

110 rooms to be inspected twice a year with fewer than 200 schooldays to do it in. In addition to this is a great deal of clerical work.

With No. 4 I disagree emphatically. If you wish to know how the average section supports its school, just attend an annual meeting and count noses. If you judge the system by the attendance, it is slack. If you should run across a full attendance you can safely bet the trustees have been expending a little more money than usual, and Mr. Ratepayer is going to haul them over the coals.

With No. 5 I disagree on general principles. Comparing our neighborhood schools with rural schools in Minnesota, Iowa and Texas, I think we are far behind them in practical education. I read of rural schools there where they hold stock-judging and grain-judging contests, where exhibits of cooking and housewifely skill are also held under school auspices; where short term scholarships at the State Agricultural College are given to successful judges and winners; where Canning Clubs and Corn Clubs are the rule in Rural Schools. Where an Educational Column is conducted every week in the county paper, informing the community of anything of interest concerning the schools and the system of education.

With No. 6 agree and coincide, and consider, as we used to say in geometry. I sincerely hope the Department of Education will devise some more systematic system than we have at present. Give our country children an equal chance with their city cousins.

One trouble has been the true meaning of the word Education has been overlooked. Our children are stuffed with definitions and rules they do not understand; difficulties are explained to them in words whose meaning is unintelligible to their immature minds. They are instructed, not taught, and any originality or creative genius is repressed. Education is the educating or drawing out the latent powers of an individual.

I hope the day is not far distant when we will have in every rural and village school competent instruction in Sewing, Domestic Science, and Manual Training. If this can not be done by the teachers, it would be easy to have instructors visit the school weekly.

I would also like to see each section supply the school with books and necessary materials for carrying on the school work. A better recognition of our Canadian authors in our readers would also be acceptable to the native-born amongst us.

Other things tending towards efficiency and quite within our reach would be medical inspection of the schools; compulsory attendance for every schoolday from children between the ages of six and sixteen, unless said child has an Entrance Certificate or is physically unable to come; a well equipped laboratory and playground.

HOWARD KENT.

Nature's Process of Selection.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Maybe ye'll no' remember an auld chap by the name o' Sandy Fraser that used tae be writin' tae ye and settlin' yer problems for ye, frae the "Hired Help" question tae "the reason why the young men leave the farm"; but gin ye dae ye'll perhaps no object tae lettin' me gie ye another lift, for I'm dootin' there's still a thing or twa on yer mind that ye canna' juist explain awa' tae yer ain satisfaction. I hae na' seen anything in the last issue o' yer paper on the "high cost o' livin'," so I hae come tae the conclusion that ye hae given the hale thing up in despair. I think ye said a short time back that ye didna' want tae see the cost o' remainin' on this auld earth reduced by increasin' the production o' oor farms an' in this way lowerin' prices tae the consumer.

Weel, gin ye wanna' hae it that way (though for mysel' I think there are ways that might be worse), we'll hae to try an' bring ye peace o' mind by some ither plan. Hoo wad it suit ye tae be tauld that this thing we're fightin' is the best thing possible for the world in general, and in the lang rin will prove tae be a blessing in disguise. Na doot ye'll wonder hoo I can mak' that oot, but juist wait a minute. Ye ken, o' coorse, that when a mon has an easy life an' doesna' hae to scratch for a livin', but juist pits in the time dodgin' trowble an' lookin' for amusement, he isna' likely tae develop vera much muscle or back-bone either, for that matter, but is mighty lucky gin he keeps oot o' jail tae the end o' his meeserable existence.

Will, noo, dae ye no' see what the high cost o' livin' should dae for the maist o' us. It should an' does mak' us get tae work, an' work the best we ken how at that, an' the effort we pit forth is what is gaein' tae mak' men oot o' us, gin the Lord has given us onything at a tae start wi'.

But change the condeetions, an' mak' it easy, or even possible, for a man tae get his bread an' butter wi'oot scratchin' for it, an' ye'll soon hae him like the scigar doon in the warm countries, wha, they say, lays on his back under the trees an' lets the bannanas an' sic' like things drap in-

tae his mouth, as he hasna' the energy tae get up an' pick them for himsel'.

Noo, there are some that seem tae think that it's juist lately that we hae rin intae this difficulty aboot gettin' oor board an' lodgin' at reasonable rates. But gin ye'll look back as far as history will let ye, ye'll see that things were aye pretty much the same. There was aye a certain class that didna' ken or care aboot the price o' onything. They had what they wanted gin money could buy it. But there was anither class, an' a guid deal bigger class, too, that had tae mak' a wee bit o' siller gae as far as it would in supplyin' their wants an' then go hungry the rest o' the time. This is the class that can post ye on the price o' farm produce, I can tell ye. But what is mair; this is the class from which we got maist o' oor smartest men. It was a case o' low livin' an' high thinkin' with them. They had tae fight for their existence an' the weak went under an' the strong came tae the top. It is Nature's way o' siftin' oot the trash, an' it's a way that's pretty hard tae improve on. Gin we han't men that will dae the world's work, that is the way we are gaein' tae get them.

There's naething like a spell o' hard times tae weed oot the culls. Ye ken aboot the doctrine o' the "survival o' the fittest." Weel, this is juist that same doctrine pit intae practice. Anither thing the high cost o' livin' does for the world is tae prevent over-population. Every once in a while we hear o' a famine in India or in China an' thousands o' the inhabitants are starved tae death. It's no vera pleasant tae read aboot, an' it must be a wee bit mair unpleasant tae experience, but gin it werena' for that, there wouldna' be standing room there in a hundred year or so, an' it's juist Nature's way

I ken), but at the same time it's no a gold-mine he's workin'. The majority o' the people o' this country will sink or swim thegither, for prosperity for one class means prosperity for the ithers, as a rule.

So noo, Mr. Editor, ye see we hae settled the auld question o' the high cost o' livin' by juist provin' that it is a natural condeetion that canna' be helped, or improved on for that matter, an' gin ye can tak' that view o' the case it will save ye a lot o' worry an' ony feeling o' responsibility that ye may hae in regard tae it. It's no yer duty, I'm thinkin', tae mak' life easy for yer mony readers an' friends, but tae show them how tae overcome the difficulties an' dangers that they are gaein' tae rin up against in the coorse o' their natural lives. Ye ken what it is yerself, Mr. Editor, tae swim against the stream, I'm thinkin', an' ye'll no say that it wisna' guid, healthy exercise, I'm sure. Up-hill wark is the only way o' gettin' tae the top, tak' that frae me.

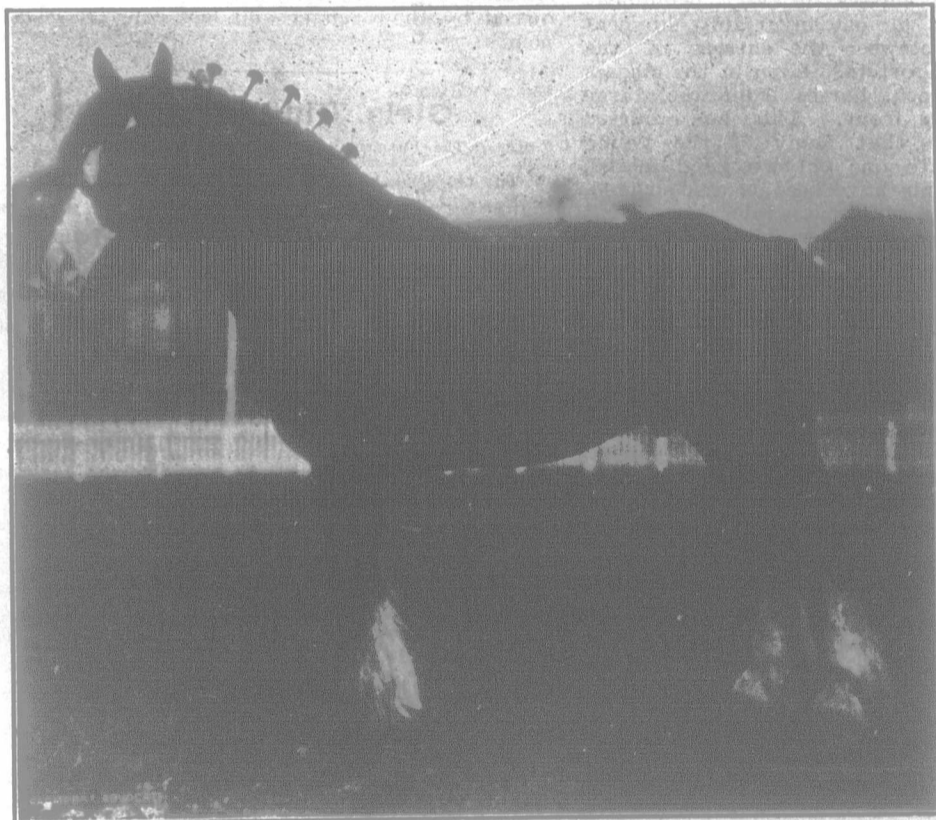
SANDY FRASER.

HORSES.

Hocks are to a certain degree a limiting factor in the power of the heavy horse.

Great weight in the draft horse makes the animal's footing more secure when drawing a heavy load.

Drive the trotting or roadster stallion on the road regularly during the winter. Do not overdo it, but keep him exercised.



Tuttlebrook Esquire.
First-prize three-year-old Shire stallion, at Toronto, 1912. Owned by John Gardhouse & Sons, Highfield, Ont.

o' cleanin' hoose, so it's no' for the likes o' us tae dispute her wisdom. An' so far as oor own country is concerned the increased difficulty o' makin' a livin' for a family has a tendency tae limit the size o' that family, an' that is gaein' tae gie us what every country needs, fewer children, but stronger an' healthier an' better trained an' educated than we hae them at present. It's quality, not numbers, that is gaein' tae count for something in the future, juist as it has in the past.

An' noo, Mr. Editor, there's one mair point that is na' vera clear tae some people, in regard tae this question that we hae under consederation. A word on that an' I'm done. "Hoo is it," they say, "that the farmer isna' gettin' rich faster than he seems tae be doin', when he gets sae muckle mair for what he sells than he used tae?" Weel, we winna' hae to gae vera far for a reason. The farmer gets mair dollars than he did once upon a time, we'll hae to admit that. But does he get ony mair actual value for his produce than he did ten or twenty year back? Gin his dollars are gaein' to dae him ony guid he has tae spend them, an' what has he got then? Not a bit mair than he had for his crop in the days o' the past. It isna' fair tae say that the farmer is gettin' rich at the expense o' the rest o' the country. As a rule, he is makin' a decent an' honest livin' (which is a muckle sight better than gettin' rich,

Leading the colt to and from the watering trough two or three times daily is not enough exercise for him. Let him race around the yard or paddock for several hours every fine day.

The date of the seventh annual International Horse Show will be held at Olympia, London, from Friday, June 20th, until Tuesday, July 1st, 1912, inclusive.

Strong backs are very essential in the drafters, as there is a tremendous strain upon them in forcing the horse's weight forward, while at the same time trailing a heavy load.

All young animals have a certain allotted period of growth. See that the colts get the care intended to promote size at the proper time, for once they have passed a certain age growth ceases, and efforts to renew it are in vain.

At one time in the great breeding studs of Germany under Government supervision, fifteen to twenty mares were all a stallion was allowed to serve in a season. This was a very small number, but at the present day many of our best stallions are somewhat over-worked.

Of all live-stock horses are the best drawing card at an exhibition. The most phenomenal cattle, sheep and pigs, while they draw the breeders, have not the fascination for the city spectator that the horse has. No matter what the breed, good individual horses attract and deserve attention.

An important season for the in-foal mare is at hand. Winter means idleness. Idleness means danger. If possible give her light work. If no work can be found for her use the paddock, and see that she moves around. Very often these mares are very loathe to move about, and it is necessary to drive them to it. Where such is the case do not hesitate to compel them to move about.