

matter how well posted the buyer is, and he should at least get a little consideration for taking the chance. Every man buying stocker and feeder cattle this fall should know before he buys just how much of the feed necessary he must purchase at market prices. To him who has the best assorted lot of rough feeds grown on his place is the best chance of making feeding pay this winter. Good silage, roots and clover hay should be made to pay well during the coming season, and they should be made the major portion of the feed. Some grain is necessary, but a limited amount used in conjunction with the other feeds may be consumed to better advantage than where the old-fashioned plan of heavy grain feeding is resorted to. Concentrates are too high priced, and cattle are held at too high a rate to permit of anything but the most careful use of these feeds. The feeder's proposition this winter is an interesting one, and one severe enough to test the ability of the most tactful and experienced cattlemen. The man with the most experience, the most rough feed and the best judgment will win.

## THE HORSE.

Cold, bleak nights are hard on a horse's coat and flesh. They will do much better in a comfortable stable well bedded.

Roots will soon be harvested. One or two each day will make stable conditions more like the summer months on the grass.

The Servians use oxen to move their ammunition, ambulance and food vans. Meals might be served more punctually if horses were employed in this department of the commissariat.

Now that the fall fairs are practically over every one knows who has the best horse in the community. Any one who did not exhibit has no right to claim superiority for his stock. It was his duty to take the animals out and prove his statement.

The mare nursing a fall colt should receive extra attention. June with its abundance of grass and succulent food is the natural season for foals to be born, so the breeder should remember this and make fall conditions as near like them as possible.

### Forcing Foals.

The futurity premiums given at many large exhibitions have resulted in the bringing out of some very commendable line-ups of yearlings, especially in draft classes. Their object, as is well known, is to encourage the feeding of draft foals and developing them when they should grow. It has been ascertained that a foal will acquire about half his mature weight during the first year, and when systematically fed it is not impossible to have them attain a weight of from 1,000 to 1,200 pounds in the first three hundred and sixty-five days. These foals developed at an early age are usually the class that bring the highest market price when sold in the mature stage, and it is good policy indeed to develop them at that time.

At the Wisconsin Experiment Station eleven foals were fed on a mixture containing 60 per cent. ground oats, 15 per cent. corn meal; 10 per cent. bran, and 15 per cent. cut alfalfa hay. They were given all they would, clean up of this mixture, and they consumed on the average 16.5 pounds per day. At the beginning of the first trial uncut alfalfa hay was offered in addition, but the foals ate very little. With this method of feeding it was found that the foals would reach the weights of 1,000 to 1,200 pounds at the age of one year. The feeding periods ranged from 140 to 223 days, and the foals made gains averaging 2.1 pounds per day, at an average daily feed cost of 18 cents. The estimate average cost of feed for the foals for the entire first year was placed at \$51.66. The comment of the Station is, that such a system of feeding cannot be recommended for poor foals of inferior breeding, but it is believed that it will pay to force pure-bred or good, grade draft foals on a ration similar to the one mentioned.

Too many foals are fed on the waiting principle, their owner thinks that in due time they will develop to proper size and strength, but in many cases one year's time has been lost in this unsystematic way of growing colts, for with a little extra feed and care they will develop much more quickly at first, and when sold in the mature stage will bring a higher price on any market.

### What Horse Will the Future Demand?

In our issue of October 1st, our English correspondent says, "We must breed more hunters. It's so easily done. A Thoroughbred stallion used on a light-legged, farming mare, and there you are." This advice may be applicable in Britain, but the general run of farm mares in this country are not the kind that will rear a good hunter or a good cavalry horse. Where most farmers find it advantageous to have heavy horses there is, of course, no logic in breeding to Thoroughbred stallions. Furthermore, when cavalry horses were being picked up in this country at a price ranging from \$125 to \$175, draft horses were moving at from \$225 to \$300. A poor hunter is not much use in this country, but an off-grade draft horse will always sell for something.

Fifty-nine leading British hunts have contributed 7,774 hunters to the war office. In an extremely materialistic country like Canada we cannot expect in the immediate future to have such thoroughly organized institutions established as hunts that will be ready in time of war to contribute a large number of horses for that purpose, for Canadians find little time for such recreation, and in view of this fact there seems little use for hunter-bred horses during times of peace. In addition to this it is hoped by the greater number of liberal thinkers that a successful culmination of this war, from a British viewpoint, may result in a partial or total disarmament in which case the demand for cavalry and artillery horses would be very much lessened.

Canadians are as patriotic as any, but they will show their patriotism in some other way. Feedstuffs or wheat grown on farms tilled by heavy horses will be appreciated at any time, and the farmer can better afford to donate a portion

horse and will be more useful to the farmers, but from his view point if the Government desires hunting horses or remounts bred in Canada there should be some means of supplying work for them, or some way of keeping them during times of peace, for the farmers generally cannot afford to breed this type of horse.

Not many months ago mention was made in these columns of the need of remounts for British and European cavalries, but now that the bomb has burst and the need of such a horse, decreased breeding should be done in such a way as to give the required amount of light horses without depending upon war to furnish a market.

## LIVE STOCK.

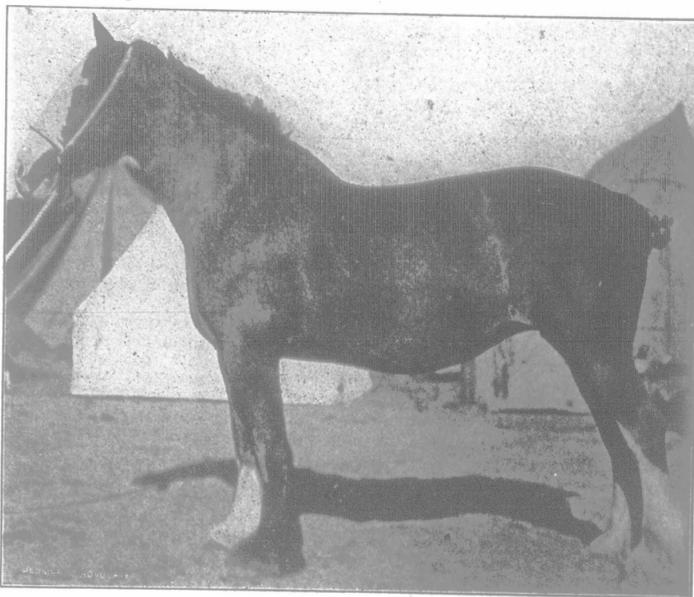
### How to Select and Care for Sheep.

A valuable series of bulletins, by T. Reg. Arkell, has just been issued by the Live Stock Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture. They contain some good advice for sheep breeders and beginners with sheep, and we reproduce some of it for the benefit of our readers. There is a good time ahead in the sheep-breeding business in Canada, and thousands more of our farms should be carrying a small flock of sheep. If already in the business or about to start a small flock read the following:

Many men think that, after they have spent a few months in learning the theory of sheep husbandry, they are capable of pursuing practical management with an assurance of easy success. They have possibly learned the symptoms of diseases with their remedies and in detail scientific management, but exigencies always arise for which they are unprepared and which probably, when studying the subject, they did not deem worthy of their consideration. It is strict attention to the little things in sheep raising that so generally leads to a great success. No one should enter extensively into the business without having had a thorough practical experience. Otherwise it is best for him to commence in a smaller fashion. As his flock increases in size so will his experience, and he will learn for himself the proper methods to apply to every condition that may arise.

Too many beginners display an over-confidence in their prowess and knowledge of the sheep business. This makes them a prey to the salesman who sees no need of correcting mistakes that the beginner may make in the purchase of his breeding stock. Most generally this class of novice wishes to make personal selection of the animals, and, if his ideals respecting type are somewhat astray, as is by no means infrequently the case, he gets in his flock many sheep which he would be better without. Had he been sensibly disposed and confessed his ignorance of many points of breed type, the salesman, unless he were most unscrupulous, would have aided him in choosing animals that would prove valuable to him. Few breeders who have any sort of reputation at all to sustain will take a rank advantage of a man who ingenuously leaves the selection of his purchase with them. In fact, many breeders state that they much prefer a buyer to make a personal choice than sell by description through the mail, since in the latter case they feel compelled, in order to uphold their honesty and trustworthiness, to send a better animal than the price really calls for. With personal selection the seller's liability is limited, since he does not feel himself responsible for what the purchaser does.

Choice of breed is the first difficulty that besets the beginner. The common question with those entering the sheep business is: What is the best breed? To that the only answer that can be given is that all breeds are good when adapted to the conditions under which they will be subjected in the district where the beginner's farm or ranch is located, and meet local market requirements. The selection of breed also depends largely upon the individual taste of the shepherd, and the object he has in view in raising them. In Canada success can be attained with any of the popular breeds produced here, but no person should ever commence raising a breed for which he knows he cannot obtain



Royalette.

Clydesdale brood mare; winner of her class at Toronto, and champion female at London, 1914. Owned by W. W. Hogg, Thamesford, Ont.

of a crop rather than breed a type of horse that will be useless to him. Our English correspondent's words were not directed towards breeders of this country for the situation is different in England, but it is considered by some that there should always be a reasonable percentage of saddle horses in Canada. This is true enough, for there is always a place and use for that class of horses. They should be used more and many farmers would enjoy a good ride if they had a good horse, but in the spring of the year or in the fall when horses are needed, the light-limbed, slender-middled horse is not the kind to hitch to a seeder or a gang plow. A general-purpose horse nicks in better in farm economics, and it is that class which should be bred rather than the Thoroughbred cross. Thoroughbred blood is not out of place in any horse, but it is hardly advisable to introduce it into the pure-bred draft breeds, yet where farmers have what may be termed general-purpose mares crossing them with a good Thoroughbred stallion will often result in a very useful horse. A survey of the different remounts of European cavalries shows a different type of horse used by each Nation. There is a coachy, Hackney look about the French cavalry horse, while the Germans are mounted on an animal that shows considerable Thoroughbred character. The Russian mount resembles the Orloff type mixed with other trotting blood, but on the whole the Hackney has figured more in the mounting of soldiers than is generally considered. Some Hackney blood mixed with the Thoroughbred will tend more toward the general-purpose