

follow that they are hereditary. In my short experience, I have known of a mare with four ringbones, two spavins and two curbs, being bred year after year, and to a different horse almost every year, and never dropping an unsound colt, and all with speed.

I could go on enumerating horse after horse of show-ring quality, with pedigree to the king's taste, and whose get were a curse to the country, some of them hardly worth the service fee. Now, what use would the license fee or inspection be in a case of this kind? And there are many such.

In my own case, I have a weanling as well bred as any man's from a Canadian standpoint, but he is not eligible for registration; at the same time a good individual and prospect. Why should I be deprived of keeping him for stud purposes if I so desire, and why should my neighbor, who knows exactly how he is bred, be kept from breeding to him and forced to breed to something that he knows not of, simply because some importer says he is so and so, produces a pedigree, and if the pedigree and horse were closely inspected, even the teeth and the pedigree might differ materially. Then, again, does it not often occur that where a mare produces an exceptionally good one that thereafter nearly all her get are horse colts. How is it?

In conclusion, I wish to say that I am thoroughly convinced that if the Government of the day had taken the money which this Commission has cost and distributed it among the agricultural societies in the shape of prize money for good stallions, more good would have been accomplished. Some of the appointments (Commission) remind me very much of an appointment made by the late Government of fruit-growers to teach the farmers how to raise hogs. If the present administration are looking for trouble, they are going about it in a good way.

A CANDID FRIEND.

Wentworth Co., Ont.

[Note.—What do our importers say to this?—Editor.]

License Act of Some Value, Lien Unnecessary.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I am of the opinion that a Government inspection and a nominal license fee, not to exceed \$20.00, every two years, would be a good thing. The requirements should be that every stallion should have a registered certificate in one of our Canadian Studbooks of the breed he belongs to, if he is kept for breeding purposes, whether he travels or stands at owner's stable. No inferior or non-registered stallion should get a license, as our country is overrun with them, and some are mere rubbish, and there are few very good ones in the lot. Their service fees range from \$4 to \$6 for a foal, and we find many farmers patronizing those horses because they come to their stables and the service fee is small. They tell you their mare is not good enough to go to a pure-bred horse and have to pay ten or twelve dollars for a foal. But I have no doubt but some of these men, if they had to take their mares away from home, would likely breed to a pure-bred stallion, and no doubt would improve their horses; and a law of this nature would be a mutual benefit to owners of pure-bred stallions and to parties breeding to them. In a few years there would be a vast improvement in our horses.

As for the lien act, I think it is unnecessary in our country, as the percentage lost in that way is very small. I have handled from one to three stallions every season for thirty years, and know whereof I speak.

I would suggest that one-half or two-thirds of the money collected for licenses would be given to agricultural society shows held in the county or township, to be given in prizes for pure-bred stallions and mares. There would be \$300 or \$400 collected in this section for licenses. I hope to hear the opinions of other horsemen on this very important subject.

Glengarry, Ont.

J. J. ANDERSON.

Halter-pulling Cure.

I saw a question asked about halter pullers in "The Farmer's Advocate," with which I have had some experience. Take a rope and put it around the horse's girth, between the front legs and through the halter head to keep it from under his feet; tie to the manger and let him pull. It will not last long. It has been a sure cure with me and many others hereabouts. I tried the plow-line; it was a cure, but it left the horse with a sore tail and was a lot of bother, but the one around the middle is simple and conquers every time, and the horse doesn't know what does it.

AMATEUR.

The stallioner has troubles of his own. Try to make them lighter by having the service fee ready for him when he happens around about the first of the year.

Strongly Favors License Law.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I read an article over the signature of Mr. Edwatd H. De Gex in your valuable paper of Nov. 22nd. As I am interested in the horse business, I, for another, would like to see a general discussion of both farmers and horsemen, as I think it would be helpful to the Government in coming to a wise conclusion as to what would be the best method to improve the horse-breeding industry of the country. I think there are too many of our Canadian farmers who part with their good mares and do too much cross-breeding. I also think there ought to be an inspection, a lien and license act, and that all horses considered unworthy or unsuitable for service be prohibited from collecting fees, the Government to pay the inspectors, and the license to cost a nominal fee of five or ten dollars; this money collected for license to be given to the Agricultural Society of the district or township, the Society or the Government to duplicate the amount and give it as first and second prizes to the best stallion and five of his progeny in each township or county, and to be changed around and given to the different societies, one each year. In this way the money collected for license would go back to the farmers and stallion owners, and induce them to breed and keep the good ones. Mr. De Gex says he has owned stallions for the last sixteen years, and thinks the fee should not exceed \$10. I would like to hear from this gentleman again, telling us his scheme and how much money he had made with his \$10 horse. I would like to know how to make some money in the horse business at a \$10 fee. We will put the cost of the stallion, keeping and travelling, and all other expenses, at the very lowest rate, and see how he will come out with his \$10 horse. In

all, and would also make the farmers return them regularly, as it is by the old, inferior mares and the ones that are not returned regularly that the stallion owner suffers the most loss. If the stallion owner was sure of a fee of this kind, it would encourage him to buy the good horse and keep him. In conclusion, I would say that I would like to see the Government go still farther—prohibiting the use of unregistered bulls, rams and boars, or for collecting any fee for unregistered sires of any kind. I have been in the auction business, and a close observer, for the last fifteen years, and I have always found that where one had well-bred horses, good cattle and good sheep or hogs to sell, it was like getting money from home, as you can always find buyers for well-bred stock. I also would like to hear the views of other horsemen and farmers who can find time to write.

J. A. MYLES.

Grey Co., Ont.

Misdirected Effort.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Being somewhat interested in the discussion on the projected scheme re lien and license act on stallions, I was quite pleased to hear from our friend in the issue of Nov. 22nd. I quite agree with him, as I don't think licensing is quite necessary in our locality, either. But I might add a little to it. In the first place, I was struck by the rapidity with which those officiating horsemen travelled through the country in their visiting tour. Secondly, if such law comes into force, who is to inspect those horses? As a rule, we have men in every locality who know a horse as well as some of those experts, and a horse doesn't go very far before he is well criticised. Again, we have to work within our means, and

I think putting on a \$25 license fee would be quite out of reason. Counting all the horses do, we are paying enough now. Those who want the good horses will get them, and get their pedigrees, too. Those who want cheaper ones, should have a perfect right to do so. Every man who expects to breed successfully should be able to select a sire to suit his own particular scheme. If our Government would give us uniform width and wider gauge for our sleighs, as I understand has been attempted twice, it would be more to the purpose. As it is now, we can scarcely manage two draft horses as a team, but in some cases we have to put in a pony if the snow is any depth, and we are deprived from using a good team. And for the summer, give us a solid protection from autos. I think then we could attend to the rest

of the business very nicely. J. F. DAVIDSON.

Huron Co., Ont.

Even if the colts have had heavy-draft parents, they cannot develop into 1600-pound horses if left to rough it on straw and water.

It's impossible to develop a colt in two directions. You cannot make him a "tough" horse and a ton horse at the same time. It requires different systems of feeding.

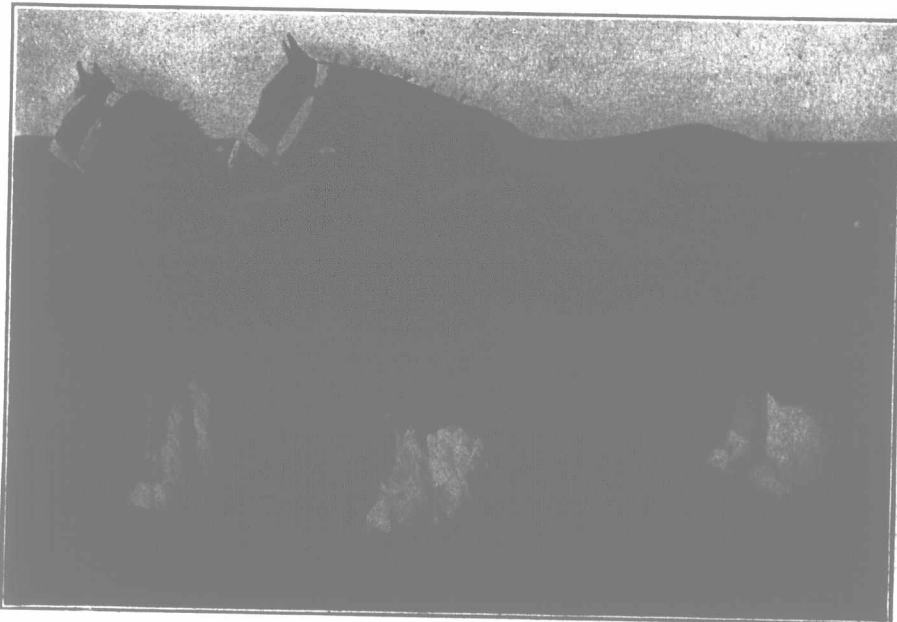
It requires considerable discrimination to decide where the line falls between judicious outdoor exercise for colts and injurious exposure to cold and hunger.

After horses have had their growth they can endure much more cold and roughing without injury than can a growing colt.

Exercising and liberal feeding of brood mares now means healthy, active foals in the spring. Don't make the mistake of giving the mare too much kindness.

A Whole Year's Pleasure.

If you want to do some friend a good turn, that will help and please him all the year round, present him with a year's subscription to "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine," including the magnificent Christmas Number. The price remains as before, at the low rate of \$1.50 per year.



Shire Mare, Argent, and Foal.

By Buscat Harold; one of the best Shire mares in England. Winner of many prizes and gold medals. Owned by Sir Alex. Henderson.

the first place, a good stallion will cost from \$1,500 to \$2,500. The interest on the cheapest one for one year, at 6 per cent., is \$90. Five night stands for twelve rounds away from home, at \$1.50 a night, is \$90. Five noon stands for twelve rounds away from home, at 75c., is \$45. A man's wages to travel the horse is \$120. The man's expenses for the season is \$25. The expenses for man's wages and time collecting is \$75; the shoeing, blankets, brushes and sundry expenses for the year is \$25; the expenses of the stallion owner keeping the horse Saturday and Sunday nights during the season is \$25; keep of the horse during the ten months out of season is \$100; the use of a pony, cart and harness is \$25. The total expense is \$620. A good average season for the horse would be 100 mares, a good average per cent. in foal is 60 mares, and 60 mares at \$10 each is \$600. Now, I think I have placed the cost of keeping and travelling the horse at a very low rate. For one that will do it for less and do it right, there are twenty that spend more; and for one stallion owner who collects for more than 60 foals, there are twenty that will collect for less, when he stands the loss for all mares that are sold and the ones that die or lose their foals between breeding and collecting time. Now, at these figures, Mr. Goodfellow, the stallion owner of Middlesex will be twenty dollars behind every year, besides taking all the risk of losing the horse and having no money to pay for him. Now, I think that a stallion owner should have not less than a \$15 fee—\$5 cash during the season, and \$10 additional if the mare proves in foal. I claim that this would be equally as beneficial to the farmer as to the stallion owner. It would keep the farmers from breeding inferior mares at