

# THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL  
IN THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY  
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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

Agents for "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal,"  
Winnipeg, Man.

1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE is published every Thursday. It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, Newfoundland and New Zealand, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 per year when not paid in advance. United States, \$2.50 per year; all other countries 12s.; in advance.
3. ADVERTISING RATES.—Single insertion, 25 cents per line, agate. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrearages must be made as required by law.
5. THE LAW IS, that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrearages are paid and their paper ordered to be discontinued.
6. REMITTANCES should be made direct to us, either by Money Order or Registered Letter, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we will not be responsible.
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8. ANONYMOUS communications will receive no attention. In every case the "Full Name and Post-office Address Must be Given."
9. WHEN A REPLY BY MAIL IS REQUIRED TO Urgent Veterinary or Legal Enquiries, \$1 must be enclosed.
10. LETTERS intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
11. CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers when ordering a change of address should give the old as well as the new P.O. address.
12. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine," Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
13. ALL COMMUNICATIONS in reference to any matter connected with this paper should be addressed as below, and not to any individual connected with the paper.

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Canada for co-operation without such unfortunate developments, but it is just as well to remember that when power is animated by blind selfishness or greed, its influence may easily become mischievous.

## Time Cards on the Farm.

Contrary to popular impressions, "The Farmer's Advocate" farm makes no pretensions to being an experimental, nor yet a model farm. It is simply an everyday proposition, run on a straight commercial basis, without frills or furbelows. For all that, it is, in a very special sense, conducted in the interest of "The Farmer's Advocate" readers. One of the most valuable features connected with its management is the system of bookkeeping that is being pursued. This involves the keeping of time records. At the beginning of every week each laborer is handed a blank, ruled time-card, on which he records day by day the number of hours spent on each job he works at. The totals are then entered up in a book kept for the purpose, together with an estimate of the value of this time, reckoned at the wages each particular man receives, not forgetting to count the cost of board, with allowance for lost time. The time of the two regular men employed works out to about 15 and 18 cents per hour, respectively. Likewise, one card is kept on which the number of hours of horse-time is recorded. This is charged at 10 cents per hour per horse for time actually in the field. Surprising results are revealed by these records. For instance, the labor cost of putting in some twenty-two acres of spring grain came to only \$63.10, less than three dollars per acre, though thirteen acres of it was spring-plowed sod, and all was well worked, being not only disked and drilled, but twice rolled and harrowed. Similarly, the labor cost of putting up 45 tons, or better, of hay from 32 acres, was \$54, or about \$1.20 per ton. All this hay, except half a dozen loads, was made in the old-fashioned way, cutting early, raking green, coiling and hauling in from one to four days' time. Hay-making commenced June 19th, and finished July 5th.

Most of the hay was housed in prime condition, though some became a little overdry, coiled though it was. Of course, a good deal of time during the progress of haying was spent cultivating corn and doing other jobs.

Not so satisfactory was the showing in some tile-ditching done by day labor. Inefficiency of laborers and dry weather ran the cost up to a prohibitive figure. These men were discharged; and the work let by the rod, though even this runs up almost to the price of machine ditching, when board is considered. Altogether, the lessons of the time cards are very instructive, and provide a valuable basis for future calculations and future work. It is hoped by such means to ascertain what crops pay and how well they pay, to eliminate unprofitable branches, or make them profitable by short-cuts in methods. All the data will be available in due course for the information of our readers, and, while we have found it a little trouble to keep the records, we hope to evolve a system, if indeed we have not achieved it already, that will enable any intelligent farmer to keep similar accounts, much to his profit and pleasure.

## HORSES.

Give the horses water as often during the day as you possibly can. A cool drink is just as refreshing to them as it is to their drivers.

The easiest-running binders are heavy work, and two horses should not be expected to do the work of three or four.

It takes less feed to keep a horse in good condition than it does to bring him back to good flesh after having become run down and thin.

Remember that the colt's training should begin with his birth, and that handling while young is valuable. Anything, whether good or bad, that the colt learns is not generally easily forgotten.

Now is the time to teach the foal to eat grain or chop. A little time spent in this work will save trouble later, and there will be less danger of the colt receiving a serious setback at weaning time.

When the mare has been working, and is very warm, always allow her to cool off before allowing the colt to suck. Milk, when taken from an excessively hot dam, is superheated, and is liable to cause a disturbance in the delicate digestive system of the foal.

If it is necessary to work the mare that is nursing a colt, she should not be pushed too hard. It is well to remember that she is not as strong as if she had not to furnish nourishment for the foal. Give her the light work, and sufficient time to do it.

During the season of intense heat, hard-worked horses should have the harness removed while they are feeding at noon hour. The heavy, greasy and sweaty harness must be very uncomfortable and warm for the horses when they are compelled to wear it in the hot stable while feeding.

Don't expect the horse that is working every day on the mower, binder, rake or plow to be able to keep up in flesh on what grass he can get in a dry, scanty pasture during the short nights. A grain ration is essential for the hard-worked horse, and harvest time is one of the hardest seasons to keep the working horses from failing in flesh. Heat and flies make it necessary to feed liberally.

The women's society for prevention of cruelty to animals has placed a large automobile water tank on the streets of Philadelphia, and drivers of horses in the districts where water troughs are not situated are requested to stop and give their horses a drink which is furnished by an attendant on the water wagon. This is one of the benefits to be derived by the horse from the auto, and serves to repay to some extent these animals for hauling stranded autos to repair shops. The horse very often aids the auto, and this is a very novel and appropriate means of doing good in return for services rendered by the faithful animals.

## Horses and their Fittings a Good Advertisement.

"It pays to advertise." All business men recognize this fact, and do their utmost to bring their wares before the public in as attractive form as possible. Many and diversified are the means which they take to thrust their goods before the people. As one of the many forms of advertisement, many large firms use fancy horses and outfits. One need not think for a moment that the great heavy-drafters of some of the six-horse teams of the large packing-houses, and the superb fittings which accompany them, are kept solely for the work they do. These horses are harnessed in the very cleanest, best and most expensive of trappings, and draw only drays that glisten with a new coat of attractive, sometimes even gaudy, paint. Is this all done for the purpose of moving heavy loads? Not at all. One of the main features of this display of fancy heavy horses and correspondingly handsome accompaniments is that it is one of the best means of advertising their owner's business. Nothing will attract the attention of the general public more quickly than an exceptionally fine horse with fittings to correspond.

If this form of advertisement is found to be profitable for business men in towns, why, then, should it not be an equally effective advertisement for the farmer who raises horses and uses them every day in the year? In many cases the horses of country districts are the very best to be found anywhere, and if a little more care were taken with the harness and the wagons and other vehicles, and especially those used in going to and from the town, it would be a means of raising the farmer's business in the estimation of his city cousins.

The harness is generally a portion of the farm accoutrements that receives too little care, and whenever a break occurs, those handy mending materials, binder twine and fence wire, are brought into commission, much to the detriment of the appearance, as well as the comfort and efficiency that should be of first consideration in any harness. To make a horse look his best, his harness must be neat, not necessarily elaborate in its fittings, but at least substantial, and, above all things, it should fit. Scarcely anything detracts from a horse's appearance more than a poorly-kept, ill-fitting harness. Bridles are often too long or too short, the blinders loose and flopping back and forth over the horses' eyes, causing injury to them in time, or checks either too long and loose, or so much shortened that they draw the horse's head uncomfortably high. Old, poorly-fitting collars are quite common, together with hames that are anything but neat and a good fit. Back and belly bands are often much too large, the former frequently minus a ring or two, and the latter dangling a considerable distance below the animal's thorax, and minus, perhaps, a buckle and very often all the keepers. Hip straps and breeching are often very unsightly, as well as uncomfortable, for the animals. The latter may be seen placed all the way from across the croup, above the tail-head, down to the animal's hocks, and the accompanying straps dangling nearly to the ground.

The rubber, silver or brass mounting on the harness requires a little care, and should not be allowed to become covered with dirt, mold, rust, or verdigris. All harness should be made of the best leather, and kept clean and oiled. Oiling harness is good rainy-day work. The plainer the harness, the less trouble it is, but lack of ornamentation does not necessarily mean lack of neatness.

The rigs that are used on the roads require some care. Good plain paint, kept clean by frequent washing, will add greatly to the appearance of the outfit. A good horse often passes unnoticed when working under the disadvantage of an old, ill-fitting, patched-up harness, and attached to a dirty, uncared-for, unpainted conveyance; or, if he is noticed, it is very often only to ridicule the lack of harmony in the outfit. It is a shame to detract from the horse's appearance by poor trappings. Very little labor is required to keep the harness and rigs attractive. Get a harness that fits and keep it adjusted to the animal and in good repair. A man who is found driving a good horse, with correspondingly good harness, drawing a neat, well-kept cart, buggy or wagon, is advertising himself and his business, is attracting attention, and is unconsciously making his credit solid in the financial circles. The man with such an outfit is recognized by all as being progressive and industrious, and as having business ability sufficient to warrant his credit being good. If you wish to buy groceries or provisions, you always prefer to get them from a clean, attractive store or out of a clean, neat wagon drawn by a good horse in substantial harness.