

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).

TWO DISTINCT PUBLICATIONS—EASTERN AND WESTERN

EASTERN OFFICE:
CARLING STREET, LONDON, ONT.

WESTERN OFFICE:
IMPERIAL BANK BLOCK, CORNER BANNATYNE AVE. AND MAIN ST.,
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

BRANCH OFFICE: CALGARY, ALBERTA, N.-W. T.

LONDON (ENGLAND) OFFICE:
W. W. CHAPMAN, Agent, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street,
London, W. C., England.

JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

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distant when the man whose preliminary schooling is very slim is going to be at a discount, unless he be a perpetual and persistent student.

The new Ontario High School curriculum gives a page to agriculture. Why not incorporate some of the work prescribed in the proposed O. A. C. scholarship? Incidentally, we would like to ask how generally, or with what thoroughness, are the High Schools taking up the work in agriculture?

It will be objected to the scholarship idea that it savors of a prize, and is therefore unhealthy. We do not subscribe to that doctrine. All through life there are battles for prizes. To pass an examination of any sort is a prize and a stimulant. A good many natures need incentives. They help more than they hurt. Unquestionably, scholarships have attracted large numbers of students to the universities and promoted advanced work. Why not use them for the benefit of the Agricultural College?

There might be the risk through scholarships of getting some young man into a wrong profession, and making a poor agriculturist out of timber that would have made a very useful lawyer, custom-house official or merchant. Possibly, but we think by the time he reaches the Junior Matriculation stage he will have disclosed his bent, particularly if he has one for the all-important natural sciences, and in signifying his intentions to the educational authorities of competing for an O. A. C. scholarship, the risks will not be serious, and, anyhow, the advantages will more than outweigh this apparent weakness.

The Cook Likes It, Too.

Mr. J. W. Millington, "Fairview Farm," Oxford, Ont., says: "I greatly appreciate the 'Farmer's Advocate,' and could not do without it. I find it of great assistance in all the varied branches of farm work. Our cook also requests me to express her appreciation of the space allotted to her particular domain. Wishing you increased prosperity during the coming year."

HORSES.

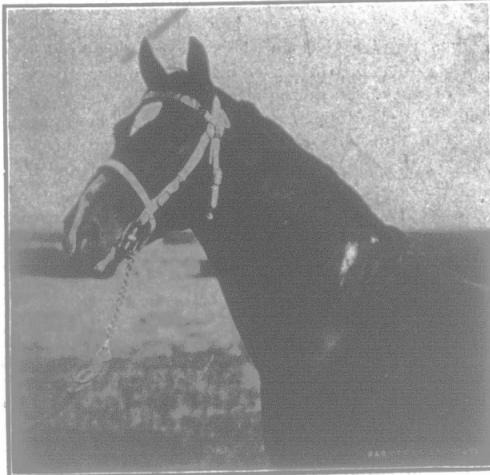
The first foal of 1905 is reported from Thorncliffe Farm, being the get of Kapanga, dam Zeal; Mr. Robert Davies' Thoroughbreds.

* * *

A splendid exhibit of Clydesdales and Shires is anticipated next week at the "Repository."

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If the work horses have not begun to take on a little extra flesh to fortify them for the spring's work, it is time they were doing so. See that their teeth are right, feed liberally of a mixed ration, and given plenty of exercise.



A Typical Hackney Head.

Some Notable English Hackneys.

As a high-class harness horse, it is hard to find the equal of the Hackney. The immense and increasing popularity of the breed, not only in England, but all over the world, is clearly demonstrated by the examination of the pedigrees of animals exhibited in harness classes at shows. It can hardly be said that Hackney-breeding has been taken up and developed as extensively as the breeding of Shires has by tenant farmers in England, but it must not be for a moment supposed that this class of the agricultural community has altogether neglected the "high-steppers." On the contrary, many of the men who have earned fame in the show-ring and through their untiring labors piloted the breed to its present flourishing condition are tenant farmers. With such men as Sir Walter Gilbey and Sir Gilbert Greenall, not to mention a host of others, taking an active and practical interest in the welfare of the breed, it is needless to say that the Hackney has shown a



His Majesty.

great all-round improvement during the past decade. Size and action are the points that breeders are aiming for, and without the latter a Hackney is worthless. No matter how good-looking when standing still, or in the show-ring, or on the road, he will always have to give way to the horse that "moves," even if the latter is a plain-looking animal. Chestnut is a very prevalent color among Hackneys to-day, but a good bay or brown always meets a ready sale, and it is rather a pity that these colors are not more common. However, we must not overlook

the old saying that "a good horse is never a bad color." In connection with the Hackney Society's 1905 London show, the novel feature of classes for stallions and mares (likely to make brood mares) exhibited in harness are being introduced for the first time. This is a step in the right direction, for it is a well-known fact that when entire horses have some regular work they are not only more easily managed themselves, but their stock is also more tractable when handed over to the colt-breaker.

The accompanying photographs should convey, as far as illustrations can, some idea of the conformation of the Hackney, for they represent some of the most noted and typical specimens in the country, a description of whom, together with some notes on their pedigrees and performances, may also be of interest.

As a beautiful and typical Hackney stallion, Dissenter 7044 stands out prominently. This grand horse is a chestnut foaled in 1898, by the London champion, Connaught 1453, out of Here-say 6772, by Danegelt 174, the latter being, perhaps, the most noted sire the breed has produced, for he more than repaid the sum of £5,000, given by his owner, Sir Walter Gilbey, by siring many noted winning mares and stallions.

Dissenter, though perhaps a shade on the small side, is a well-moulded horse of exquisite quality. His intelligent head and beautifully-balanced quarters, stamp him as a very high-class sire, and his high, true, all-round action has helped to carry him to the fore in many a show-ring.

His Majesty 2513, owned by Mr. J. Jones, White Gate Stud, Wrexham, after winning at London, and other important shows, has made an extensive reputation for himself as a sire, and his services are in considerable demand at the present time. The special features that he stamps his stock with are size and action, which, as previously mentioned, are just what horsemen are striving to secure. Amongst the most famous of His Majesty's progeny are Forest King, sold for £4,200, and champion harness horse of the world, and Diplomatist, winner of many prizes, including reserve for the stallion championship at the London Show, 1904. His Majesty is very stoutly bred. He is a magnificent type of Yorkshire, too, grandly built, on hard, sound limbs, a fine topped horse, and last, but not least, a mover, for though getting on in years he can go with all the dash and fire of youth, bending his knees and getting off his hocks in brilliant fashion. His height is 15.2 hands high.

We now come to a remarkable horse, who has twice weathered the Atlantic voyage, the game old Bonfire 2381, a chestnut, bred by Mr. Coke, of Litcham, Norfolk, and by Wildfire 1224, out of Kilwick Lass 174, by the renowned Denmark 177. He is a chestnut in color, and stands 15.1 hands high. As far back as 1892, he secured the championship at the New York Horse Show, in addition to other distinctions in the show-ring. Shortly after this victory he was purchased for £2,950, and brought back to England, where he now stands in the possession of Mr. E. D. MacNaughton, of Parkside. Bonfire has been a very successful sire, particularly of mares and fillies. A very interesting fact in connection with Bonfire is that while in America he was trained for trotting, and earned a mile record of two minutes forty seconds, a really wonderful feat for a high-stepping horse.

It is hardly fair to criticise the points of an old horse, who has had a long and eventful career, but it will be seen from the accompanying photo, taken in his sixteenth year, that the son of Wildfire is by no means a disgrace to his breeding on the score of looks.

Belenie Princess Royal 14129 represents a fine class of Hackney mare, being symmetrical, roomy, showing a lot of quality, and moving with plenty of dash and vigor. This handsome mare is a chestnut, four years old, by Bonfire 2381, out of Crazy Jane, by Consul 1266. She has won numerous prizes at the London Hackney, Royal Lancashire, and other leading shows.

The object of Hackney breeders is to produce a high-class harness horse, and in Betchton Royal we have an excellent example of the finished article. He is a chestnut, five-year-old son of Dane Royal and Venus, by the noted old sire, Star of the East. He has won upwards of twenty first and other prizes in saddle and harness, and was afterwards purchased by a continental buyer for the highly satisfactory sum of 300 gs., along with his own brother, a year younger. Betchton Royal is a very showy, beautifully-mannered horse, who, when exhibited in leather, carried himself in magnificent style, and on being set going his fine action never fails to attract attention, for the further he goes, the better he goes.

No article on the Hackney would be complete without reference to his near relative, the Hackney pony, who is bred on the same line, the only difference being in height. Good Hackney ponies are as much sought after, and fetch very often as much money, as bigger horses, provided they are bred on the right lines and have plenty of action. Sir Horace 5402 stands out head and shoulders above his rivals as the most successful pony stallion of modern times, not only because of his