

HORSE

Jas. Weir, Sandelands, Scotland, is judging Clydesdales this week at Toronto Exhibition.

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J. B. Haggin, one of America's largest patrons of the turf, has sent 88 thoroughbreds, valued at \$500,000, to the Argentine. The steamer is fitted up with a track on deck to exercise the horses in calm weather.

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The famous trotting mare, Sweet Marie, 2.02 is not making very fast time this year. Recently she was easily beaten in 2.10½ and 2.11½. A while ago there was some talk of training her to trot under saddle and of using her to break the world's record of 2.14½, but it is doubtful now if she could do that well.

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During the dry season of the fall is the time when the feet of young horses should receive especial care. The sole should be kept flat and level, and the horn no longer than a level with the frog. If there is one place where Canadian bred horses fail to come up to imported stock, it is in the shape of their feet and this can generally be overcome by a little personal attention.

while not much relished by stock, keeps fresh and green in late summer. It might be well to plow the sod about two inches deep after it has lain a few years. This would freshen the grass.

A lot of first class feed can be taken from a seeding of alfalfa and the crop is practically permanent. Alfalfa should not be pastured though, but if a plot is sown near the stables, early hay can be cut, and there is no better yielder, nor a fodder more relished by stock. The seed should be sown in the spring, on well prepared land, without any nurse crop, and at the rate of about fifteen to twenty pounds to the acre.

What About Fall Foals?

A correspondent in Northern Alberta asks if we would advise him to breed his mares to foal in the fall.

This system would appear to work out well enough on paper, but the fact that it has not been generally adopted in practice by experienced horse-breeders may possibly be accounted for by good reasons, which it would be of interest to have published, though it has probably not been given sufficient trial to settle the question of its suitability to the conditions of this country. While it is probably true that mares generally come in heat more regularly in the spring and early summer than at other times, it is also true that many stallions are unreasonably overworked during the short season adopted, and that for some cause or

Sweeny and Contracted Feet

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

"Would you kindly suggest how sweeny and contracted foot should be treated?"

I. T. S.

The treatment for sweeny is blistering; keep the animal in the stable while the blister is operating, but put him to light work on level ground as soon as the blister is washed off. Repeat the blistering every three weeks for three times. Use a blistering ointment of cantharides 2 drams, lard 1½ ounces; mix well. Clip off the hair over the shrunken muscle, and well rub in the ointment for fifteen minutes, tie his head so that he cannot lie down, or reach the blistered part, in forty-eight hours wash off with warm water, smear with vaseline or fresh lard or tallow every three days.

For contracted foot first remove the shoe, if the heels are high cut them down as much as possible so as to bring the frog in contact with the ground, and so give frog pressure which will assist in expanding the foot. This may not be fully accomplished the first time, so at each subsequent shoeing the heels must be pared down until the frog carries an equal weight with the other parts of the foot. The best shoe for a contracted foot (provided the hoof is strong enough) is a tip or half shoe which is embedded in the wall around the toe and terminating a little behind the quarters. The shoe must be let into the wall so that its ground surface is on a level with the ground surface of the wall of the heels. The shoe is made from a narrow piece of steel not wider than the thickness of the wall of the hoof. Keep the foot very moist by soaking in water, or still better give the horse a run in a wet pasture. Sometimes a mild blister around the head of the hoof has a very beneficial effect by stimulating the growth of horn.

The Professional Veterinarian

The enactment of laws calling for more vigorous inspection of food products, meats particularly, has opened up a larger and ever widening field for trained veterinarians. The profession in years gone by, sometimes and in some places, has not offered any too lucrative a field. Out here few men have gained riches following the practice of veterinary medicine. Some have gained a comfortable livelihood, all have been more or less successful, the degree varying with the skill of the practitioner, but horses and live-stock of all kinds in this country do not require the same amount of treatment as they do in the older parts of the country, in the east or in the old land.

The veterinary profession for all this is prospering. It is getting past the pioneering stage, and nobody, according to Carnegie, ever gets rich pioneering. An increasing agricultural population benefits the veterinary practitioner in several ways. There is a larger call on his services due to increasing numbers of animals to be treated, a tendency on the part of stock owners to avail themselves more of professional advice, and to rely less on home remedies in the treatment of the common ailments and injuries of their animals, as well as a more valuable class of stock in the country which calls, of course, for more careful attention to health and more skilled treatment of animal diseases.

But the veterinary profession will broaden most in the new field which recent legislation is only opening the door to. The public is beginning to concern itself a lot more than it formerly did as to the health of the animals that supplies it with two great staple food products, meat and milk. There is every indication in the temper of the public mind at the present moment that larger and more sweeping measures dealing with the health of animals and the inspection of meat products will be demanded. What has already been done is only a beginning. Medical science through its related branch, bacteriology, is blazing the way, is tracing back a good many diseases of the human family to first causes and establishing the relationship of human to animal diseases.

All over the world at the present time there is an awakening to the advantage of raising the standard of the veterinary profession. In this country we have two veterinary colleges that have sent out more graduates to practice successfully than any other two on the continent. In both the requirements for graduation are high, in one in particular, the work has been recently much broadened. And the same policy is being pursued in Great Britain and the United States. The veterinarian is rapidly creating for himself a high place among the learned professions and within the next quarter of a century will occupy a much larger place there than now. The public is enlarging its ideas on some matters close to the veterinarian's field and the more it does, the larger will become his usefulness, the higher the standards of the profession.



AGED CLYDESDALE STALLIONS AT WINNIPEG EXHIBITION.
Prince of the East, Lord Ardwell, Bredalbane.

Fodder and Pasture for Horses

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

1. What is best to sow in the spring to be cut same season for hay for horses, and what do you recommend as a permanent pasture for both horses and cattle in Central Saskatchewan?

T. T. S.

Judging from the practice of a large number of farmers, oats is the most suitable fodder to take the place of hay. Many farmers grow no other fodder than oat sheaves cut somewhat green, and horses relish it immensely. We are not certain, however, that oats alone is the most valuable of fodders, we imagine if a few peas were sown with the oats the fodder would have a variety, and be more fattening. Some people also sow a little wheat with the oats, while others in Alberta, for instance, get a growth of western rye grass by sowing oats on rye grass sod. But for Central Saskatchewan there is probably nothing better than oats with a slight mixture of some other grain.

As a permanent pasture a start might be made with a mixture of timothy, brome, rye grass, and blue grass mixed according to weight, with the two former a little more liberally used, and sown at the rate of from fifteen to twenty pounds to the acre depending upon the soil. Moist soils, of course will germinate more seed than coarse dry clays. After a time it is probable the brome and blue grass will crowd out the other grasses and after a few seasons it might be well to sow a little white clover seed. The white clover,

other, a lamentably large proportion of the foals born in the spring die young, and it would appear to be worth while to experiment, to at least a limited extent, in breeding for fall foals, especially in the case of mares which have failed to conceive in the summer season.

When we consider the large number of mares bred to some stallions during the two or three months of the regular season, the fact that a large proportion of them return several times, and that an unreasonable number of services are in many cases required in a day, there is little wonder that so many blanks occur in the breeding list, so many mares failing to conceive. And for this reason it would appear to be desirable that the breeding season should be extended. It is generally conceded that the health of the mare and of the foal she carries is conserved by her being kept at work during the period of gestation. By breeding her for foaling in the fall, she could be worked through most of the year, and, being on pasture at night in summer, would receive ample exercise during the period when it is most required for the welfare of the foal. The foal, if born in October, November or December, would be old enough to wean before the mare was required for work on the land in spring, and the weanling youngster would be able to find for itself on pasture.

Will breeders who have made the experiment give readers of THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE the benefit of a record of their experience, whether favorable or otherwise, with the reasons why? And will others give their opinions upon the question for publication?