

shoulders rather short and not very sloping, back rather long, sides inclined to flatness, croup plump, quarters of medium length and drooping, muscles well let down, tendons large, the feet tough and sound. The French-Canadian horse wore a flowing mane and tail, and a tuft of hair on the heels. These latter marks of the breed are credited to the lack of warm housing in a rather severe climate. With better care, refinement in these points has been effected in the modern French-Canadian horse.

To the French-Canadian horse, both the Morgan and Standard-bred breeds are indebted. Vermont was the home of the early Morgans, and into that State a stream of good horse stock flowed over the border during many years. Vermont Black Hawk, a famous Morgan progenitor, is known to have traced to a Canadian horse named Paddy, described as having great endurance and speed, and weighing 900 pounds.

While the Standard-bred breed was in process of formation, a heavy exportation in horses was being effected from the southern counties of Quebec into the New England States. From 1860 to 1870 this trade was especially brisk. The Registrar of the French-Canadian breed, then a resident of Beauce County, states that American buyers would have notices read at the church doors on Sunday mornings, announcing their coming, and inviting those who had horses for sale to have their speed tested on the ice. Speed, style and age were practically the only points investigated, as unsoundness was almost unknown among the horses of the district. Many an old horse was exported in those days, it being difficult to tell a 20-year-old animal from one six or eight years younger. Thirty-year-old horses were common, and occasionally one several years beyond that age was doing duty at hard work. At that time, when ordinary work horses were selling at \$70 to \$80 per head, as much as \$250 was paid for speedy specimens that could not be got for less money. These prices were sufficiently high to lead many a habitant to part with his best specimens, which soon depleted the country of good ones, to the enrichment of the light-horse interests over the line.

While no wonderful feats of speed are credited to the French-Canadian horse, it is well known that famous trotters have descended from him. The great trotting queen, Maud S., is believed to trace through both sire and dam to French-Canadian blood. There is no doubt but that, through her dam her line of breeding goes to Canadian Pilot, foaled near Montreal, and from a French-Canadian mare. Through her sire, the tracing leads to a horse of unknown breeding, believed to have come from Quebec. This is but an example of many cases that could be cited.

For want of organization or concerted action on the part of Quebec horse-breeders, the identity of the old breed was in large measure allowed to be lost. Having parted with most of the best specimens, many found their horses small for hauling the big loads of logs, and, to improve them, introduced draft blood. Others, again, were led to patronize weedy trotters with records, until the once noble race has been displaced in many cases by nondescript mongrels.

Realizing what had happened, steps were taken in 1885 to revive and preserve the original strain. At the urgent request of Dr. J. A. Couture and others, the Hon. Dr. Ross, Prime Minister of the Province, established a studbook. Its management was entrusted to a commission composed of M. J. A. Lesage, the Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture, and four other gentlemen, namely, Dr. J. A. Couture, and Messrs. Casavant, Barnard and McEachran. Little progress was made until 1895, when the French-Canadian Horse-breeders' Association was formed, and the work of inspection inaugurated. Up to 1905, six hundred and twenty-eight (628) stallions and eleven hundred and seventy-three (1,173) mares were registered.

Upon the nationalization of Canadian Livestock Pedigree Records, the French-Canadian Studbook was, along with other records, handed over to the Federal Department of Agriculture. Observing that many of the horses recorded in the Quebec book were off-type for the breed, the Minister set about the securing of a better state of affairs. The Association agreed with the proposal to have a reinspection of all registered horses for foundation stock for the new Studbook. A commission was consequently appointed, consisting of two representatives of the Association and two of the Department of Agriculture. Those representing the Association were, Dr. J. A. Couture, of Quebec, and Arsene Denis, of St. Norbert; while Robert Ness, of Howick, and Louis Lavallee, of St. Guillaume d'Upton, represented the Department of Agriculture. Dr. J. H. Vigneau, of Three Rivers, was delegated to examine the horses for soundness, and also to do the secretarial work.

The standard upon which the commission worked was as nearly as possible that of the old French-Canadian horse. The maximum height for stallions was 15.3, and for mares 15.2. The weight preferred was between 1,100 and 1,350 pounds for stallions, and 1,050 and 1,250 for mares. All evidence of draft-horse blood was taken as dis-

qualification. The work of the commission is now practically completed.

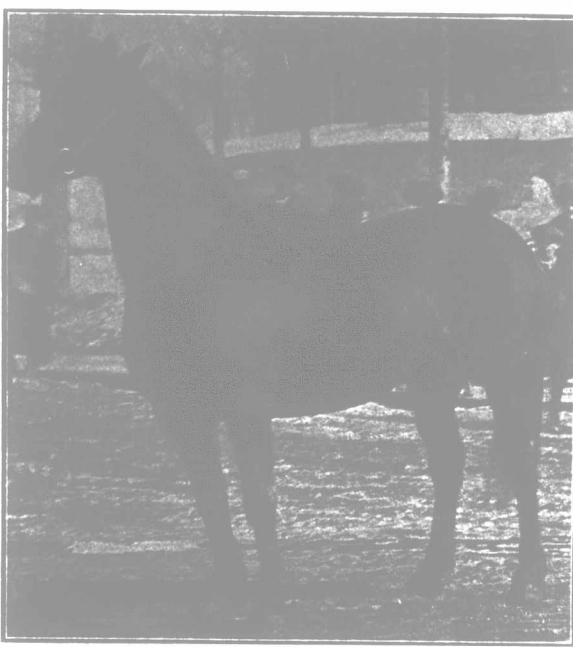
There have been presented before the commission almost 3,000 horses, about 480 of which had been registered in the old book. Of these, 1,050 have been accepted, of which 760 have been duly recorded, in addition to about 50 recorded as progeny of recorded stock. It will thus be seen that a large number which had been in the old book have been refused entry to the new. In future, registrations will be granted only to the offspring of duly registered sires and dams. The great bulk of accepted horses are in the Province of Quebec, but there are a small number in Ontario, half a dozen in Manitoba, and a few head in Alberta.



Brilliant Argente.

Champion French-Canadian stallion, St. Hyacinthe, Que., 1909.

To further encourage the breed, the Minister of Agriculture granted substantial financial aid towards the holding of a show in 1908, and again in 1909. The former, which was held at St. John's, had 125 entries, and the latter at St. Hyacinthe, about an equal number. Exhibitors had prepared carefully for the contests, and much could be said of the displays made. They may be described as general-purpose horses of an excellent class, fairly uniform in type, and sound. As indicated in the outset, in practically all of the prizewinners there was fairly conclusive evidence of blood foreign to the original French-Canadian breed.



Brillante.

French-Canadian mare, 5 years old; 14.3 hands high; weight, 1,150 lbs.

Dogs are about the most privileged creatures in Christendom. They are allowed, with impunity, to do things on other persons' property for which a human transgressor would be haled into court. The liberty which they are habitually and almost unavoidably accorded endangers human safety and live-stock property. Yet, when a dog-owner is taxed a dollar or two, he seems to consider it a grave injustice, and will evade payment if he can. The writer of this paragraph confesses to a passionate fondness for dogs, but submits that, in all conscience, they ought to be taxed, the money thus collected constituting a general fund to reimburse sheep-owners and others who suffer from canine depredations.

LIVE STOCK.

Essentials to Success with Pure-breds.

"Shall I go into pure-breds?" is what many are debating in their minds to-day. It is a question on which many dairymen are writing me for my opinion. It is easier to write one letter to "The Farmer's Advocate," which thousands may read, than write a hundred letters for as many people. At best, I can but place before those interested the basic principles which make for success. It must ever be borne in mind that pure-breds have attained their superiority from having

received the proper care to develop the traits desired, which, in the case of the milk cow, is to develop the milk-giving instinct. With good care and selection, and mating of the best performers, the milk yield has been greatly increased. In order, then, to maintain this improved yield, the same methods must be followed; that is, continued good and proper care, with selection and mating of the most fit. This would appear to be so obvious that it would appear unnecessary to state it. But the fact is we see continually many who own pure-breds giving them but scrub care. The result is, of course, they are soon scrubs; hence, we have the term, registered scrubs.

Although many have marked success with pure-breds, others do not, and the reason is they do not give their stock the proper care. The result is that many overcautious but good caretakers are afraid to go into pure-breds, for fear they will be unsuccessful. The result is they do not make the progress they might, which is their personal loss, and also a loss to the State. There are several who go into pure-breds that do no good to themselves or the breed they take up. But very many are having a fair amount of success with grades because they are good caretakers, and they would have much greater success if they purchased good pure-breds, because then they would get the benefit from the work of others gone before, and the many years that have added to the breed's increased yields. And this power to give increased yields has in a measure become fixed, and will stay so as long as the good and proper care is followed. Even from the reproduction point of view, a good pure-bred is much more likely to produce good milkers than a grade, even if the grade happens to be as good a milker as the pure-bred, because the pure-bred has many generations behind her, whilst the grade, very likely, a generation or two back, traces to very indifferent ancestors.

A grade cow is always a grade; there is no provision now to register anything in the cattle line, no matter how many crosses of pure-bred blood it may have. Though many good milk herds can be built up, they must be valued for their milk, mostly, the calf being worth but a few dollars, whilst the pure-bred calf is worth much more. And, as it does not cost any more to keep the pure-bred than the grade, the pure-bred, through both her milk and calf, can make a much larger return. The only difference is the pure-bred costs more to buy, and it takes many more dollars to buy a pure-bred herd; but, when rightly and properly handled, the pure-bred returns the biggest profit, by far.

As good a test as we can have, as to who is likely to be successful with pure-breds, is to know what has been his success with grades. No one who has not been fairly successful with grades is likely to be successful with pure-breds, unless he changes his methods at the same time; and I think it would be better for such ones to make the change before they go into pure-breds. Several men of wealth desire to make a hobby of breeding registered stock. Their main chance of success will depend upon the ability of the foreman they get; that is the biggest factor. It is management that counts. Genius has been defined as the ability to take infinite care, and it is that kind of genius that is wanted to make a success with pure-bred stock.

I am asked what could one expect to make out of good pure-bred milk cows? This is not easy to answer, as cows run all the way from 5,000 to 25,000 pounds, and even over, milk yearly. There is room for a wide range, and the man is an important factor, as well as the capacity of the cows selected. However, in order to learn to shoot straight with the rifle, it is necessary to

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