

APRIL 6, 1911

Breeds of Horses.

Please explain the difference between a Standard-bred horse, a Thoroughbred horse, and a pure-bred horse; and to which class does each belong, and how is each crossed to get the different breeds?

Ans.—A Standard-bred horse is a horse eligible for registration under the rules of the American Trotting Register, or the similar record for such horses in Canada. It may be recorded in either the trotting or pacing division of the register, according to the registration of its recorded ancestors.

A Thoroughbred horse is a horse eligible to registration in one of the studbooks established for recording the breed of English running horses.

A pure-bred horse, in the sense in which the term is commonly accepted, is a horse eligible for registration in a recognized studbook for any given breed—Thoroughbred, Standard-bred, Hackney, Clydesdale, Percheron, etc. No horse is made to conform to any of these definitions by crossing. A great variety of types are produced by mingling the blood of the different breeds, almost as much depending upon the individuals with which one works as upon the lines of breeding he follows. In broad generalities, we might merely state that Thoroughbred sires are usually chosen to get hunters and saddle horses; Standard-bred sires or Thoroughbreds to produce fast harness horses, and Hackney or Coach stallions to produce high-stepping carriage horses.

To a Work Horse.

I.

Thou faithful servant of thy master, man!
Compact of brawn and sinew, strong of limb,
Art thou, O toiler, and thy whole life's span
Is but one round of servitude for him
Who doth too oft, alas, hold thee as naught
But beast of burden; how thy steaming flanks
And straining tendons speak of thy hard lot.
"The poorest service is repaid with thanks,"
Our Shakespeare said, and thou, O patient beast,
Requited by mere shelter and thy food,
Dost well deserve thy master's thanks, at least—
Aye, more, his love as well as gratitude;
No chattel thou, merely to serve man's need,
But helpful friend, O sturdy, trusty steed.

II.

No fiery Bucephalus art thou;
Thy rugged form, thy slow and plodding gait
Adapt thee to the humble dray and plow,
But in the ease thou bearest mighty freight
There is a power akin to majesty;
Thy quivering nostrils and thy glowing eyes
Denote thy quick response to sympathy,
The word of loving praise that thou dost prize
Ofttimes more than thy provender perchance.
Ah, patient beast, as daily thou dost go
Upon the wearying rounds that circumstance
Hath set for thee, no creature here below
Should in man's true esteem hold higher place
Than thou, O noblest server of our race!

—Louella C. Poole.

LIVE STOCK.

Manitoba Winter Fair.

The 1911 Winter Fair at Brandon broke the record in the horse division, and was strong in most departments. In the aged Clydesdale stallion section there were fifteen entries forward. The judges were: Alex. Mutch, Lumsden; Jas. Z. McLay, Janesville, Wis.; and Stephen Benson, Neepawa; and the prize awards were given in the following order: 1, J. Perdue's Black Ivory; 2, Van Horne's Lord Ardwell; 3, Holland Association's Gay Sprig; 4, W. I. Elder's Cowden's Prince; 5, Bryce's Perpetual Motion.

In the three-year-old section the winners were in this order: 1, Faber's The Bruce; 2, Bryce's Revelanta's Heir; 3, Elder's Sailor King; 4, Andrew Graham's Johnston Count.

In the class for stallions foaled in 1908, W. J. McCallum, Brampton, Ont., was first with Lord Buchlyvie, and John Graham second and third with King's Class and Sertorius.

McCallum was again first in stallions born in 1909, with Scottish Choice, by Royal Treasurer. R. H. Faber was second, with Royal Jubilee, by Royal Favorite, and Andrew Graham third with Albion, by Vigorous.

For stallions foaled in 1910, Taber had first on Gay Robert; Bryce second on Doune Lodge Montrose, and Frank Brookes, of Brandon, third on Baron of Brookside.

The fight for championship was between The Bruce and Black Ivory, and, after much comparison, a ballot was taken, which stood two for The Bruce and one for Black Ivory. McCallum's two-year-old, Lord Buchlyvie, was the favorite with many of the ringside talent.

The entries in the Canadian-bred Clydesdale division were more numerous and of a better quality than in any former year, indicating that Ca-

nadian farmers are breeding, as well as buying, high-class stock.

Percherons made a very strong showing, this breed having increased more largely in numbers the past year than any other draft breed that made a showing, and their popularity is growing rapidly in the West. Belgians and Shires were shown in less numbers, but included some very fine specimens.

In the cattle class, entries were fewer than in the previous year. The pure-bred two-year-old Aberdeen-Angus steer, Glencarnock, shown by J. D. McGregor, won the grand championship.

The sheep show was the largest and most representative yet seen at a Manitoba Winter Fair. Western farmers are becoming more interested in sheep. A. J. MacKay, of Macdonald, Man., president-elect of the Manitoba Sheep and Swine Breeders' Associations, was the principal exhibitor of Leicesters, Jas. M. Douglas & Sons, Tantalion, Sask., being the next strongest. The grand championship for the best pure-bred or grade ewe or wether was won by an entry by J. D. McGregor, Brandon. The same exhibitor was the winner of the first award for the best three ewes or wethers of 1910, pure-bred or grade.

Entries in swine were larger than at any previous Manitoba Winter Fair. The grand champion hog was a Yorkshire, shown by A. B. Potter, Langbank, Sask., who made, as usual, a strong showing.

Sheep Breeding and Rearing on a Scottish Farm.

No hard-and-fast system is followed in sheep-rearing in this county (Kirkcudbright), but I will give you an account of the particulars of management, which I have come to consider the most profitable under the circumstances in which I am placed.

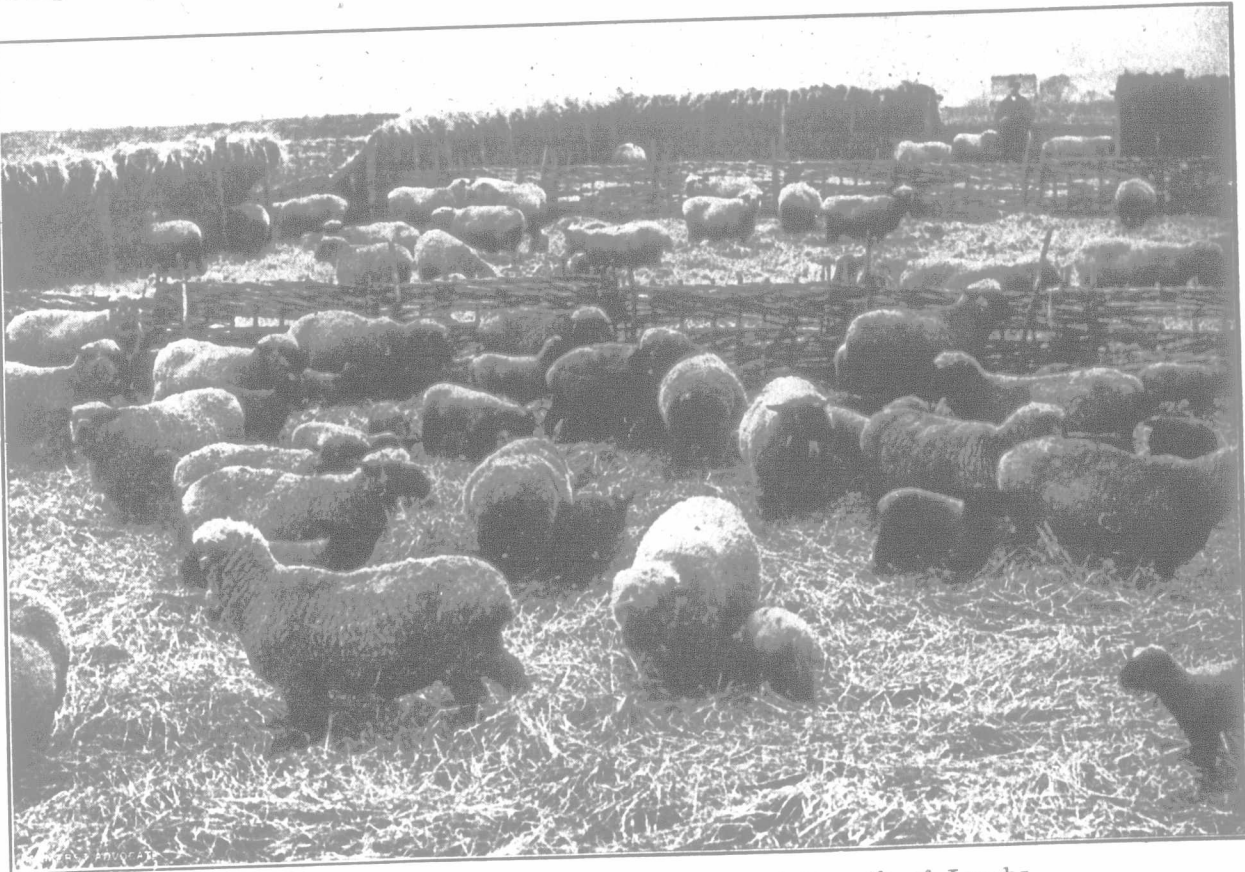
On this farm (Milton) we keep only a "flying stock" of sheep—that is to say, the sheep (which are bought in) are kept on the farm for one and sometimes two years only. All together, we run a flock of 140. Five-year-old ewes, pure-bred Cheviots, which are regularly drawn from the hill farms, are sold off annually at our local auctions in the months of September and October. Before being sold, these are examined, and guaranteed correct of their mouths and udders. We purchase 90 to 100 of these each year to renew our stock, at prices usually ranging from 24s. to 28s. (nearly \$6 to \$7), from a stock that is known to be sound and good liveries. For my part, I prefer North Country ewes, from Sutherlandshire, to the Lockerbie or South Country type of Cheviot, as they are much bigger, roomier, and, as a rule, more prolific, besides being better milkers.

On the arrival of the ewes at the farm, they are put on the older grass fields, as the seeds and younger grass will already have been stocked with lambs, or been reserved for them. These old pastures have usually been well eaten down with cattle in the earlier part of the season. If not, the long, wet grass has a tendency to bring on a form of foot-rot, by accumulating between the hoofs of the ewes, which may be already suffering from a tenderness and sweating we call "scald," which is brought on by their long walk on hard roads to and from the market. This foot ailment has to be attended to by dressing with a strong antiseptic, or foot-rot may get a hold.

We aim at having the ewe in good condition at lambing time, and another object is to get as big a crop of lambs as possible. To insure a good crop—i. e., as many twins as possible—we believe in having the ewes in an improving condition when the rams are with them. With this end in view, shortly before the ram is put out, we put the ewes on clean and fresh pasture, at the same time giving them a few cut yellow turnips. If grass is scarce, they also get one-half a pound to three-quarters of a pound of good oats per day during the whole of the tugging season.

The tups (rams) we use are pure-bred Border-Leicesters, costing from £8 to £10 (\$40 to \$50) each. Of course, we could get them at half these prices, or less, but a pound or two spent on a good sire is not lost. I have known a good tup to get lambs 5 shillings each better than a bad one getting an equal chance. Our rams are selected with good strong heads (not coarse, or we may expect trouble at lambing time), good necks, well-sprung ribs, as lengthy in body as possible, and they must be able to walk well, on fine-quality bones. When purchasing a sheep, we do not stick for the last £ if we see an extra good one. They are used two seasons, and an extra good breeder is kept a year longer. Three tups are sufficient for 140 ewes, which are divided among them and run in separate fields. The rams are "keeled" on the breast, so that each ewe is keeled as tupped, different colors being used for each ram, so that the produce may be known. At the end of the first week the ewes are all brought in, and those marked are given a distinctive red mark on the shoulder. This is also done at the end of the second, third and fourth weeks, but giving a different color each time. This is for the purpose of drawing the first lambing ewes out at lambing time, so that they can have special attention at that critical period. This also prevents overstocking of the lambing field. The rams are put to the ewes about 1st November, and taken out at 1st January. Turnips or swedes are cut with the cutter cart on the grass all winter, and, if plentiful, it is profitable and safe to give from 10 to 15 pounds per head daily. As the ewes get heavier in lamb, say about 15th February, we begin giving oats, $\frac{1}{2}$ a pound each, and work up to $\frac{1}{2}$ of a pound as they approach lambing. This liberal treatment is continued right on till the lambs are a fortnight old, when they do well enough on the fresh young pasture that has been saved all winter for them. Should we happen to have a cover of snow, which, by the way, seldom lies longer than five or six days at a time, we give the ewes a handful of hay, if they will eat it. As lambing time approaches, say about 25th March, the ewes that are marked to lamb first are brought into the lambing field, a well-sheltered enclosure of about fifteen acres near the homestead. Each lot has to be brought in at intervals of a week or so, so that they all in turn may get special attention. When the lambs are from 24 to 36 hours old, they may be walked quietly to the young pasture fields reserved for them near at hand, the ewes with pairs getting the best and most sheltered field. In ordinary seasons they usually require comparatively little attention from now on. If we are fortunate in procuring a fairly prolific strain of ewes, we may count, with good management, on weaning about an average of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lambs per ewe.

Lambs are all docked and the tup ones cas-



English Lambing Pens, Showing Stages of Growth of Lambs.