

harm. In truth a lot more of it would do considerable good.

* * *

Somebody asks why it is there is not more competition in Canadian-bred draft horses at our exhibitions. This seems a branch that would stand more development. But how are the horses to be got out? This year at Winnipeg the Canadian sections were poorly filled, and only a desultory interest taken in the placing of the awards in them. Some of the animals competing were of a high order of excellence, all of a good average, but the Scotch-bred horses outshine our own in the interest created in the show ring. There is a glamor, of course, always attaching to imported animals, but we can't see why interest could not be developed to an even greater degree in stock of our own breeding. An enterprising stock paper in the United States in order to stimulate competition in foals at the leading fairs has planned for what might be termed a futurity class, and by the looks of things is going to accomplish something. The idea could very well be worked out successfully. Futurity races are the headliners in the racing sport. Futurity classes for draft horses could be made to make something more than is being made of home-bred classes at our larger exhibitions. Our idea would be to have mare owners enter for the event when the mare was bred, paying a nominal entry fee, to be augmented by a further payment a month or so before the fair was held. Or, if the date of exhibition was too early to bring out a well-grown class, make the prize for yearlings and make conditions such that the colt's appearance for the futurity prize would be the first time he stepped into a show ring. It might be necessary, then; in fact, it would be necessary to have classes for both fillies and horse colts, but interests would not in any wise be lessened on that account. Our home-bred classes in draft horses need encouraging. The aim, primarily, in awarding prizes for horses at exhibitions is to stimulate better breeding, and we cannot see that in any of the purebred classes the Canadian exhibitor has yet come in for due recognition. What we need to do is give more attention to the Canadian breeder and less to the importer. True, to the latter credit is due, for much of our progress in breeding, but it is the former who will ultimately make this country's reputation in horses. It is creditable to buy good horses, but it is more creditable to breed them. It is proper to offer substantial prizes to the exhibitor of imported horses, but it is the part of wisdom to clearly emphasize the interest of organizations that have the advancement of horse interests at heart by substantially rewarding the work of the man who breeds his own stock. A futurity class for foals, or yearlings, should make a highly interesting ring feature, and if we mistake not would bring out some classes of surprising numbers and excellence. The prizes would have to be worth while, and some conditions worked out as to what class of breeders were eligible for entering.

EQUITANT.

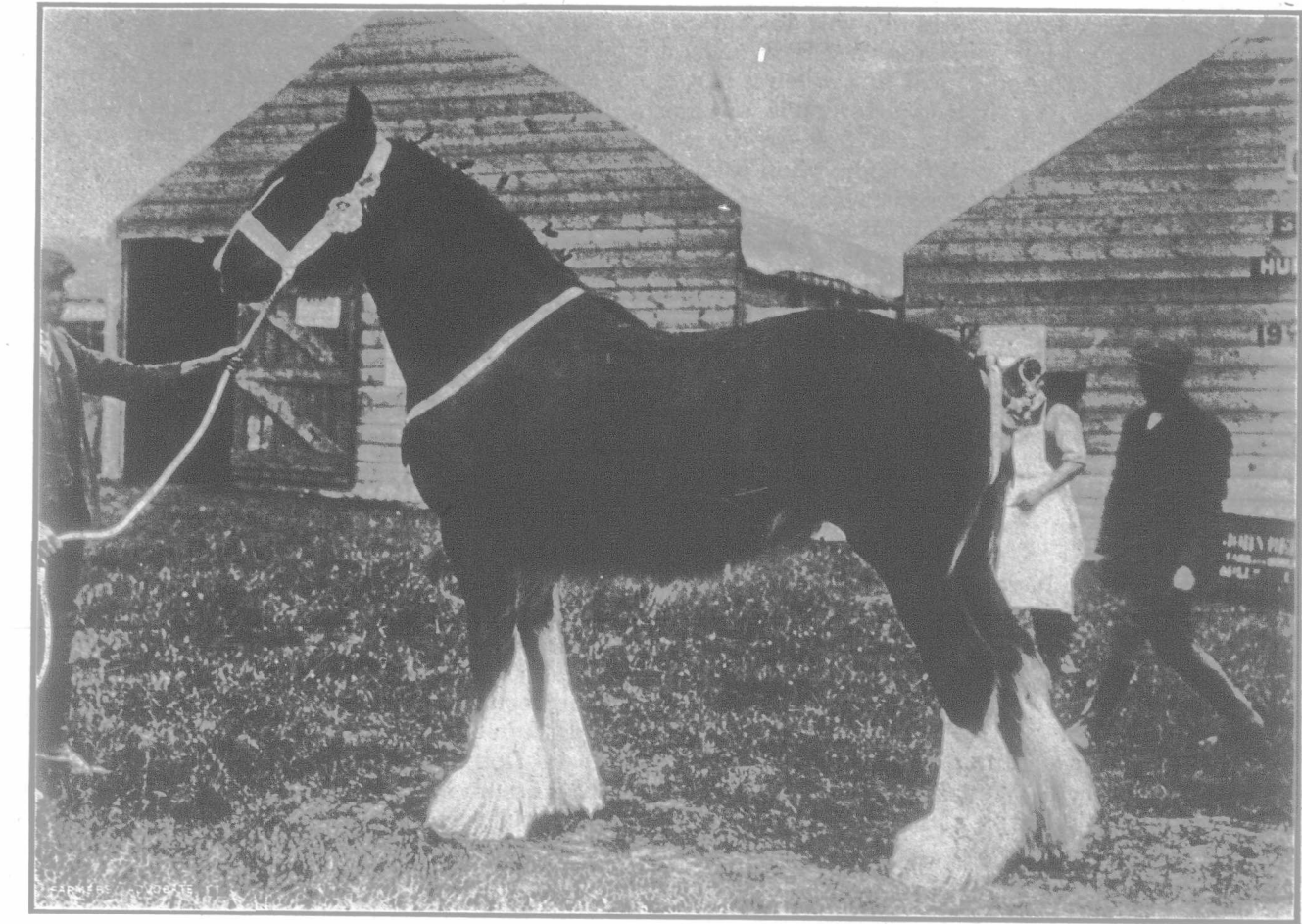
Percheron Men Meet

The annual meeting of the Canadian Percheron Horse Breeders' Association was held in Calgary, July 5th, during the recent Provincial Fair. There was a fair representation of the different provinces, the West naturally predominating. The financial statement for the year ending Dec. 31st, 1910, showed the association to be in a flourishing condition, there being some \$1,900.00 on hand at that time after paying all expenses and prize monies, cups, etc., at the principal fairs in Canada.

This year the association is offering special prizes for Percherons in the form of gold medals and silver cups at more fairs in Canada than it has done heretofore, and the exhibits of Percherons at these fairs are becoming more numerous and of better quality each year.

It is fully expected that the first volume of the stud book will be ready for distribution very soon.

The publication of this book has been unavoidably delayed by the enormous amount of correspondence entailed both with the French



DUNSMORE CHESSIE, CHAMPION TWO-YEAR-OLD SHIRE FILLY AT BATH AND WEST SHOW

and American secretaries in getting everything correct before the work is proceeded with.

The officers of the association for the current year are: President, W. B. Thorne, Aldersyde, Alta.; vice-president, R. C. Upper, North Portal, Sask.; secretary-treasurer, F. R. Pike, High River, Alta.; directors: George Lane, Calgary, Alta.; R. P. Stanley, Moosomin, Sask.; J. Franklin, Macleod, Alta.; J. Colquhoun, Brandon Man.; J. B. Hogate, Weston, Ont.

Weaning Colts at Twelve Weeks

A reader inquires if it would be advisable to wean the colts before the mares go into the heavy work of harvesting, his experience being that colts do not thrive well if being suckled by mares at hard work.

Some authorities on horse raising advise weaning the colts at three months or so of age in preference to suckling them on mares at hot, heavy work. It is necessary, however, if the colts are to be kept growing, to substitute skim milk for the dam's milk, and teach the colts to drink sometime before they are weaned.

Begin to teach the youngster to drink fresh milk diluted at first with about one-fourth as much water. When the colt is drinking well the milk may be gradually changed to sweet skim milk and increased to about as much as he will take without upsetting the digestion, at the same time feeding the mare rather lightly to check the milk flow. When the colt is taking cow's milk freely it may be weaned from the mare. Feed milk three times a day until the colt is about five months old and then taper it off and wean the colt if the milk seems to be no longer needed.

The best grain mixture is a combination of 80 per cent. crushed oats and 20 per cent. bran by weight. To this may be added 10 per cent. of oil meal with advantage. This will give a glossy coat and promote growth. Bright clover or alfalfa hay will be better for a colt of this age than timothy. It is very seldom that a colt so fed will eat too much grain. If he does not stretch up rapidly in frame, but piles on a lot of fat, it is either necessary to encourage him to take more exercise or cut down the feed. Of course, if the colt has scours or other digestive troubles, the feed should also be reduced.

However, unless one has reason to believe that the colt will go back, if on the dam's milk in harvest, it is better not to wean at this age. A colt should suckle the dam at least until he is five months of age.

STOCK

Foot and Mouth Disease

It is reported that owing to an outbreak of foot and mouth disease in England, the Dominion Veterinary Inspector, Dr. Rutherford, has decided that permits for importation of cattle from that country shall be cancelled temporarily. Several importers are affected.

Frozen Meat Trade

For the five months ended May 31, 1910, there was imported into the United Kingdom from Australia, 1,094,570 carcasses of mutton, 770,201 of lamb and 64,983 quarters beef. From New Zealand there came 755,828 carcasses of mutton, 1,446,931 of lamb and 123,868 quarters beef. From South America came 1,142,571 carcasses of mutton, 260,404 of lamb, 619,210 quarters of frozen beef and 533,052 of chilled beef. During the first two weeks of June there was imported 354,968 carcasses of frozen mutton, being 182,921 from Australia, 83,713 from New Zealand, 69,970 from River Plate and 18,364 from Patagonia. In the same time 237,521 carcasses of lamb were received from New Zealand, 39,000 from Australia, 29,141 from River Plate and 14,546 from Patagonia.

Weaning the Lambs

When lambs are four months old they will, as a rule, do better weaned than running with the ewes, if fresh pasture is provided for them. This is generally available very soon after the hay crop has been gathered. They thrive well on clover. Fresh, clean water should also be provided for the lambs, and salt, either kept in a covered box where they may take it at will, or a little dropped in bunches on the grass, near the water or feed troughs, once or twice a week. Ordinarily, on good fresh grass, the lambs will do very well without additional feeding, but if they are intended for show or for early selling for breeding purposes they will be better with a feed of oats or oats and bran once or twice a day, fed in troughs in the field. For show lambs, the addition of a little ground oil cake will help to improve their condition.

When the lambs are weaned, the shears should be used to shorten the wool on the ends of their docked tails, and to clip off any tags of dirt which may be present. Later, they will do well on a