

## HORSES.

Percherons made a great showing at Guelph. Some of the best horses of the breed ever seen in Canada were out.

What better means of health-promoting exercise for the children is there than riding or driving a beautiful pony?

The horseless carriage seems to be injuring to some extent the fancy carriage horse. Hackney classes are not as well filled at the exhibitions as they were a few years ago.

Too much fat may be, and is, detrimental to the horse in the show ring, but a horse not well brought out and in poor condition stands a very poor chance of landing a red or a blue.

The horse will never down. Some breeds may be affected by the advance of the horseless carriage, but so long as the people show such an interest in this, one of man's best friends, as they now do, as evidenced by the large crowds at the ringside during horse exhibitions, and so long as the horse holds, as he is bound to do, an important place in the economy of the world, he will reign supreme over all other motive powers, particularly on the farm.

Repeated bathing with hot water is the means by which a recent caller said his neighbor had cured a case of capped elbow. Of course, all cases will not yield to so simple a treatment, but there is a deal of virtue in hand-rubbing and heat. It is noteworthy that a great many medicaments are prescribed for application by rubbing. Sometimes the rubbing constitutes the really valuable part of the prescription, but the professional must needs recommend also something more expensive for the client to pin his faith to. Wherever effectual, the simple remedies are best, and the simpler the better.

### On In-breeding.

In your issue of December 5th "Darnley's Raiser" takes "Scotland Yet" to task for his approval of in-breeding among Clydes. If I understand "Scotland Yet" aright, he merely states the fact of Sarcelle having been bred to her grandson, but in a previous letter condemns the practice by noting the effects of in-breeding on herd, flock or stud, and says the practice ends in disaster. I for one am glad the "Advocate" has a contributor of "Scotland Yet's" calibre, and believe it would be impossible to find an all-round live-stock writer his superior.

Kent Co., Ont.

A. J. DOLSEN.

Note.—"Darnley's Raiser" was commending, not criticising, "Scotland Yet's" remarks and our endorsement of them. The concluding paragraph in the letter by "Darnley's Raiser" was merely by way of question why "Scotland Yet" had not said something further along the same line in connection with the close mating of Sarcelle. Both correspondents are agreed to condemning close in-breeding.

### Stallion Enrollment.

Perhaps the meeting of largest attendance in connection with the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair was that at which the main topic for discussion was "Stallion Enrollment in Ontario." If a meeting is to draw a crowd, something of vital interest to the people must be on the programme. Judging from the attendance at this meeting and the interest and enthusiasm manifested by those present, "Stallion Enrollment" has an important bearing on the horse-breeding industry of this Province.

There seems to be a misapprehension in the minds of many as to the real scope of the Act, and many were the questions fired at John Bright, Chairman of the Stallion Enrollment Board, and recently appointed Live Stock Commissioner for the Dominion. Mr. Bright handled the subject well, explaining every little detail upon which there was any questioning in connection with the Act. John Gardhouse, of Highfield, acted as chairman and spoke very fluently and forcibly in support of the measure.

It will be remembered by those who have studied the Act that all stallions, in order to be travelled or offered for use as breeding horses, must have their names, descriptions and pedigrees enrolled. A Stallion Enrollment Board has been appointed and the Minister of Agriculture, under the direction of this Board, appoints inspectors, and every inspection is made by a committee of three. The Board keeps a register of enrollment. Notice is given by the Board as to time and place of inspection, and stallion owners desiring to

have their stallions inspected must submit them for inspection at these places at the specified time. In case there is a division of opinion in the committee, the stallion owner is safeguarded by having the right of appeal and may apply for a new inspection by a new committee. Every stallion which passes inspection is afterwards duly enrolled on the register, and his enrollment certificate, which is furnished the owner by the Board, must form a part of the printed advertisement of the service of the stallion, no matter whether such advertisement be in newspaper or poster form. To get the man who does not advertise his horse for service, such stallion owners must show the mare owner at the time the mare is served his certificate of enrollment. Properly enforced, this Act means that no mare in the Province may be bred to a stallion which is not enrolled, or, in other words, that such a stallion may not be used for public service.

The fees are not high—for enrollment, \$2; for inspection, \$5; for renewal of enrollment, \$1, and for transfer certificate, \$1. The penalty for non-compliance with the Act shall be not more than \$100 and not less than \$25.

From the discussion which took place at the meeting it was quite evident that the people are not any too familiar with the workings and scope of the Act. The foregoing, while more or less of a repetition, may help some of those not privileged to attend the meeting to understand the Act a little better. It is encouraging to note that no complaints were made against the Act itself by any of those present at the meeting, only that it did not go far enough and that inspection should be made compulsory instead of optional. There were some complaints against the working-out of the Act, as, for instance, "Places of inspection not being central, or in districts where most of the stallions were kept." Some complained that they had horses which they wished to have inspected, but were unable to get the work done owing to the committee not coming closer to their stables than fifteen miles, and the horses being unshod and in pasture, could not be removed so far over the hard roads. Every stallion owner present was anxious that his horse be inspected, and all believed the Act to be a step in the right direction.

Mr. Bright pointed out that it was not easy to have all the machinery in connection with the inspection operating without a hitch during the first few months of the working of the Act. It requires time for the Board and the Committee of Inspection to plan their work to best advantage. He urged that all who have been inconvenienced in any way in getting the work done or through causes which the Board can control have been unable to have their stallions inspected, report the matter to the Board, when it will be looked into and straightened out to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Dr. F. C. Grenside, V.S., a member of the Board, believed that a committee of three is rather cumbersome, as it is necessary to meet the travelling expenses of all three, and in special cases, where one or two stallions have been missed in a section, if one man did the work, it would facilitate matters greatly. The Act, as he stated, is modelled to some extent after such

an Act now in force in Australia, where one man, a qualified veterinary surgeon, does the inspecting and where the stallion owner has the right of appeal against his judgment if he has any reason to use such right.

Many of those present thought that conformation should be considered in the inspection, as well as soundness, pointing out that a very common "scrub" horse, a "scrub" because of faulty conformation, might be sound and thus pass inspection.

Out of the discussion grew the following resolution, which was carried unanimously: Resolved—That we are of the opinion that it would be well to have compulsory inspection of all stallions standing for service, and that the committee consider conformation in inspecting the horses and grade them 1, 2, 3 accordingly, and that the grade of the horse be also placed on the enrollment certificate.

This resolution shows how the better class of stallion owners feel about the matter. They desire that the work be thoroughly done, and are willing to aid in accomplishing stallion enrollment and inspection, which will aid greatly in the elimination of undesirable "scrub" stallions. All were agreed that there are too many of the latter class of horses in the country, and while the Act as constituted is a help and a step towards their elimination, they believed that compulsory inspection was the remedy. It is necessary in most great movements "to make haste slowly," and this is a great movement. If compulsory inspection had been thrust upon the stallion owners all at once, some of them would likely have resented it; but working gradually, as has been done, they are beginning to see the good to come from inspection and are desirous of getting the full benefit of it by making it compulsory. As soon as the present system works perfectly, let us hope for compulsory inspection and grading according to the resolution as previously stated. Let every stallion owner make his difficulties clear to the Board and aid them to inspect his horse, and satisfaction is bound to come to all in the end.

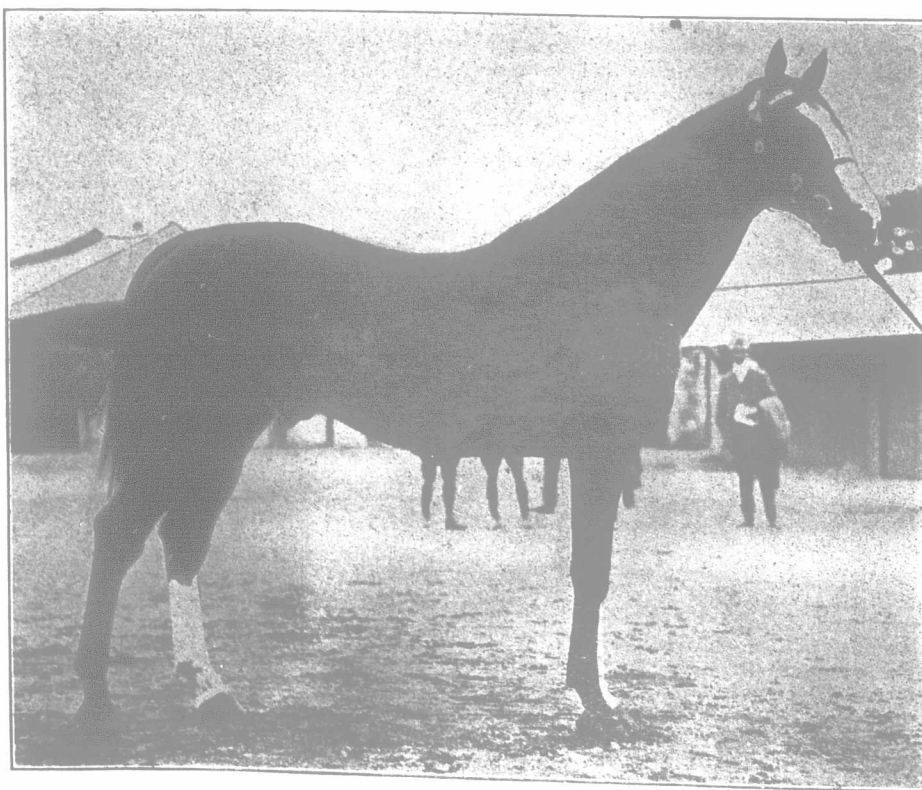
## LIVE STOCK.

### Why Every Farmer Should Be a Stockman.

After making a careful investigation and study of the live stock situation in the United States, G. A. Ryther, Vice-President of the Live Stock Exchange National Bank of Chicago, has prepared a pamphlet upon which he states, among other things, that there is in this country to-day a shortage of beef cattle.

Not only are we ceasing to export cattle, but scarcity of "feeders" and consequent high prices, our own food supply is being seriously curtailed. The past two years have witnessed an alarming and a steadily decreasing number of farmers fattening them for the market. Last season they argued that with corn at 60-70c. per bushel, and "feeders" at 5-6 cents, it would be a risky proposition to take hold—and many of them stayed out to their regret.

Those who did go in and feed to maturity



Poussin.  
Champion Thoroughbred stallion, Dublin Horse Show. Owned by Major C. Beatty.

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