

tends to the healthy and prosperous community. He has sown for these things, and these he is reaping. But there is a harvest yet in which he has not yet come to his own. We refer to the amazing paucity of farmers in the House of Commons at Ottawa. Canada is known the world over as an agricultural country, and yet in her halls of Government, to represent the farming interests there, the majority, the great majority of representatives are lawyers and doctors. True, many of these are shrewd, far-seeing men, men with the qualities of statesmanship inherent in them, who, seeing the agricultural possibilities of the country, and alive to her interests, by no means shirk the agricultural issues of the day. And yet the question may be mooted if anyone not a farmer can understand all of the conditions which bear upon the farmer's fortunes—if so large a representation, presumably more interested in other things, may not occasionally shelve an issue which a larger representation from the rural districts might push through.

It would be a long sorrow if a great moiety of our farmers were to be transformed into place-hunting, wire-pulling, platform-haranging politicians—it has often been observed that the farmer who does too much running around upon municipal or other outside affairs usually comes home in the end to weed-grown fields and lean kine—but there is a happy medium. It does not seem too much to hazard that a few sensible, level-headed rural members, deaf to the "glories" and only alive to the responsibilities of Parliament, might be able to spend the necessary time for a session each year without undergoing personal loss (the fat salaries now awarded to the servants of the people on Parliament Hill might, possibly, permit a retrieval of such temporary backsliding), nor too much to argue that a larger proportion of the "hayseed" element in the governmental halls might redound, appreciably, to the benefit of the country.

And whose fault is it that this element is not there now? Ostensibly the farmer's own. He has shrunk in the background, letting himself rust as to the important issues of the day, feeling that he had neither time to spend nor talent to talk upon the things which might seem to him right. But a new day is coming. Our farmers are becoming educated—it is no new thing to find even a B. A. on the farms of Canada to-day, and there will be more in the future. There are talents, too, which do not depend on schools or book-learning. While reaping their harvests of grain, may the cultured, the financier, and the orator, remember that there are yet other harvests awaiting, but that those who would reap must also sow.

HORSES.

Care of Horses in Hot Weather.

During the existence of a spell of hot weather a good many horses become affected by the sun, to the great concern of their owners, who may not possess the idea of providing the animals with first aid, says an exchange. The best thing to be done in such an emergency is to lead the horse into the shade, and to bathe his head and all along his backbone freely with cold water. The mouth should likewise be rinsed out with cold water, a soda-water bottle being a very useful thing to use for this purpose, and then a little whiskey and water—not too strong—might be given. Should the horse not become better under this treatment, eight or ten drops of tincture of aconite may be given him in water, a lesser quantity, of course, being a dose for a small animal, according to size. Very often the extremities become cold, and if so, the legs should be well rubbed, and something stimulating, such as whiskey and red pepper, if the case is a bad one, may be used as an impromptu liniment. Also, if flannel bandages can be procured, they may be put on the legs. When a horse comes in from work in a heated condition, it is not desirable, in the opinion of most owners, that he should be allowed to drink as much cold water as he wants to; but some men, who ought to know, maintain that no limitation should be placed upon him. It is, however, probable that the consensus of opinion amongst owners would be in favor of a moderate draught, to be followed by another after a reasonable delay. It is best, in such a case as the above, to let the horse steam for five minutes or so, and then to place a thin cloth upon him. After half an hour has elapsed, the latter may be changed for a heavier blanket. The result will be that the horse is spared the risks that arise from standing for a longer time than is necessary with a wet rug on him, and thereby avoid the risk of taking cold.

How to Bit the Horse.

"You can never give a horse a proper mouth," writes F. M. Ware, in *Outing Magazine*, "unless, first, you prevent his keeping his mouth open; second, you keep his tongue always under the bit and not over it or 'lolling' out of his mouth; third, you train him to go pleasantly up to it, and to bend himself and never to be 'behind' his bit, or to pull on it, or to drive upon either rein; fourth, you keep him always 'alive on' and responsive to its slightest indications; fifth, you so balance him that he can do all these things without suffering personal discomfort; sixth, you thoroughly deceive him as to the qualities and quantity of your power to control and direct. These essentials may all be simplified into two divisions; first, make him absolutely comfortable; second, fool him.

"From earliest colthood the horse should be allowed to yield jaw and neck, of course, but never to open his mouth to the pressure of the bit. An enthusiast, wrestling with the problem of biting a la Baucher, may train his horse to open his mouth to bit flexion—the most pernicious habit he could learn. This result is usual after the application of the 'dumb jockey' (now rarely used), with its tight check and rubber side lines cruelly shortened. When neck and jaw can stand the agony of restraint no longer, the opening of the mouth gives relief by yielding several inches, and the habit is adopted, in most cases, to last through life; the tongue often works over the bit to escape pain, and 'tongue lolling' becomes a confirmed habit."

For biting the saddle horse, Mr. Ware is more specific:

"In every movement asked of the horse, from yielding the jaw at a stand, action of the legs or spurs at

must be taken that when the jaw is yielded it simply relaxes, and that the mouth does not open, lest this be interpreted as the object of the tension.

"In all bending and suppling of the neck, the horse's head must be straightened by the opposite rein, and he must never be allowed to straighten it of his own volition. Nothing makes a horse bend himself, come into balance and carry himself light in hand better than backing."

Treatment for Thrush.

An English veterinarian gives some good advice on the care of the horse's feet. He says: "There is no 'best way to cure a horse of thrush' that does not include removal of the cause, and, in the majority of cases, where the frog is not badly diseased, the removal of the cause is often sufficient to cure without dressings, and certainly without caustic agents, so commonly applied, and which are unnecessary, cruel, and productive of more harm than good. We assume that you know all about the causes of thrush, and recognize the necessity of keeping clean and dry, for the provision of a well-drained stable, and for not allowing the animal to stand on dung and urine-soaked straw. Keep the feet picked out and washed out with clean cold water night and morning, and always after returning from work; have the animal shod with plain shoes, to permit of frog pressure; and forbid the use of drawing knife, except to clean out the cleft, and remove loose or decayed horn. Touch nothing that is sound. With attention to these matters, the introduction of a little Stockholm tar into the cleft is generally sufficient; but if not, try sprinkling it with calomel, or pouring in a few drops of mixture of equal parts butter of antimony and aloetic tincture of myrrh.

"Apropos of the foregoing, the original trouble which led to Sysonby's death during early June, was thrush. The disease was there, but perhaps was not taken serious notice of until the great horse became sick, and veterinarians of highest caste being called in, Sysonby's case was pronounced to be blood-poisoning. The disease can therefore be charged as being a most serious one, and unless taken care of, will lead to very pronounced trouble, as this particular case shows.

"The Rider and Driver has found that it is very necessary to thoroughly clean out all parts of the frog, and then apply a lotion made up of carbolic

acid 1 ounce, and water 8 ounces. After paring away the ragged edges from the frog, it is well to take a probe, around which is wound cotton batting, dip the point of batting into the lotion and insert into crevices of frog, making sure to go to the very bottom of frog openings. Next use dry batting and clean out all the diseased parts, after which use powdered calomel, working it into every crevice, the back of knife-blade being a good instrument to use for this purpose. When all of the diseased parts have been thoroughly saturated with the calomel, being particular that the bottom of frog, where the seat of the disease is located, has been looked after, pack the crevices with batting until all are full.

"This treatment is given three times, three days apart. Meanwhile the foot should be covered in some way to keep out the dirt."



Blyth Thomas (12868).

Two-year-old Clydesdale stallion, first and champion, Royal Show, 1906; sire Prince Thomas. Owner James Kilpatrick, Kilmarnock.

first must always precede that of the hands. This is the basic rule of all horsemanship.

"The hands must never yield until the jaw and neck have first done so; then instantly. The snaffle is the harmless medium of the neophyte, the test of skill in the expert. No horse's head can be properly placed, leaving at the same time a pliant mouth, except with the snaffle (or bridoon), in the full bridle. Nature gave us two hands, and both are needed in equestrianism. As the first step in attaining balance, the horse must, in all his paces, carry his face perpendicularly.

"Lessons should be short—not over ten minutes—frequently repeated twice of more daily, if possible; submission be followed by instant caress to the part addressed. If a horse turns sulky, revert instantly to first principles; that was the way you learned the multiplication table. The smaller the arena, etc., the quicker the pupil will bend himself, make his mouth and come into balance. Even a box stall will do.

"Every horse has two ends, and we must obtain control of both; the 'fore hand' by our hands, the 'back hand' by our legs. The moment a horse rests upon the hand, that moment he is out of balance. When the mouth is 'making' and alive to address, it is always moist on bars and lip angles.

"The bridoon 'sets' the head and gives the signals for turning, etc.; the curb restrains, aids the perpendicular carriage of the head, and so places it that the bridoon may act properly.

"The first impulse of the horse is always to yield to the pressure of the hands and of the legs, but this yielding is evanescent (with the mouth at least), and must be instantly rewarded by the yielding hand. Care

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Ground and Unground Feed for Horses.

Some men think they are doing the horse a great kindness when they feed him ground grain, but there never was a greater mistake, if he can and will grind it himself. Nature has provided him a mill to do his own grinding upon, and nothing will keep it in order as well as the constant use of it. But if you discover that he is making poor use of his mill, and it is not thrifty, by no means grind all his feed for him, as nothing is worse for him than poorly-masticated grain. Mix his oats with bran or wheat chaff, or both.