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Avoid Extremes.

The attention of horsemen is frequently called to the importance of breeding horses with long pasterns, but that this good quality may be overdone is emphasized in the following extract from the *Farmers' Gazette*:

"Length of pastern is a point to which great importance is attached by some Clydesdale breeders. It is thought that long pasterns impart to the animals possessing them a better style of action and freer movement than is displayed by animals with shorter 'connecting links' between the arm and the hoof. The craze for long pasterns is not without its disadvantages. In the course of a paper on 'Bog spavin,' which he read at a recent meeting of the South Durham Veterinary Association, Mr. J. G. Deans, M.R.C.V.S., of Bishop Auckland, made special references to the great liability of Clydesdales as at present bred to suffer from this disease. Mr. Deans said: 'In trying to produce a type of animal to suit the tastes of Clydesdale fanciers who require great length of pastern, breeders have rendered their horses far more liable to bog spavin than they otherwise would be. There is a medium in all things, and although I am partial to the Clydesdale breed of horses, I most thoroughly condemn this excessive length of pasterns which has been aimed at. When you get those long pastern joints, you as a consequence find that the position of the joints of the hind limbs are all altered, and that you in conjunction with the above find straight hocks, which I assert is the cause of bog spavin in 60 per cent. of the cases to be found in young animals. Some other cases are produced by want of exercise, but when caused in this way they are only temporary, and can be removed without surgical treatment.'

Summer Fair Dates.

Edmonton Summer Fair	July 1 to 8
Calgary Summer Fair	July 10 to 13
Regina Summer Fair	July 15
Winnipeg Summer Fair	July 18 and 19
Brandon Summer Fair	July 18 and 19
St. James Summer Fair	July 23 to 25
St. John's Summer Fair	July 23 to 26
St. Mary's Summer Fair	Aug. 3
St. Peter's Summer Fair	Aug. 4 and 5
St. Paul's Summer Fair	Aug. 7 and 8
St. George's Summer Fair	Aug. 10 and 11

Western Stock Growers' Association.

Following the conventions of the pure-bred cattle breeders and the horse-breeders in Calgary, April 9th and 10th, respectively, the stock-growers' meeting brought together men representing a large proportion of the cattle wealth of the Canadian West. The ranch centurion, with his hundred head of steers, and the Midaslike fellow, with herds which range the thousand hills of Alberta, were there, and, as a consequence, a businesslike atmosphere prevailed. One feature of the meeting was the concise report of the Secretary. The chair was ably filled by D. H. Andrews, Manager of the Canadian Land & Ranch Co., Crane Lake, Assa., President of the Association. The President's address referred to the benefits of membership in the Association and the proposed increase in wolf bounties. The Association had met the C. P. R. officials re damages for animals killed on the track, the increased amount now allowed being more reasonable and therefore acceptable to the Association. Bulls killed on the railroad track will not be compensated for at any increase. An interesting fact referred to by the President was the gradual disappearance of mange from the range, so that as far as the herds were concerned, it might also be termed non-existent. The Executive brought to the notice of the members the fact of American cattle being rounded up north of the boundary line, and further, that Canadian cattle with brands similar to those from the South were also rounded up along with these American cattle and were taken south, objections on the part of the Northerners being overruled, redress so far being unavailable.

One hundred and seventy-seven members were reported by the Secretary, the assessment being at the rate of 1½ cents per head of stock owned. Exports were increasing, shipments of stock since April, 1900, amounting to 47,515 head. The officers of 1900 were re-elected to serve for 1901, and are as follows: President, D. H. Andrews, Crane Lake, Assa.; First Vice-President, A. R. Springett, New Oxley; Second Vice-President, F. W. Cochrane, Macleod; Secretary-Treasurer, R. G. Matthews, Macleod. Directors—Bow River, W. R. Hull; Medicine Hat, J. H. V. Bray; Pincher Creek, R. Duthie; High River, H. Smith and J. H. Brown; Lethbridge, Howe Harris; Maple Creek, W. J. Wiley; Sheep Creek, J. A. Turner; Willow Creek, A. B. McDonald and George Lane.

The live question of leases, squatting on the water rights and reserves was taken up and debated thoroughly, the resolutions introduced showing the tenor of the debate.

A resolution was passed that, as many new settlers are coming into the country and squatting on the springs reserved for stock, the W. S. A. desire that these newcomers should not be allowed to squat, and that those at present squatting be removed, and that the land agents be advised to warn incomers against squatting. A further recommendation, that such reserves be not open to free entry, but be sold at auction, similarly to school lands, with an upset price of \$5 per acre, no more than one reserve being sold to any company or corporation. It was stated that the objection to reserving water privileges is raised by new arrivals who have not the interests of the country at heart. [Why should not new settlers have as deep an interest in the country's welfare as some of the older settlers?—Ed.] Mr. Stewart, of Macleod, was heard as a vigorous champion of the small rancher and new settler, claiming that the resolutions were for the purpose of shutting out the small owner for the benefit of the large one, stating further that the ranchers have not fulfilled the terms called for in their leases, the number of cattle not being up to the limit.

A motion to memorialize the Dominion Government, regarding the N.-W. M. P., carried, the motion indicating the appreciation in which the force was held, and also desiring that it be kept up to its full strength.

A motion, that "no butcher or his employee be eligible for the position of stock inspector," was passed; also one requiring that "the hide of any animal killed by any other than a butcher shall be exhibited at the time of sale, the hide to be punched and the brand recorded by a stock inspector." The above motion was passed with a view of stopping the nefarious practice of slaughtering animals from off the range without the knowledge of their owners. By resolution, badly blotched or unbranded stock will in future be gathered by the captains of the round-ups or inspectors, the said animals to be sold, the proceeds to go to the Association, unless ownership is proven, when the proceeds will be paid to him.

The question of chutes and squeezers at shipping points was brought up, and was effectively disposed of by Mr. Shaw, C. P. R., who stated that chutes or squeezers would be put in at points applied for by the Association.

A motion to raise the bounty on coyotes was lost; also one to authorize the selling of stray fat cattle for beef, the Association to take the proceeds and forward the moneys to the respective owners.

A motion was passed to memorialize the Department of the Interior to cause to be posted in post offices all applications for leases, said leases to state whether they are to be granted for horses, cattle or sheep.

The proceedings ended with a few speeches relative to Col. Dent's horse-buying tour, a strong appeal being made to bring out as many horses properly trained as possible. Some speakers made a strong plea for the avoidance of questionable tactics in the

matter of selling to the British purchasing officer, claiming that indulgence in such reprehensible practices would spoil any chance of future markets. In view of the fact that the purchasing officer is considered to be an expert on horses, and that a veterinarian will aid him, the plea to deal gently "with the young man, Absalom," was, to say the least, a mirth-provoking one.

The next annual meeting will be held at Macleod.

The Forestry Department Starts Work.

The Department of the Interior at Ottawa has taken up the questions of forest preservation and tree-planting, and has organized a Forestry Department, with Mr. E. Stewart as superintendent. The effort of this Department is to supervise the work of forest preservation on the timber reserves controlled by the Dominion Government, and assist those desirous of planting trees for forest or shelter purposes. The latter part of the work will naturally be carried on principally in Manitoba and the West. The scheme, as already outlined in the *ADVOCATE*, is to have experts personally visit every applicant for aid in this direction and advise as to the best location of the desired shelter-belts, give instructions regarding the preparation of the land, and, when all is in readiness, supply seedling trees or tree seeds, which are to be taken care of under the supervision of the expert forester. The recipient is to undertake the work required for the successful growth of his plantation and allow the Government whatever cuttings, seeds, etc., they may require in the future. In these plantations the Department will provide nothing less than 1,500 seedlings, or seed sufficient for the planting of half an acre.

Mr. Norman M. Ross, a graduate of the Ontario Agricultural College, who has taken up special work in forestry both at the college and subsequently at the Biltmore estate, North Carolina, and also in Germany, has been appointed assistant to Mr. Stewart.

Mr. A. P. Stevenson, who has done such splendid work in horticulture at his nurseries at Nelson, Man., has also been engaged to assist in the supervision of the work. Mr. Ross takes charge of the Territories, and Mr. Stevenson of Manitoba.

The agreement published below gives very fully conditions under which this Government assistance is to be given.

THE AGREEMENT.

The following is the tree-planting agreement to be subscribed to by the owners of lands and the Department:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR.
TREE-PLANTING AGREEMENT.

Ottawa, 1901

The Department of the Interior of Canada and A. B., of, mutually agree as follows:

1. The Department of the Interior, in order to disseminate a knowledge of improved ways of planting and developing forest plantations, wood-lots, shelter-belts, and wind-breaks, shall, after personal study on the ground by its agents, prepare a plan for planting and caring for a forest plantation, wood-lot, shelter-belt or wind-break, on acres of land of the said A. B., situated and described as follows:

2. The said plan shall be prepared for the purpose of promoting and increasing the present value and usefulness of said land to its owner and to develop and perpetuate a plantation of forest trees upon it.

3. Upon the completion of the said plan and its acceptance by the said A. B., the Department of the Interior shall supervise the execution thereof so far as may be necessary.

4. The Department of the Interior will, as far as the means at its disposal permit, furnish seed and plant material for the purpose of planting the said forest plantation, wood-lot, shelter-belt or wind-break, but the preparation of the soil and the planting and care of the above-named forest plantation, wood-lot, shelter-belt or wind-break, shall be attended to by the said A. B.

5. The Department of the Interior shall render all services under this agreement wholly without charge to the said A. B.

6. The Department of the Interior shall have the right to take from the said plantation, wood-lot, shelter-belt or wind-break, for use on other land, any of the young trees removed in the necessary thinning of the said plantation, wood-lot, shelter-belt or wind-break, which are not required on the above-named lot. The Department of the Interior shall also have the right to take seed from the said plantation, wood-lot, shelter-belt or wind-break.

7. The Department of the Interior shall have the right to publish and distribute the said plan and its results for the information of farmers and others whom it may concern.

(Signed) Owner

(Signed) Superintendent of Forestry

Post Office Date

The working plan, above mentioned, being completed, is now accepted, and will be carried out under the conditions of the above agreement.

(Signed) Owner