

THE HORSE.

It is stated that for five years hence no mares will be allowed to leave France for export.

Replace any horses sold for the war with good pedigreed stock. There is considerable available.

Hunters, Shires and Hackneys have gone from Britain to the war in large numbers. Counties near Old London have been depleted of all the best types.

British horse breeders are being urged to breed every available mare, even to two-year-old fillies. It looks like a long, hard fight, and a terrible loss of horses.

Do You Love Your Horse?

Are you sure you're a lover of horses, my boy?
You declare that you love a good horse.
But unless you've a heart for his pain and his joy,
Your assertion I cannot endorse.

You are proud of his beauty of color and form,
Of his coat with its satiny gloss—
For affection he shows, does your own answer warm,
Or would gold compensate for his loss?

When he speeds, while the wind fans your cheek cool and fresh,
With the world looking on to admire,
Do you know he's a creature of sensitive flesh—
Like yourself he may suffer and tire?

When at last in your service grown feeble and old,
Will you care and your kindness abate?
Or to heartless abuse will he ever be sold
As "a five dollar plug" or a "skate"?

When you say you're a lover of horses, my boy,
Then I ask, is your love for them true;
For it may be affection for self and the joy
That the horse can confer upon you.

—Ida F. Layton, in Horse World.

Horsemen, Take Heart!

A few days ago it was our privilege to attend an auction sale of high-class pure-bred stock. The most significant feature in the bidding was its spirited nature when cattle of a good beef breed were in the ring, as compared with the dullness and lack of interest when some high-class Clydesdale horses came under the hammer. There seems to be a deadness, lack of interest, and spirit of fear prevailing the horse business from start to finish. From the large sales stables in the cities to the individual horseman on his small farm in the country there is no demand. Everyone is awaiting the outcome of conditions in Europe. The autumn season is the off-season in the horse trade, and buyers think that with feed so high it is much safer for them to wait until spring and not attempt to purchase horses this fall and feed on expensive feed until spring, and at the same time run the risk of conditions then, unless they can get such horses much below their real value.

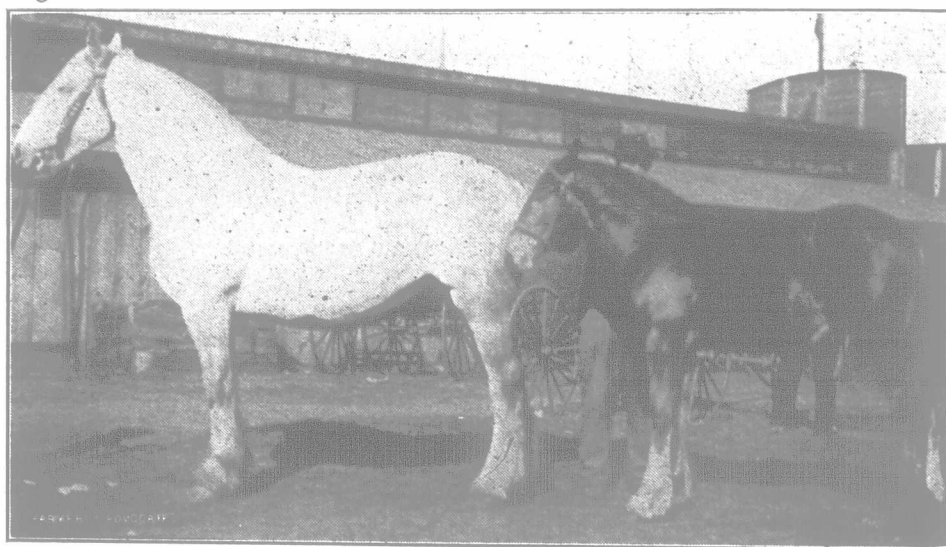
We make no attempt at a prophesy on market conditions, but if indications are any criterion to go by things should brighten up considerably for horsemen next spring. Three months of war have demonstrated that modern means of destruction are capable of depleting the army horse supply more rapidly than anyone, even the highest officials familiar with these destructive machines and with war in general, anticipated. Never in the history of armed conflict has the slaughter of horses been so great in the same time, as has taken place since the beginning of the war early in August. Reports filtering through the Old Land from the front indicate that a shortage of horses will very soon be felt by the armies at the front. We read of a single shell destroying whole batteries, men, guns and horses, and when we hear that some of the heavy guns fire twelve shots a minute we can in some measure realize the loss which must ensue.

Reports from England state that the demand for Shires is increasing, and prices are mounting upwards. Large numbers of heavy horses have been requisitioned for the army, and before spring thousands and thousands more must go to the front. Europe, if the war lasts, cannot supply horses enough to keep the large armies moving. It has already been found necessary to purchase freely in the United States and Canada. This need will grow and sales will become larger. The horse market is flat at present, but owners should take heart; there surely is a better time ahead and rather than sacrifice good animals on a draggy market this fall it would be better to

hold them over until next spring, and run the chances of a readier sale and a better price. Our horse market is at the lowest ebb on account of the war. Things must brighten up if the horse supplies are depleted, as they surely will be. Rather than sell much below value, take heart, talk better prices, and hold on to the horse until you get them.

A Charity Horse Show.

The New York Horse Show, annually held in New York late in November or early in December, has been cancelled on account of the war but in its stead will be held from December 7th to 12th at Madison Square Garden a Charity Horse Show, the greatest exhibition of its kind ever held in America, the proceeds to go to the Red Cross and the Committee of Mercy. No money prizes will be offered, yet practically every horseman in the United States is behind the movement, and the exhibit will be one of the biggest ever made.



Dewston Fuschia and Foal.

First-prize brood mare and foal at London, 1914, for Johnston Bros., Croton, Ont.

LIVE STOCK.

Fighting the Enemy.

A stock breeder must entrench himself like an army corps, else the enemies that come down upon him will surely put him to rout. The foe of the stockman is not clothed in uniform, but armies of little germs, unseen lurk constantly spying out the weak places in the line and reconnoitering where least expected. Tuberculosis, contagious abortion, cholera and all such evils are the worst enemies of the herd, and when once they gain a foothold the struggle is on. The herdsman's fortifications are sanitation, ventilation and clean byres, while for ammunition, creolin, carbolic acid, methylene blue, fire and water are most effective. These should be used freely for an unseen foe may be routed by thoroughly purg-



Dorset Ewe.

Champion at Toronto and London, for J. A. Oehler.

ing with a disinfectant all places wherein a scout might be.

Out of the desire to improve the stock and better conditions, many farmers have ventured the price of a pure-bred bull or heifer, only to find that it was the direct cause of introducing a disease into the already moderately good herd. This is discouraging, but in no wise an argument against such a move, for it is the buyer's duty to acquaint himself with the surroundings from which his purchase comes, and assure himself that he is not buying from a stable infected with tuberculosis or contagious abortion. The tuberculin test is a good indicator, and should be used annually on every herd. If it does fail occasion-

ally that is no reason why all the animals should not be tested, and the reactors isolated until they develop the disease more noticeably or vindicate themselves as healthy and normally well. Every poultry-keeper should have a printed description of the symptoms and character of the disease known as tuberculosis, and hang it in his pens, not for the information of the birds but for his edification that he might detect a case at once. The honest estimation of an authority as to the extent of this disease throughout the country would be alarming in the extreme, and unless more precautions are taken and a more thorough understanding of the disease gained by poultry-keepers at large, there will be a serious loss in the next few years. So it is with tuberculosis and contagious abortion in the herd. Some farmers do not acquaint themselves even with the symptoms and nature of these most dreaded diseases sufficiently to become suspicious when they appear. We cannot expect all to treat it intelligently in every case, but enough should be known about the evidences presented by the herd

that the owner consults one who knows before the loss is irreparable. When an animal is attacked by colic and kicks the side of the stall away, the veterinarian is sent for at once and he comes at full speed lest the patient may recover and be all right before he arrives, but the deadly ailments work more in secret and destroy the vitality of the herd before they are apprehended by the casual attendant. Veterinary books are a commendable thing about the place, but the covers are usually enveloped with too

much dust to evidence any degree of study on the part of the owner. One or two of the worst diseases should be explained on posters that could be put up in the stable, and few stockmen there are who would not become acquainted with some of the information after working around it for one winter. Someone will say the expense would be enormous, but so is the expense heavy when the whole herds of swine are cremated in order to stamp out hog cholera. One report came to our ears only recently that a number of cholera-infected swine were thrown in a heap outside the building and exposed to dogs, rats and birds, the most persistent carriers of the disease, simply because the loser was ignorant of the nature of his crime and the cause of their death. Petty philosophers may harp about individual rights, but such demeanor as this affects the community too much to be overlooked. All stockmen should know the worst contagious diseases. There is a huge amount of money invested in live stock, and it is the breeder's duty to himself and to his neighbor to know the enemy at sight and stamp it out without loss of time.

Germany is endeavoring to conserve her meat supply by forbidding the slaughter of calves under 165 pounds in weight, and the slaughter of cows under seven years of age.

FARM.

The War and the Farmer.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Upon consideration of so much advice handed out to the Canadian farmer about increasing production, several thoughts are uppermost in one's mind. I can only discuss the situation from the viewpoint of the ordinary farmer who feels the justice of ordinary conditions, not to mention those accruing from the abnormal conditions of to-day, which seem to increase the already hard lines of those following agriculture, so what I may write might seem pessimistic and unpatriotic, it is the burden of the plaint of the majority of farmers to-day. In a recent address on this subject I dealt with "Greater Production, Its Necessities, Its Difficulties, and Its Benefits." Probably the second thought is of most importance under present-day conditions.

As I have read, during the past two months, in the different newspapers and magazines editorial and official appeals to the farmers to get to work and raise more grain and other food-stuffs, accompanied by the seemingly inevitable rot about this form of patriotism being the farmer's privilege and manner of serving his country,

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