

# THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE  
DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL,  
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It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely  
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estimates of the less sanguine, which, to say the  
least, is a doubtful contingency.

While this probable shortage presages an in-  
crease in the cost of living to those who buy their  
bread, it is not entirely discouraging to farmers  
who may have wheat to sell, since the deficiency  
in supply logically means a higher price for the  
product, and already the speculative markets have  
tended to reviving the farmer's dream of "dollar  
wheat" in the coming months. Whether this re-  
sult be realized or not, while not advising Ontario  
farmers to rush into wheat-raising on a large  
scale, it is, we believe, safe to say that the pros-  
pect for good prices will justify sowing at least  
the usual acreage on well-prepared land. And,  
with such preparation, the experience of not a few  
has shown that well-managed Ontario farms are  
yet capable of yielding as heavy crops of wheat as  
when they were called new lands.

## AN IMPORTANT POULTRY CONFERENCE.

In our Poultry Department this week will be  
found a special correspondent's report of a poultry  
conference held at University College, Reading,  
England, July 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th. Offi-  
cially, this foregathering was designated the  
Second National Poultry Conference, but in reality  
it was international in programme and attend-  
ance. The real organizer was Mr. Edward Brown,  
F. L. S., Hon. Secretary of the Conference, and  
Secretary of the National Poultry Organization  
Society, Assistant Director of the Agricultural De-  
partment, University College, Reading, Eng.,  
and author of several books on poultry. It was  
he who visited America last year, and upon his  
return to England prepared a "Report on the  
Poultry Industry in America," which has on two  
or more occasions received very favorable mention  
and review in "The Farmer's Advocate." For  
upwards of thirty years he has been working for  
the advancement of the utility poultry industry of  
Great Britain, and, in fact, it is due to his en-

deavors, for the most part, that the industry in  
the mother country stands in the position it oc-  
cupies to-day. The influence of the Conference  
will undoubtedly be great and lasting, and it is  
hoped that before many years another assemblage  
will be held, so that the work may be constantly  
helped forward towards a successful and profitable  
end.

Investigation of prices by the Ottawa Civil-  
service Commissioners shows that for the lower-  
salaried officials the cost of living has increased  
from 30 to 35 per cent. in ten years, and for the  
higher-salaried officials the increase has been from  
26 to 30 per cent.

## HORSES.

### OUR SCOTTISH LETTER. THE HIGHLAND SHOW.

We have just closed our "great national show,"  
the "Highland." It was held this year in the  
Capital (Edinburgh), and was visited on two days  
by the Prince and Princess of Wales and a dis-  
tinguished party from the seat of the Duke and  
Duchess of Buccleuch, at Dalkeith Palace. On  
this aspect of things I have little to say. The  
royal visitors showed themselves to be deeply in-  
terested in the various departments of the show,  
and their presence undoubtedly lent eclat to the  
proceedings, and insured a very large attendance  
of visitors. The showground was none the best,  
and it may be hoped no further effort will be made  
to hold a gathering of the kind on a site like that  
at Prestonfield. There were many visitors from  
Canada and the United States, some on business,  
and a number of agricultural professors, some of  
whom appear to delight in asking all kinds of im-  
possible questions. For example, one of them  
wanted to know how many Clydesdale breeders  
there were in Scotland. That is a question which  
I could not answer to save my life, and I would  
never dream of spending three minutes of my time  
in attempting to form an estimate of the number  
of breeders of any class of stock. Many meetings  
are held in connection with the show, and the at-  
tendance of breeders from all parts is very large.  
Lord Polworth took advantage of the great gather-  
ing to sell a number of Shorthorns from his  
well-known Booth herd at Mertoun. The results  
only demonstrated that the days of Booth Short-  
horns are over. A very extensive trade was done  
in the hiring of Clydesdale stallions for 1908. So  
far as I have been able to learn, about a score  
of horses had their locations fixed for next season.  
In no case are "fancy" terms being given, but  
those arranged should leave a handsome revenue  
to owners from horses which leave at least a  
good percentage of foals. In Scotland, the  
principle is so much paid in fees at service, and  
so much additional at a given date, unless it is  
proved that the mare is not in foal. Of course,  
this system is scarcely so favorable to the owner  
of the mare as is your system of "no foal, no  
money," but it is an old-time custom in Scot-  
land, and some of the best horses, or rather the  
very best horses, are at stud on payments of  
terms for service only, without foal money. This  
is harder still on the owner of mares, and makes  
breeding from the highest class of horses more or  
less of a gambling transaction.

### THE CLYDESDALE REGISTRATION RULES.

As I am referring to Clydesdales, I may as  
well mention that a meeting of the Council of the  
Clydesdale Horse Society was held on Wednesday  
morning of the show week. The business which  
occupied most time was reading a lengthened cor-  
respondence which has passed between the Secre-  
tary here and both Mr. Sangster and Mr. Brant  
on your side, with reference to the alterations  
made by your Clydesdale Association on the rules  
for registration of imported stock in the Clydes-  
dale Studbook of Canada. We here find it rather  
difficult to know what the Canadian men want.  
When the first intimation of an alteration reached  
us, early in April, a communication was sent to  
Mr. Sangster, and he was asked whether the Cana-  
dians wanted every animal, male or female, ex-  
ported to have a number here and now before  
leaving. His answer was that they did not, but  
that what they wanted was that every animal ex-  
ported should have a registered sire and registered  
dam, and that the said registered sire and dam  
should each have a registered (that is numbered)  
sire and dam. Although this rule would dis-  
qualify the produce of several useful and well-bred  
Clydesdale sires, it would not upset our system of  
registration, and, as a matter of fact, it was  
rather welcomed as backing up the aims of those  
who have been pressing breeders here to pay closer  
attention to registration than they have done,  
and it would not in any way upset the system up-  
on which registration in the Clydesdale Studbook,  
as in the Shorthorn Herdbook, has been carried on  
for thirty years. In a subsequent letter, how-

ever, Mr. Sangster rather indicates that what  
your breeders want is that every male and female  
animal exported, no matter what its age, should  
have a number at date of exportation. Under  
our system of registration here (not merely our  
rules), it is as impossible for us to comply with  
this demand as it would be for the Shorthorn  
Society of Great Britain and Ireland to comply  
with a similar demand. As doubtless many of  
your readers are aware, females do not under any  
conditions receive numbers in Coates' Herdbook  
for Shorthorn cattle. In the Clydesdale Stud-  
book neither males nor females receive numbers  
until it is seen whether they are likely to prove  
breeding animals. That is to say, a colt or male  
animal cannot be entered for a number until he is  
more than a year old. When the Studbook was  
started, numbers were not granted until the colts  
were two years old, but when the foreign trade  
opened and exporters began to buy yearlings, the  
Council agreed to number such, as, of course, no  
one would export horses except they were at  
least intended for breeding purposes, and certain,  
barring accidents, to be kept entire. In the case  
of females, they are not entitled to entry for  
numbers until they have produced at least one  
foal. The purpose in both cases is to save in-  
creasing the numbers of registered stock, by ex-  
cluding such animals which are non-productive.  
But this does not mean that pedigreed stock can-  
not be registered, with full recognition of their  
eligibility to receive numbers when they are likely  
to be breeders; the system of registration  
adopted both in Coates' Herdbook for Shorthorn  
cattle and in the Clydesdale Studbook means the  
very opposite. The basis of registration is the  
breeding mare. She should be entered with all  
the produce she may have had, no matter what  
they are, up to the date of entry, and her ad-  
ditional produce should be entered year by year  
as they are foaled, by the owner of the mare. When  
this system is effectively and regularly carried out,  
it is an ideal system for the prevention of fraud.  
The editor of the Studbook then knows that all  
the produce of a breeding mare is accounted for  
in the studbook. If anyone, in after years, claims  
to have a stallion or a mare out of a numbered  
mare, all he has to do is to look up the record of  
that particular mare's produce, and see whether,  
in the year referred to, she had a foal of the sex  
and color and breeding now described. If there is  
no record of the mare having produced such a foal,  
then the owner of the animal which is claimed to  
be her produce is called on to make good his  
claim, and the whole question is sifted to the  
bottom. Were this system of registration de-  
parted from, and every animal numbered right  
away when a foal, the book would be swelled by  
the numbering of many animals which never would  
come to anything as breeding stock; and the most  
valuable check upon fraud, the entry of the pro-  
duce of each breeding mare year by year, as they  
appear, would be done away with.

It is because this appears to be what is in-  
volved in the latest resolution of your breeders  
that the Council of the Clydesdale Horse  
Society on Wednesday resolved to ask your  
Association to suspend the operation of what we  
understand to be the latest resolution of your  
Association until 1st January, 1908. And there is  
another reason. All the schedules and regula-  
tions for Volume XXX, are now issued and in the  
hands of breeders, and many hundred of entries  
have been received and accepted on the basis of  
the system which has been in force for nearly 30  
years. It is, in fact, impossible to alter that  
system this year, and, therefore, impossible to  
comply with what we understand to be the later  
resolution of the Canadian Clydesdale Association.  
The earlier one can be complied with and the views  
of your breeders met, although, as I have said,  
their rule will prevent the importation of the  
produce of quite a number of horses of the best  
breeding and merit—the very kind which you ought  
to import if you want Clydesdales of a good type  
and character.

The show, which closed this week, did not con-  
tain much that was fresh for those who have read  
my account of the Royal. Several of the awards  
in the Shorthorn section were reversed. The  
breed champion, as at the Royal, was Linksfield  
Champion, but the female champion was the  
heifer Pitlivie Rosebud II., the cow Sweetheart,  
which beat her at the Royal, being placed reserve.  
In the Aberdeen-Angus section, Sir George Mac-  
pherson Grant, of Ballindalloch, secured breed  
champion honors with his stock bull, Jeshurun,  
which last year was first at the Peebles Show.  
A comparatively new exhibitor, Mr. R. Wylie Hill,  
Balthayock, Perth, took champion honors in the  
female section with Bartonina of Glamis, which  
stood first at the Glasgow show in 1905. The  
Galloway championship, as at the Royal, went to  
Mr. John Cunningham, Tarbreoch, Dalbeattie, for  
his great bull Chancellor of Ballyboley, and the  
best female was Mr. Walter Montgomerie Wilson's  
three-year-old cow, Joyce of Queenshill. She  
seems to have been entirely of home breeding.  
Mr. D. A. Stewart, Ensay, Portree, had the High-  
land championship with his celebrated cow  
Lauchag Bhindhe IV., and the best bull was Lord