

Hog Cholera.

In a press bulletin on "Hog Cholera," from the Purdue, Ind., Experiment Station, R. A. Craig, Veterinarian, offers the following directions to prevent infection:

1. Hogs from other herds, or stock shows, should not be allowed to mix with the herd until they have been proven free from disease.
2. All possible ways in which the germs can be carried into the yard by people, dogs, birds, etc., should be guarded against, especially when the disease is present in the neighborhood.
3. Dipping or washing the hogs with a two-per-cent. water solution of a tar disinfectant should be practiced, and the animals placed in quarantine for at least three weeks in yards that do not communicate in any way with the regular yards.
4. When it is necessary for persons to enter pens where the disease is known to exist, they should clean and disinfect their shoes on leaving.
5. Persons taking care of sick hogs should use all possible precautions against the spread of the disease in their neighborhood.

The importance of clean feed, water, troughs and feeding floors must be emphasized, as it is in the feed that the germs usually enter the body. In no other place on the farm are whitewash and disinfectants so necessary as in the hog houses and pens. Pastures and lots can be kept in a more healthful condition if the hogs are taken out for a few months each year, and a forage crop sowed in the unused lots. Clean yards prevent exposure to a large number of active germs at any one time, in this way being an important help in preventing disease. Pens and pastures receiving the drainage from neighboring swine enclosures should not be used.

Some of the necessary measures in the treatment of a sick herd are as follows:

1. Disinfect the feeding floors, troughs, hog houses and their immediate surroundings daily, with a water solution of a tar disinfectant (two to four per cent.). If this cannot be done, remove the hogs and build temporary quarters.
2. Feed a light, sloppy diet of shorts, bran, etc.
3. Do not leave water and slop in the troughs for the hogs to wallow in.
4. Copper sulphate can be dissolved in the drinking water and slop, in the proportion of four ounces to the barrel.
5. The dead hogs should be burned, or buried and their bodies covered with lime.

If these precautions against the spread and perpetuation of hog cholera were observed, it is believed the disease would not exist as an epidemic from year to year.

A Government Raffle.

The Weekly Globe (Toronto) makes the following suggestion re the sales of pure-bred stock from Government Experiment Stations:

"At the annual public sales a value should be fixed for each animal, the price, age, breeding, etc., announced by advertisement, so that the largest number of purchasers will be present. The names of those who desire the animal might be written on separate cards, one on each card, and the cards placed in a box, shaken up, and the name of the purchaser drawn. Or some other system of balloting might be instituted. The point is to give the best stock at a reasonable price."

As a gambling scheme, this certainly has the pea-under-the-shell racket done to a turn.

How thrilling our public sales would be with eight or a dozen bidders on qui vive, standing around each drawing of the box, waiting to see who would be the lucky man! And what a cinch it would be for the auctioneer—"This way, gentlemen, here's your chance to ballot for the Scotch-topped red yearling bull that stands next the gate at the far side of the corral, one of the very best bargains of the sale and easily worth double the money asked, but in order to clear out the lot he is put up at \$25. Five minutes now to inspect the animal; balloting will close at 3.45 on the tick of the watch. Step up, gentlemen, and try your luck!"

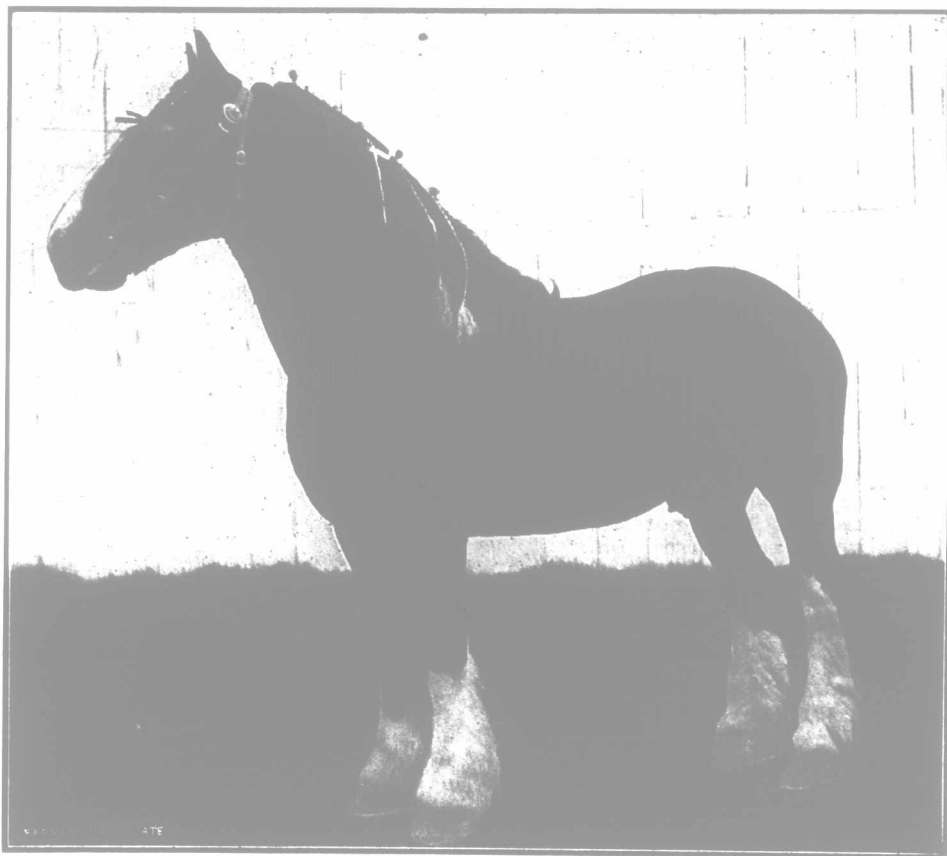
The plan is unique, and evidently original, but its value in practice is something more than doubtful. In the first place, what chance would a man have of securing the animal he really needed? The possibility of getting his pick would be too uncertain to depend on, so he must needs have a go at a considerable number, and in the end, perhaps, draw the one that suited him least of all that he bids for. Value is not a definite thing that can be fixed by fiat of government or professor. The value of an animal to any man will depend upon the ability of that man to make the animal a serviceable producing factor in his herd. One man might desire an animal of certain definite conformation to use for

the head of his herd, while his neighbor, not having similar foundation stock, would desire something entirely different. Besides, the Government is not in the live-stock business for the purpose of giving any man a pure-bred animal below its real value. So far the auction sale has proven the most satisfactory method for the disposal of surplus pure-bred stock at these institutions, and we doubt not it will continue in vogue for some time to come.

Going Down in the Feet.

The most common defect in the stock of this country which is kept for stud or herd purposes is found in the feet, and it is practically all due to neglect. It is very rare, indeed, that one sees a stallion, bull or boar that does not need his feet trimmed. The evil exists in all stages, from a ragged-edged horn that simply needs trimming, to the overgrown, turned-up distorted hoofs and clouts.

We have seen the toes of a bull's feet so long that he was virtually walking on his fetlocks, and we have been asked to examine and prescribe for lameness in a horse whose hoofs were at least nine inches long, and whose weight was altogether on his heels. These evils also exist in other than stud animals, but because of the customary confinement of such stock, the evil is generally aggravated. Most men, if they think of the deformity that is being wrought in their stock, offer as an excuse for not caring for their feet, that in natural condition such stock never had their hoofs or clouts pared, but forget that they prevent their animals getting natural treatment by keeping them closed up where they cannot wear the feet down. Or, very often out-growing feet are considered an inherent weakness natural



Desford Marquis —321— (16639).

Imported Shire stallion. Winner of first prize at the Western Fair, London, 1905. Property of E. C. Attrill, Goderich, Ont.

to the animals, and as unyielding to treatment as would be their color.

The care of the feet should never cease from the time a calf or colt is a few weeks old until his services are dispensed with. On young animals the rasp only should be used, and this is sufficient on older stock if they are given regular treatment, but obviously it cannot be used on grown bulls or boars. For such animals a stock should be made, and when the animal is made fast his feet can be pared down to natural shape and level. It is folly to neglect the work when there is any evidence of its need, for the trouble it will involve if allowed to go uncorrected will be out of all proportion to the preventive measures, besides developing in the stock weaknesses that must certainly decrease their value.

It is such an easy thing to trim the ragged edge of a horse's hoof that one would not expect to see a piece of horn growing out so long that it caused a quarter crack in the hoof so deep that every step the animal took gave pain, yet this and other cases more or less extreme are seen every day if one watches the teams bringing wheat in to the elevators. One would think that any man capable of driving a team would be thoughtful enough to attend to so small a matter before it becomes a serious wound.

FARM.

Cheer Up, Young Men!

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

As a reader of the "Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine," I have taken great interest in the discussion on the all-important question of matrimony and the farmer's son. I agree with Middlesex Co. Farmer's Son, that it is a great deal safer for some men to rent than to buy a farm, as there are many who lack the backbone to start for themselves, but are always willing to work on another man's farm. I know a young man who two years ago rented a fifty-acre farm for a year, at a rental of \$100. He bought his seed, got the use of his father's implements all that year, and then said that it was simply impossible for him to pay his rent and live with the produce of that farm. How much further ahead would he have been had he bought the farm and only made a small payment?

Now, why do not farmers' sons marry? Too many farmers do not treat their sons as sons should be treated. I know a farmer who, after his son had reached manhood's estate, would not allow him a horse and rig to drive a short distance to see a young woman after a hard week's work, and so compelled him when he wanted a "drive" to do it with a livery rig. Was that an incentive to that son to marry or to save his money? I imagine his feelings when she asked him, "Oh, where did you get that nice horse and rig," and he had to say, "Oh, it is a hired outfit. Father would not allow me to touch his." Still another reason to my mind for the prevalence of single blessedness among the young farmers of Canada is this: The farmer's daughter, after she has lived for, say from 20 to 25 years on the farm, exclaims, "Oh, this lonesome drudgery of farm life. I'll never marry a farmer and hunt eggs and make butter for my living; I'll hunt

up a man in town." So eventually she does, and marries some factory boy or store clerk, who after a few years of renting houses, declares he cannot live in town, and so moves out to reside with his father-in-law. Back where she started! Another reason is the fear of being refused by the girl they love. They should not expect the girl to do the asking. A great number of young fellows are backward, and seem to expect this. On the other hand, if one girl gives them the "mitten," it appears to dampen them for years, so they will never have confidence in any girl until this wears off. Another correspondent, "Easy Goer," appears to think there is no sunshine in a man's life after he is 25, and should marry somewhere near that age if possible. Now

I think a man ought to have plenty of sunshine in his life after 26 is a long way behind him—sufficient to make him a suitable partner for any woman. Cheer up, young man, and take your time is my advice. The world is wide (your world) and your "right one" will turn up at last. It is worth while waiting very often, sooner than marry in haste and repent at leisure.

Huron Co.

ANOTHER FARMER'S SON.

The Bachelor Question.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

I have been reading with a good deal of interest the replies to your question of August 17th, "Why doesn't the farmer's son marry?" and it seems to me the blame, if blame there is, has been pretty evenly divided between the farmer, the farmer's son, and the farmer's daughter. Now, if there is one thing above all others in which a young man does not take kindly to advice, it is in his choice of a wife. So if not willing to take advice on this subject, for which I cannot much blame him, he should be willing to shoulder the consequences.

One reason is, I believe, bashfulness. This sounds old-fashioned, but it is a reality, and only natural, as the farmer's occupation keeps him at home, and he has not in many cases the opportunity of mingling with his fellows that the office or factory man has; and heaven help the bashful fellow when he goes awooing. But while he is hard to become acquainted with, he is by no means the worst chap to know in the long run.