

male progeny prize, at present there are two. Still further, a rule should be included in the prize list, that each exhibitor shall declare at the time of making his other entries, the animals that will constitute his herd or herds exhibit, so that it will not be possible for one man to bring two herds into the ring and be able after viewing his competitors, to so rearrange his cattle that in place of being a strong first, and possibly fourth and outside the money, he may be a moderate first and moderate third. At the Royal, herd prizes are not offered, and while we do not advocate such a radical departure, we believe that entirely too much money is given for the herds, and that the first and second prize animals are treated far more liberally than the less fortunate ones are entitled to be.

Enthusiasm is as variable, both in quality and quantity in the human breast, and we believe in holding out more encouragement to the man who can get up to third, fourth and fifth or even sixth place, than he gets under the present classification.

We believe that the rearrangement would have a good effect, that more exhibitors would be gotten, more men interested in the breed, the rivalry induced would be keener and better sustained and enthusiasm would not be chilled. In addition, we believe there should be a section for the Shorthorns such as obtains at the Royal, viz., for milk-yields on the basis of that in force at the big English show. There, the following are the regulations governing the competition.

The animals are to be milked dry on the evening previous to the day of competition, and the yield for the next twenty-four hours is taken for the trials.

The prizes in the milk yield classes are awarded according to the following scale of points:—

One point for every 1 lb. of milk.

One point for every completed ten days since calving, deducting the first forty days. Maximum points for lactation 12.

Four points for every one per cent. of fat shown on the average of the two milkings, Babcock's test.

Cows whose milk shows less than an average of 3 per cent. of fat on the two milkings to be disqualified.

Fractions of lbs. of milk, percentage of fat, and incomplete periods of less than ten days, to be worked out in decimals and added to the points.

No prize or commendation is awarded to cattle which do not obtain the following points,—cows five years or over, fifty-five points, cows and heifers under five years, fifty points.

It is well known that at the present day in Canada the milking qualities and powers of the Shorthorn are largely in abeyance, due to encouragement being given at the shows solely to the extreme beef types or masses of blubber, a course that is not only injuring the individual animal so treated, and inducing sterility in the males as well as the females, but is also losing for the breed its dual-purpose character without which quality it cannot hope to retain its hold upon the members of the farming community as successfully as it has in the past.

Indulging the Work Habit.

A man must surely be most prosaic if the passing of the harvest arouses in him nothing of either the poet or the philosopher—for it does not require that a man should live on bread and lentils and dress in sackcloth in order that he should be a philosopher, nor that he should "send the viewless arrows of his thoughts—like Indian reeds blown from his silver tongue—from Calpe to Caucasus," in order that he should be a poet. Sitting calmly by the back "kitchen" door on an autumn evening, with the blue smoke-wreaths curling upward from his pipe, serene in the consciousness of a summer's work ended and a goodly harvest in store, the farmer may philosophize as deeply as ever did old Stoic on the "impregnable fortress" of contentment, the pearl of great price of "tranquility." Looking on past the farm yard to the fields where stooks stand thick with the pale gold of wheat, and oats and barley, noting the exquisite gradations of light and shade, and blue, cloud-flecked sky above, the greenness of the grass, and the great tawny stretches of the shorn fields below, he may feel, if he cannot express, the emotions that have found expression by the pen of the poet.

Most common of all subjects to arise in one's mind is that of daily work. Is it all worth while? Maxim Gorky, he of Russian fame as a novelist, and American fame as a hotel guest,

has been giving his opinions upon the life of American people, which also includes Canadians, and concludes that the fever for work has made us slaves to gold, that there is no real satisfaction in our lives, because we aspire only after material things. His opinions are also shared by others, among whom are many of our readers especially when physically tired. But we are not workers because we are slaves to work. Necessity unquestionably, either in the form of a stern parent or for the sake of bread, first drove us to work, but eventually we worked because of the fruits of labor and the satisfaction of accomplishing things. Now work has become part of us and to cease it in the full flush of manhood means to leave part of our lives behind. Well-to-do farmers might philosophize on this subject before retiring to town. We may have caught the work habit which like others demands of the victim more and more indulgence to satisfy it, to the exclusion of other things more aesthetic, yet at the same time it is not so terrible a condition and in the future when we have become satiated with work, probably there will arise a generation who will discover a more enjoyable if less utilitarian manner of forgetting time.

HORSE

The States sent us 31,919 horses last year.

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It is nothing to a horse's good to grind his oats unless nature's grinders are out of order.

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Care needs to be exercised in feeding new oats to horses subject to colic.

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Give the colt plenty of oats and bran to keep the "milk fat" on him during the late summer and fall.

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A little oil on the hoofs during the dry, hot weather will do much to prevent cracking and contraction.

Interpretations of Fair Boards Classification re Carriage Horses.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

A fair board list includes a carriage or coach class, animals to have registration papers (except in harness sections). First, does harness section include brood mares? Second, should the judge have any respect for what carriage breeding the animals do possess if not registered, or should he take individuality whether draft or driving bred? Third, in mating for a fairly well bred carriage mare, which is nearest to following carriage lines, the use of a good, large, road bred horse or a horse of Clyde breeding, considering there is no proper carriage stallion to be had in the locality and a carriage colt is desired?

IGNORANCE.

In no one of the horse classes is there so much contention as over the roadster and carriage sections as found at the county fairs.

Under the present system, of classification some fairs have classes for general purpose horses and one for carriage, which is entirely unnecessary; in fact bearing in mind that many horses by roadster stallions will qualify for the

general purpose class so called, as will the bulk of the get of stallions of the carriage, coach or heavy harness (for all practical purposes interchangeable terms) stallions, we are of the opinion that it would be well to drop the carriage class entirely, from the prize list of the fairs, and let horses that approximate to that type fight it out in the general purpose class. A careful inspection extending over several years of the classes at the local fairs in Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan warrants the statement, that outside of the few purebreds, Hackneys, French, German and Yorkshire Coach and Cleveland Bays, practically no animals of the carriage type either in breeding or training are shown. As it is, the so called carriage animals now shown are inferior specimens of the class, and have neither action, manners nor quality; in conformation they may more closely approximate the carriage standard. For a horse to be acceptable for the carriage class he must possess the quartette of virtues mentioned, and it is only setting up false standards to award prizes for carriage horses to fairly good general purpose horses. With roadsters the case is somewhat different, in fact it would appear that the Standard-bred has been the most prepotent of all the lighter breeds of horses, next to the Thoroughbred. Many of the grades of the carriage and coach breeds are almost ideal general purpose horses; unfortunately, far too many judges have spoiled even the G. P. class by letting in grade dwarfs of some of the draft breeds, mere farm chunks. In other words the general purpose class can be filled easily with the get of the various light breeds of horses on the ordinary mares of the country, very, very rarely will the progeny of such matings properly qualify for the carriage classes, and the sooner fair boards and judges tumble to that fact the better.

Our correspondent's questions we answer serially. The harness section is meant to apply to teams and single horses hitched, and may include mares or geldings. The judge should take individuality judged by the conformation in an animal of mixed breeding such as a grade is. Three, the road bred horse in all cases. In fact in Chicago and other American cities (and possibly in Canada, according to George Pepper) many Standard bred stallions are gelded, docked (tail shortened) and nicked (the muscles depressing the tail severed) and then hitched in heavy leather and to a dogcart or broughams, and are, after being mannered by the aid sometimes of the dumb jockey, sold as high steppers, which are usually recruited from the ranks of carriage or coach horses.

The Horse's Mouth.

Illustrations in point of probable or remote causes assisting to disturb the action and break the gait of horses—which shoeing will avail nothing toward remedying—may be found in the horse's mouth.

This is one of the most sensitive organs of the equine anatomy. All young horses coming three or four years old should have their mouths and teeth carefully examined when any symptoms of tenderness or irritation are shown, as it is at this age that some of the deciduous molars are replaced by the permanent teeth. In some cases this gives rise to much pain and annoyance to horses affecting their temper and sensibility. Again, in some horses the structure of the teeth is of a comparatively soft nature, and wears upon the grinding substances in a ragged and uneven manner which severely cuts and lacerates the tongue and cheeks, or by a driver repeatedly lugging on one



FOUR HORSE TEAMS AT NEEPAWA FAIR, 1906.