulation of dry though necessary figures, some bright features of interest to horsemen generally. One of these illuminating articles has evidently been prepared with immeasurable perseverance for it constitutes an addition to Clydesdale history that could only be compiled at the expense of considerable work and trouble. It is entitled "Breeding of Famous Clydesdale Sires," and traces the breeding and show-ring records back almost to the beginning of Clydesdales in Scotland. More than that, the blood lines are emphasized, and to make the work complete 48 famous winners and sires are illustrated. This and other features of the report are worthy of commendation.

Some Abuses to Which Horses Are Subjected.

As a matter of course, the usefulness and comfort of horses are largely in proportion to the care and attention they receive, as well as to the feed they consume. In many cases carelessness, indifference, or ignorance on the part of the caretaker is responsible for discomforts, consequent impairment of usefulness, and often attacks of illness that could have been prevented without expense, further than a little more care and trouble. For instance, damp stables are uncomfortable and unhealthy. There certainly are stables so situated that there is a tendency to dampness, but, with few exceptions, a little precaution taken to prevent the dampness or water from gaining entrance would be effective. In others, where this cannot be done without considerable expense, some care taken to allow its escape will, at all events, prevent its lodgment on or underneath the floor. It is not an uncommon sight in the spring to observe stables in which there is considerable water, possibly the stall floors are above the water level, but when the horse steps back in the stall, or is taken out, he gets his feet and pasterns wet. This condition vitiates the air and produces foul odors, in addition to inducing cracked heels or scratches, which, in horses kept in such unsanitary conditions, has a tendency to extend upwards and develop into that condition known as "mud fever." Such cases are often noticed where a couple of hours' work with an axe and spade would have made a drain by which the water would have escaped. Of course, conditions of this nature will not occur in the stable of a careful, tidy, man, who considers not only his horses' comfort but his own profit, but, unfortunately, all horse owners are not tidy and considerate.

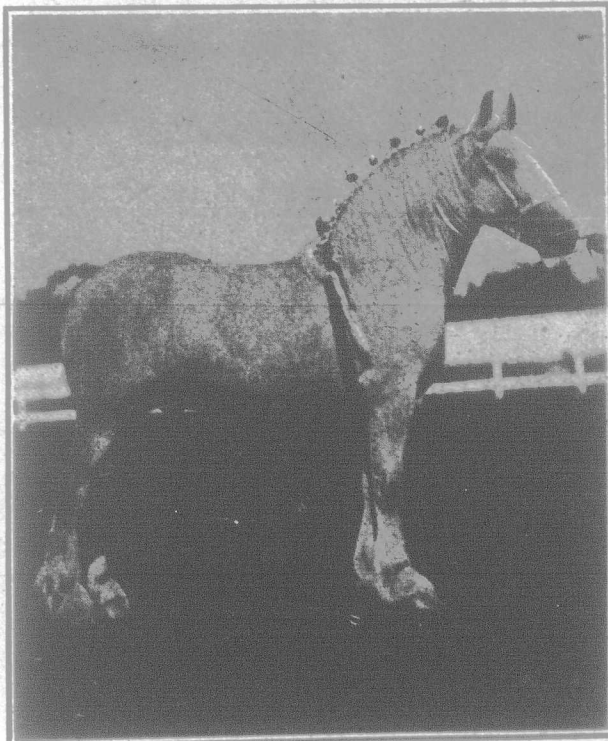
Dampness may come through a faulty roof, where a few shingles would stop the leaks. From whatever source wet or dampness in a stable comes, it should, if possible, be remedied. If this cannot be done and the stable kept dry, new quarters should be provided as soon as possible, as dampness not only renders the horse uncomfortable, but more feed is required to keep him in condition, and it also predisposes him to diseases and in many cases is the direct cause of such.

Another source of discomfort to horses is darkness or semi-darkness. All parts of the stable should be well lighted. In many stables, especially those in basement barns, that were erected several years ago, the ceilings are much too low, and the light for the whole stable comes from one or two small windows behind the horses. The horses, when in their stalls, are facing away from what little light there is, hence may be said to be in practical darkness. This has a tendency to weaken the eyes and render them susceptible to disease, and also lessens the animal's comfort. Where practicable, horses should stand in stables facing the outside wall of the building, and there should be a small window in front of each horse. But in many cases, especially in stables of the kind referred to, this is impracticable. At all events, with little expense, larger and more windows could be put in, which would admit light enough to make a great improvement, even though not introduced directly in front of the horses.

Ventilation, especially in cold weather, is another problem (and one of the hardest to solve) in the average stable. Even in many stables of modern construction, ventilation is not properly provided for. Perfect ventilation consists in the escape of vitiated air as it is formed, and the introduction of a like quantity of

fresh air at the temperature we wish to maintain, say 50 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit. It is practically impossible to devise any system that will do this. In warm weather, when doors and windows may be left open, and a circulation of air thereby caused, we have no trouble; but in cold weather, when the temperature would become too low if the apertures were left open, ventilation is very difficult, or impossible, unless proper arrangements have been made for the exit of foul and the entrance of fresh air. The system of introducing fresh air through pipes that run under-ground for a considerable distance to raise the temperature, and allowing the exit of foul air by a sufficient number of small ducts opening out under the eaves or elsewhere where there is no danger of down draft, is probably the most approved system of ventilation. This, of course, is quite expensive, even when done during the process of building. Poorly ventilated stables are very unhealthy, uncomfortable, and predispose to disease; hence some reasonably satisfactory system should be adopted. When the owner cannot afford, or does not wish to incur the expense of some recognized system, he should devise some method, even though it materially lowers the temperature. Horses will do better, appear better, and feel better in a low temperature with pure air than in a higher temperature, where the air is foul. Clothing will keep the body warm, but nothing makes a satisfactory substitute for pure air.

Horses are probably more neglected in regard to grooming than in any other way. Good grooms are scarce. More horses are under-groomed than under-fed. The horse is naturally a clean animal, and, if by reason of work, unclean quarters or other causes, his coat becomes matted on account of perspiration or dust, he is uncomfortable until well groomed. The teamster who is inclined to be lazy or careless will neglect his team in this respect. He will probably brush or rub the surface of the hair sufficiently to remove the visible signs of dirt, but this is not "good grooming." In order to groom properly it is necessary to give the hair a thorough agitation to reach the skin and thereby remove hidden dirt or dust, else the animal cannot feel comfortable and rest as well as he should. In order that a horse may feel comfortable he should be well groomed



A Young Shire Stallion.
Shown at the fairs this season.

every morning, and if his work during the day has been sufficient to cause perspiration, or of such a nature as will introduce dirt or dust into his coat, the thoughtful and careful teamster will groom again in the evening. A well groomed horse will look better, feel better and do more work on a given quantity of feed than the same horse when grooming is neglected.

Horses, whether working or idle, spend several hours of each twenty-four at rest. In order that he may be comfortable when at rest, whether standing or lying, it is necessary that he be supplied with a liberal supply of clean, dry straw or a suitable substitute, and his stall should be cleaned out regularly, as the accumulation of both solid and liquid excrement to any considerable extent generates heat, gases and foul odors that are not only unpleasant but unhealthy. He will rest better in a comfortable box stall than tied in a single stall, but it is seldom practicable to have a box for each horse.

Careless feeding is responsible for many discomforts and illness. The horse should be fed at regular intervals, and watered (with few exceptions) when thirsty. He should be given only as much feed, either grain or hay, as he will eat at that meal.

There are many little discomforts to which horses are subjected, such as failure to clean the feet out daily, failure to knock snow and ice out of the feet in winter time, failure to keep collars clean and fitting properly, failure to wet a frosted bit before introducing it into the mouth, failure to cover when he is standing exposed to wind and cold, carelessness in allowing him to stand facing a cold wind when it would be little trouble to turn him the other way.

WHIP.

LIVE STOCK.

The sterile cow is a boarder; beef her.

Be a constructive live-stock breeder.

The scrub sire is fast losing his friends.

Entries for the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair close November 17.

Aim high and set to work to bring your herds and flocks up to the high standard.

Dirty mangers and empty water troughs are not conducive to thrifty stock.

Abortion and tuberculosis are two diseases which require the united effort of live-stock men to keep under control.

If the stable has not been whitewashed, plan on doing it the first day that is unfavorable for outdoor work.

The future of the sheep industry is bright enough to warrant an increase in the size of flocks. Now is a good time to buy.

The International Live-Stock Exposition, Chicago, November 29 to December 6, is a show of great educational value to all interested in live stock.

The drive to lower prices has been successful in some lines, but has the consumer benefited proportionately with the reduction to the producer? We think not.

The Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, Guelph, is December 5 to 11, and the Toronto Fat Stock Show December 11 and 12. Plan on attending these excellent live-stock shows.

Prevention of disease is very often easier and is certainly more satisfactory than effecting a cure. Employing veterinarians to so far as possible prevent ailments would be more to the point than seeking their services after the animal had become ill.

Did you notice that it was animals with breed character, type and quality along with the pedigree that topped the recent sale? If at the stock yards you will see that it is the breedy steers that top the market. Breeding and individuality count in the feed lot as well as in the breeder's stable.

The live hog has gained much greater momentum on the price toboggan than has cured hams and bacon or feeds. It is natural that packers will pay as little as possible for live hogs and charge as much as they can for cured meats. When the producer is in a position to control the hog from pen to plate we may secure greater stability of prices.

Don't sacrifice all the young pigs and brood sows. People will want pork next spring, and if the price is high you will not be on good terms with yourself for getting rid of the breeding stock. The man who stays with the game usually comes off best in the end. True the prospects are far from bright just now, but when many stockmen are disposing of their breeding stuff it is generally a pretty good time to increase.

The Patterson Shorthorn Sale.

On October 31, John Patterson, of Ilderton, disposed of his herd of 18 Shorthorns. Mr. Patterson has been breeding to the best sires in the neighborhood for many years, and has always retained the outstanding females in his herd. From this herd many Shorthorns with creditable milk records have been developed, but, as Scotch-bred bulls have of late been used almost exclusively, the herd did not show the same milking qualities that it did a few years ago. The animals were only in field condition, which was one reason why the prices were low. However, what was Mr. Patterson's loss was the purchasers' gain. There were eighteen animals sold, but over half of them were calves and yearlings. Practically all the stock was purchased by local breeders. Calves three and four months of age sold well up toward the \$100 mark. The following is a list of the animals selling for \$100 and over, together with the names and addresses of the purchasers:

Sittyton Hero, Wm. Sadler, Lucan.....	\$112
Norma Blossom, C. Grieve, Denfield.....	105
Rosie, J. Heard, Ilderton.....	190
Rose Lady, Geo. Carter, Ilderton.....	180
Carnation 6th, Geo. Carter.....	180
Sweet Blossom, Geo. Stevenson, Maple Lodge.....	205
Rosemary, B. Kennedy, Ilderton.....	175
Rosie Teck, S. Tummons, Komoka.....	170
Carnation 4th, J. Heard.....	190
Red Rose, J. Heard.....	144