

the only persons who stand between them and the world with which they are at war.

No one who studies these conditions can help coming to the conclusion that the organizations that subvert elections are in their nature a just punishment to society for the harshness with which it has treated those unfortunates who are unfit for the struggle of life. Their misfortunes force them to grasp at the only straw that is offered to them, and instead of denouncing them in unmeasured terms we should rather aim by sane laws and human sympathy to relieve them of the miseries which force them for self-protection to run the courses we denounce. The forces that give power to the political bosses can all say with one of the most tragic of prisoners:

"I know not whether laws be right
Or whether laws be wrong,
All that we know who lie in gaol
Is that the walls are strong."

And they know from bitter experience that the only person who can break down the walls for them or open the doors of their prison house is the political boss at whose bidding they are willing to vote, to repay him for his Christian charity. It would be much better for us to understand these conditions than to denounce them.

With the rise of the great corporations that need special legislation to secure for them the privileges they desire, the corrupt leaders with their wretched following were able to command greater prices for their influence than they could extort from the ordinary campaign managers who were willing, for the benefit of their high-minded party organizations, to stoop to deal with such people. The little bosses were brought up by the magnates of business life and the big bosses who carried out their will came into being. By the number of votes they controlled these bosses were able to take command of the parties and the decent citizens who wished to serve their country had to come to them hat in hand. With the advent of business men came business methods, and the corrupt organizations have been more skillfully managed than any political organization of decent citizens that has ever been developed. Politics became an essential part of Big Business instead of the study of decent citizens. And all the while the honest partisans have stuck to their parties and helped more than any of them dream to make free government a farce.

With all voters honest, or in a position to be honest, the party system of government would be admirable, for it would at all times have the Government checked and criticised by an honest and decent Opposition; but as matters have developed it has become nothing short of a crime for a man to be a partisan. If he makes corruption possible he should bear the blame, or at least share it with the weak or wretched people who sell their votes. One amusing outcome of the power that has been gained by the corrupt elements of society is that in some cases they have temporarily put an end to corruption by their extortionate demands. Even Big Business could not afford the prices they insolently demanded which shows that if all voters were corrupt the evil would destroy itself. It is the existence of the unwavering partisans, reducing the number of those who must be corrupted, that make bribery and the politics of the underworld possible and profitable. While the vast majority are sufficiently partisan to allow the balance of power to rest with the corrupt, corruption will continue. The science of political corruption has been developed to a point where it can be defeated only by a new conception of citizenship. How this end may be attained it is not the purpose of this article to suggest. Its sole purpose is to lay the blame for existing conditions where it really belongs, and that is at the door of the honest partisan. Let him bethink himself how his house is to be put in order. All parties are alike capable of being controlled by the combination of the underworld and the Higher Sphere of Finance. Between these upper and nether millstones of corruption the rights of the people are being ground to extinction.

Must Confine Bulls or Pay the Penalty.

At the various breeders' meetings held in Toronto early in February one of the main subjects for discussion was the need of more stringent regulations governing the roaming at large of scrub bulls. The matter was laid before the Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Mr. Duff, who has brought in a bill which should put an end to the practice of allowing all kinds of scrubs to roam at large, a danger to the public, and a hindrance to the successful breeding of pure-bred cattle.

The new bill received its first reading last week and there is no doubt it will pass through the Legislature in due time. Under it the owner or occupant of any land who allows any bull under his charge and keeping to roam at large or be off his premises, not being confined or lead by a halter, shall incur a penalty of \$25, recoverable under the provisions of the "Ontario Summary Convictions Act." And in case a pure-bred cow

is got in calf by a bull running at large, the owner of the cow shall be entitled to damages from the person responsible for said bull, being at large to the full extent of same.

This Act applies to all Ontario with the exception of the Provisional Judicial Districts and the Provisional County of Haliburton. Stock owners will read with much satisfaction this announcement. Those having cattle damaged now have a means of redress.

The Meadowbrook Dispersion Sale.

An ideal spring day and the roads in perfect condition coupled with the attractive quality of the Shorthorn and Holstein cattle to be sold was the combination that drew a large crowd to the big dispersion sale of the Shorthorn and Holstein herds of Meadowbrook Farm at Whitby Ontario, on Tuesday, April 14th. The sale was well conducted and the comfort of those attending well provided for and the warm sunshine overhead and dry condition of the ground under foot kept the crowd at the ringside from the time the first Holstein was offered by auctioneer Maw of Whitby until the last Shorthorn passed from under the hammer of Auctioneer Capt. T. E. Robson of London. The entire sale made a total of \$7770.00. Twenty-four Shorthorns selling for \$4085.00, an average of \$140.87. The highest price for a female was \$250.00 and the stock bull, Imp. Bullrush sold for \$350.00. Twenty-four Holsteins, eight of them young calves, sold for \$3685.00, an all-round average of \$153.54. Fifteen females averaged \$197.33 eight of them going for \$200.00 and over, highest price \$295.00. The stock bull, Francy Bonerges Ormsby sold for \$420.00.

The following is a list of those selling for \$100.00 and over with their purchasers:-

Beauty De Witt; C. Grimsley, Eglinton,	\$190.00
Jennie Posch Princess; C. Grimsley, ...	200.00
Mercena Pietertje De Kol; C. Grimsley,	225.00
Content Houwtje De Kol; C. Grimsley,	250.00
Rock Maple Alice; A. Shaw, Bobcaygeon,	210.00
Evergreen's Maggie Keyes; C. Grimsley,	210.00
Mercena Pontiac De Kol; B. A. Holgate,	
Edmonton, Alta.,	145.00
Aulinda's Bonnie Lassie; J. H. McLaren, Ottawa,	295.00
Calamity Lady Alice; C. Grimsley, ...	175.00
Francy Bonerges Korndyke; J. H. McLaren, Ottawa,	420.00
Evergreen Rex; C. Grimsley, ...	280.00
Sir Colantha Abberkerk De Kol; C. Grimsley,	125.00
Centre View Gentle Canary Norine; J. H. McLaren,	190.00
Pearl Korndyke Houwtje; B. A. Holgate	137.50
Evergreen's Elder; C. Grimsley,	200.00
Countess Posch De Kol; B. A. Holgate,	127.50
Fanny Meadowbrook 2nd; H. Pettit, Freeman,	100.00
Fannie 5th; H. Pettit,	120.00
Roan Daisy; G. Graham, Port Perry, ..	120.00
Fanny 11th; O. Downey, Myrtle,	200.00
Fanny 13th; H. Pettit,	140.00
Blanche Gem; C. Grimsley,	145.00
Blanche Gem 2nd; O. Downey, Myrtle, ..	100.00
Marie York; Birdsall & Son, Birdsall,	127.50
Primula Prince; N. Brown, Ashburn, ...	132.50
Daisy Delle 2nd; J. White, Brooklyn, ...	175.00
Bullrush; R. M. Forbes, Montrose,	350.00
Fair Girl; C. Grimsley,	240.00
Fanny 12th; C. Grimsley,	170.00
Fanny Meadowbrook; C. Grimsley,	120.00
Marina; J. Leask, Taunton,	115.00
Mistress Marina; C. Grimsley,	120.00
Fair Gem 3rd; W. C. Ashton, Bowmanville,	117.50
Daisy Belle; C. Grimsley,	240.00
Mary Morven; C. Grimsley,	250.00
Mary Scott; F. Hatch, Whitby,	115.00
Fannie 4th; F. Hatch,	150.00
Lady Marinus; C. Grimsley,	120.00

The Stallion Act Amendment Makes Inspection Compulsory.

During the past winter there has been a great deal of talk among horsemen of the Province re the Ontario Stallion Act. "The Farmer's Advocate" opened its columns to correspondents who discussed all sides of the question. It was quite apparent that the Act, as it then stood, was not meeting with the general approval of the stallion owners. The original purpose of the Act was not so much to satisfy all owners of stallions, but to aid the Ontario farmer by assuring him a better class of horses to which to breed his mares.

The Minister of Agriculture had the matter laid before him by the horsemen, and last week brought in a bill to amend the Act as it now stands. Previous to this amendment inspection was optional. One of the main clauses of the amended bill makes inspection compulsory. The time and places of inspection are to be fixed by the Board who shall give due notice thereof, and persons owning stallions must submit to the

Board such evidence of the breeding and ownership of the stallion as may be required and make a report of the inspection to the Board.

The first inspection after a stallion is eight years of age, according to the Act as it now stands, is the last inspection necessary. This age limit is reduced to seven years, so that a man having a stallion seven years or over will only be required to submit him to one inspection. Inspections of horses under this age stand for two years.

In the discussion of the Act it was brought out that Ontario horsemen desired the elimination of the scrub, grade horse. Accordingly the amendment states that after the first day of August, 1916, no grade stallion of the scrub order, that is having diseases or malformation mentioned in the regulations, shall be allowed to stand, travel, or be offered for service, and after that date no fee shall be collectable for the service of such a horse. Going further the amendment states that after the first day of August, 1918, no grade stallion of any kind shall be allowed to stand, travel or be offered for service in the Province, and after that date no fees shall be collectable for the service of any grade horse.

The fees to be paid the Board for inspection have been lowered from \$5.00 to \$3.00, and for transfer certificates from \$1.00 to 50 cents. According to the amendment it will be possible to reduce the number of inspectors from three to two. The Act is to come in force, if it passes, on August first, 1914.

No doubt there will be considerable discussion on the new amendment, but it now looks as though the Government meant to enforce measures to drive the inferior, scrub horse off the road entirely. This should be a good thing for the horse-breeding industry of the country.

Conditions Fairly Favorable in Middlesex.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Farmers in Middlesex County, Ontario, have been anxiously waiting to get on the land, but at the time of writing, April, 17th, some of them in the lighter sections of the country have commenced cultivating and sowing. A few were ploughing about a week ago. However, at the end of the present week there will be very little seed in the ground. The weather the past few days has warmed up considerably, and prospects are now for a good spring. The greater portion of the ploughing was finished last fall, and thus the land is in the best possible condition for rapid work this spring. We notice in some sections, however, that the land is badly run together. This is rather difficult to account for, because there was comparatively little snow during the winter, and the frost had plenty of opportunity to get in its best action, and up to the present we have had no very heavy rains this spring. A good many farmers in the township of Carleton use the gang plough in the spring, skimming the land over three or four inches deep. They hold that they can get a better seed bed by this process than by using the cultivator, and they are enabled to keep their land free of weeds and get all around better results. After the ploughing, a couple of strokes of the harrow prepares the land for the seed, which is then drilled in.

In the sections where the land is heavier, of course, not very much of this is done. In these latter portions of the county not much work has been done on the land up to the present time. A little ploughing on high land has been all that could be done, because the owners recognize the fact that if they work the heavy land while it is yet too wet they get very poor yields, as it afterwards bakes badly and the grain has very little chance to grow to full maturity.

The latter part of the winter was very steady but feeders had plenty of feed, and for the time of year there is more rough feed around the barns than one usually sees. Those farmers fortunate enough to have large silos are especially well off for feed for their stock, which is coming through the winter in good condition, and seeing that there is so much feed on hand it is not likely that the stock will be turned away to graze too early. Pasture is often ruined by too early grazing, and where feed is plentiful it pays to keep the cattle in even a few days longer than seems necessary. In the beef-feeding sections most of the cattle have been disposed of. Those which have not already found their way to the market are sold for May delivery.

There is a considerable area of Middlesex county which is devoted quite extensively to the finishing of cattle off the grass, and also a large acreage used for grazing purposes, the cattle to be sold in the fall or fed off the following winter. Complaints are heard on every hand of the difficulty in getting cattle to put on these fields this spring. People do not know where to go to look for the stock. Good beef cattle seem bound to be hard to get. Of late there has been a slight falling off in the demand for dairy cows. This is, no doubt, due to the fact that many cows are freshening at this season, and there is