

Pure-bred Sires Best.

In regard to the proposed lien and license act, those opposed to the act seem to be having the most to say. I do not favor a lien act, as I think the present law sufficient to protect stallion owners along that line, but I do think it would be a good thing for the horse-breeding industry of this Province to put a heavy license on all stallions not eligible for registration, or else enact that no service fee shall be collected for any but registered stallions. If we are to get the best results in breeding, be it with horses, cattle, sheep or swine, we must use the pure-bred sire. The history of our live stock and our past experience has proved this. Of course, there may be a few exceptions where a good grade male may get better stock than an inferior pure-bred, but he will seldom get as good stock as a good pure-bred.

A great many say, "Why not let us breed to what horse we want?" The farmers of Ontario are intelligent enough to know what they should breed to, without the Government dictating to them." Now, if we were to judge the intelligence of some of our farmers by the horses they breed, they would certainly be on a very low plane. They may know what they want, but the scarcity of good horses, and the number of inferior ones placed on the market, indicate that they do not know what is best for their pockets or the horse industry of this country.

Now, I think that the man who spends his time and money, either to import or breed pure-bred stock, should be protected. Every other industry is protected by the Government, and why not the live-stock industry?

Can we estimate what these breeders and importers are worth to Canada? What would be the quality of our stock at the present time had it not been for the enterprise of these men who have braved an ocean voyage and spent money—and we all know how many good men lost all they had? What kind of horse would the grade stallion be, were it not for the horses these men imported?

Has the pure-bred sire improved the stock of our country? No one can but admit that he has. The proud reputation which Canadian stock bears to-day has been due to the imported pure-bred sires. Take the horses at our leading exhibitions, and how many come into the ring but pure-breds or those by pure-bred sires. I think we should be safe in saying less than one per cent.

Now, how many good, prepotent, non-registered sires do we know of. I think I am safe in saying, not one in ten. Now, wouldn't it be better to sacrifice this one horse for the sake of getting rid of the other nine which do not raise the standard of our horses, but most of which lower it?

A great many say that the importers import scrub horses. How can they afford to bring out the best when they have to compete with scrub horses travelling the road, charging a service fee of five, seven or eight dollars?

Prices for all farm produce have gone up, the prices of horses have gone up, yet in many parts of Ontario the old service fee of \$10 to insure still remains, though the cost of travelling a horse for the season is double what it was ten years ago. Let the stallion owners raise the service fee to \$15, and better stallions will be imported; but on the other hand, let the farmers demand that these horses be limited to serve, at the most, seventy-five mares each. I know of horses that have served from 150 to 180 mares in a season, and travelled from eight to twelve miles a day. How in the name of common sense can their owners expect these horses to leave a large per cent. of foals with such treatment, and is it any wonder that the foals from such a stallion are little better than those from a scrub?

I am not a stallion owner, but I am interested in the development of our live-stock industry, so would urge, let us breed from nothing but good, sound, registered stallions, give the stallion owners a living service fee, and require them to limit the service of their horses to 75 mares, and the reputation of Ontario horses will then be known far and wide. S. G. CARLYLE, Dundas Co., Ont.

Stallion Service for a Song.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

When the act regarding a license fee for stallions passes, I hope it will be made to apply in the districts as well as in the older parts of Ontario. I had hoped that all registered horses would be exempt, and a much higher fee put on all scrub horses. We have in this neighborhood three scrub horses. The one of these three that serves the most mares is bred from a big Shire mare and a small Standard-bred horse. His service fee is \$4 if it is a good colt, or nothing if it is not a good colt. I am not a farmer, but am interested in horses. N. E. W., Algoma District, Ont.

An International Horse Show.

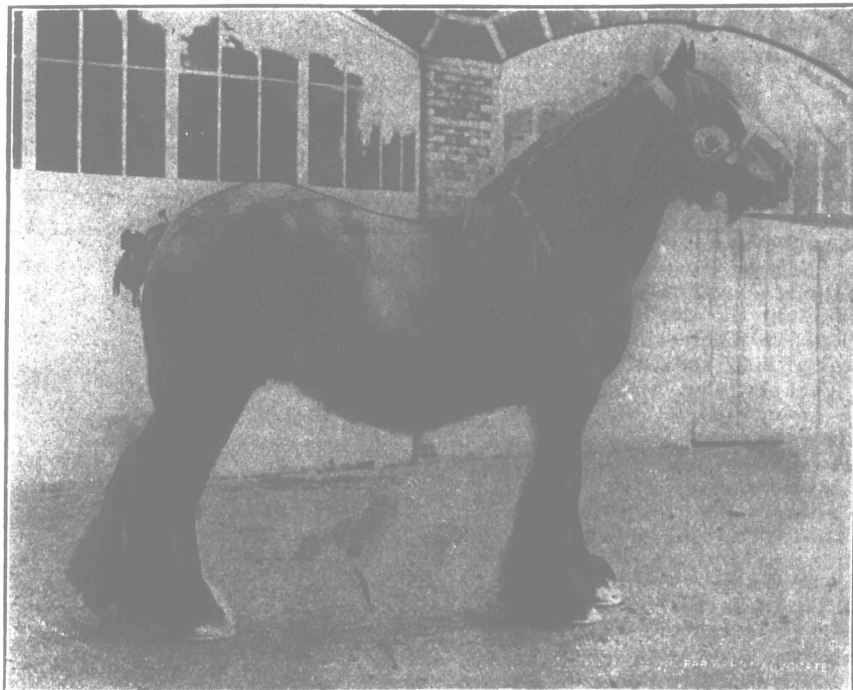
Mr. Alfred G. Vanderbilt and Mr. R. P. McGrann, of New York, have gone as special representatives of the American directors and committee of a new International Horse Show, to be held in London, Eng., next June. They will confer with the English and Continental representatives upon the classifications for exhibits, and arrange other details for the issuance of prize-lists, returning to New York in about three weeks.

During the National Horse Show in Madison Square Garden last November, a Committee representing the English Directors presented their credentials and prospectuses for the show, and, a meeting having been called, the following American and Canadian directors were selected:

AMERICAN AND CANADIAN DIRECTORS.

Clarence H. Mackay, New York; Alfred G. Vanderbilt, New York; E. T. Stotesbury, Philadelphia; Hon. Adam Beck, London, Ont.; Sir H. Montagu Allan, Montreal; George W. Beardmore, M. F. H., Toronto Ont.

These gentlemen and others subscribed to \$25,000 of the \$100,000 stock issued by the Association in England, and since that time Messrs. Vanderbilt and McGrann have been stirring themselves to enlist the co-operation of American exhibitors. They believe that the show will afford an opportunity for introducing the American and Canadian heavy-harness, light-harness and saddle horses, as well as American and Canadian hunters and jumpers. The opportunity, they further believe, will serve to open a large field for the sale of American horses, not only in England, but throughout the Continent of Europe.



Shire filly Wintering Out of Doors.

Naming Horses.

Mr. T. C. Patterson, Postmaster, of Toronto, has recently published an interesting article on the nomenclature of Thoroughbreds, in which he says: "Students of pedigree who have had to wrestle with the two Champions of the English Studbook, the two Chesterfields, two Clarissas, two Inos, and other cases, as well as with the innumerable repetitions of early American breeders—Diamonds and Diomedes galore, with the prefixes Young and Old ceasing to be a distinction—will hold up both hands for the abolition of any and all duplications."

It is a very usual thing when a horse bears a name which is a synonym for that borne by his sire, to read of 'the well-named son of So-and-So' in the words of the gushing reporter. But a horse is not well named unless a suggestion of both parents is offered and a clew given which is of vast assistance in future research and even in present mention. In many instances it takes a lot of time to find such a name, and, after much anxious brain-twisting, reference to the studbook only shows that somebody else has taken that name, and, very generally, has misappropriated it; that is to say, no sort of connection exists between the names of the parents and the name that you so fondly thought was just the very one to meet your own case. To take an example. A youngster, destined to be a very famous one in Canadian racing, was born to the marriage of Marauder and Bonnie Ino. Mr. Seagram, owner of the leading stable in the Dominion, and a gentleman who rightly insists on his horses bearing appropriate names, sent down to New York the name of Maraschino. The registrar said it was a duplicate, and, time being up, called the unfortunate mare Bon Ino, involving what the grammarians term a false concord, and an empty nothingness as well. She won the King's Plate, and is therefore for all time in the forefront of

Canadian turf history. She had a better-named son—Inferno—who also won the Plate, and is by Havoc, his name containing the 'ino,' while indicating the state of things Dante's great work pictures in the nether regions. Canadians, in fact, have set a good example in this line to Americans.

The late Mr. Hendrie called a colt by Imp. Derwentwater, out of Lamplighter's sister, Spark, 'Firewater.'

Mr. Adam Beck has given the name 'Photographer' to a colt by Imp. Phaeton, from Snapshot. This belongs to the 'obvious' class of names, and it is amazing that it had remained at Mr. Beck's disposal. The clew to parentage may be given by alliteration, association, or application. Photographer covers the whole field of vision, and it is to be hoped he may stand out as pre-eminent on the course as he does in the register.

Mr. Robert Davies, another Canadian breeder, named a colt by Imp. Farthing, from King Ernest's daughter Thistle, 'Farmer's Foe,' and about the same time Mr. Seagram chose 'Far Rockaway' for a colt by Faraday—Slipaway. This year he named the Watercress—Baby colt 'Babbling Brook.' The obvious has acknowledged advantage over what may be called the far-fetched derivative, but is not always available. Recourse must then be had to association. Colt by Imp. Morpheus (God of Dreams and Sleep), out of Homelike, becomes, under Mr. Seagram's winter meditation, 'Cosy Corner.' Another, by Havoc, out of the same Homelike, is known by the hunting-cry of 'Have-a-Care.' St. Blaise is a witness that some little playfulness is permissible in such matters, as

when the president of the Ontario Jockey Club called a son of Egmont and Bonnie Ino 'Ego Nosco,' though neither the dead nor foreign languages should be employed except in the last extremity. What the ring will make of it, should be an ever-present consideration. They made Chat-and-no-go out of the roarer, Chattanooga, and Abscess-of-the-jaw, out of Lord Randolph's Oaks winner, L'Abbe de Jouarre. Barcardine, inappropriately named after an old place near Oban, N. B., and known in Argyleshire as Bar-cauldin, in the mouths of the bookies soon had the accent thrown back to the first syllable, and it is no outrage on euphony.

Instances of happy nomenclature in England are more numerous than in America, the educated classes there furnishing as yet a more numerous contingent to the turf, but barring Persimmon and

St. Blaise, it is six and thirty years since the name of a Derby winner gave a clue to his parents, though Common comes near it.

How was the ridiculously-named Volodyvoski bred? Prior to Kingcraft's day the proper principle had not been recognized. Americans have named well-known mares Semper Idem, Semper Paratus and Beatus, while the offensively neuter name of Nasturtium was given to the excessively masculine son of Watercress and Margerique. Saragossa was decidedly an improper name for a colt. To match these anomalies, the feminine name Cyllene has been given to one of England's proudest stallions, to perpetuate, I suppose, the error of calling his sire Bona Vista.

A meaningless compound of the first syllable of the sire's name with the last syllable of the dam's, is, to my mind—but tastes may differ—the most objectionable of all ways of meeting the difficulty.

"I sat next to a titled English lady the other night at a dinner, who seemed to have a pretty wit in turf nomenclature, and was addicted to naming the horses of her racing friends. She told me that just before leaving home she had christened a colt, by Wise Man, out of Acceptable, 'Wise Child.' She then paused, expectant. I caught on—then I caught my breath, and blushed as I murmured, 'very good, indeed.'

Perhaps the farthest-fetched derivative name for a colt was Bad Potato, given to a son of Badsworth and Beehive. Give it up? Well, eventually the etymology was explained. A beehive is a bee-holder. A beholder is a spectator. A specked 'tater is a bad 'tater. See? The bad was legitimate, and the rest bad enough. Poverty of thought and imagination is responsible for the dearth of good names, but indolence and indifference have a good deal to do with it.

It must have taken some thought—or perhaps it was a timely inspiration—to fit the name