

Prices Brought by Registered Percherons.

The auction sale method of disposing of live stock is usually a pretty fair method to both buyer and seller. The prices obtained are also a fair criterion as to the values of the stock offered at the vendues. The following sale results will be instructive to our readers:

At South Omaha, Neb., a sale of 22 registered stallions and 36 mares was held recently, the males averaging \$500, the females slightly over \$300.

A large sale of a lot of good stuff was the dispersal of the Pabst farm stock. Velo brought the top price of \$1,600 for stallions; Dulcinea topping the list for the mares, of which there were fifty-seven, at \$800. The mares averaged \$355.50, and nineteen stallions \$472.00. J. D. McGregor, of Brandon, secured Prosperity 28788, and Rosstand 32465, at \$475 each.

A combination sale at Wichita, Kan., brought fifteen registered stallions under the hammer, at an average of \$603.33, Robison's L'Ami, the topper, bringing \$905.33; twenty-eight mares averaged \$284.28.

E. O. Sheldon, Clifton, Ill., sold four stallions at an average of \$605, the top price being \$1,100. He obtained an average of \$441.00 for sixteen pure-bred mares.

Stock.

Lengthening the Veterinary Course Assured.

(A paper presented to the Manitoba Veterinary Association, by A. G. Hopkins, B. Agr., D. V. M., in February.)

The campaign for a higher standard of veterinary education in Canada has probably been pushed home more forcibly within the last twelve months than at any other time, yet a great deal remains to be done. A short time ago, the attention of the President of Toronto University was drawn to the low standard of education demanded for entrance to the veterinary profession, and his sympathy enlisted to remove the stigma under which all members of the profession in Canada will remain until those standards are raised.

The Senate of the Toronto University has taken cognizance of the needs, and the committee on agriculture and veterinary science has drafted a curriculum, calling for an entrance examination in English and Canadian history, arithmetic, chemistry, geometry (Book I), or its equivalent in elementary geometry and algebra through simple equations, the standard for the examinations to be the same as in junior matriculation, and, in addition, the course to be one of three years. Such is an undoubted step in advance, and the benefits the profession and stockmen in Canada will reap are immense.

The course outlined by the Senate of the University is hardly as practical as the present-day demands call for. The practitioner knows by experience that, while the possession of a scientific education is a nice thing to have, he must have a thorough clinical knowledge, without which he will be a disappointment to his clients and himself.

The Senate regulations call for examinations for the first year in the following subjects: elementary physics, elementary chemistry with laboratory work, elementary biology (including elementary mammalian anatomy) with laboratory work. By the latter, we assume dissection is meant. We would suggest, in addition, that the subjects of dentistry and horseshoeing be taken up, by so doing rendering the course more practical, and, therefore, more attractive to the average student. Pharmacy and materia medica should also be looked into, the major studies being, however, biology and its subdivisions, anatomy and microscopic

anatomy (histology), backed up by plenty of work in the dissecting-room; the minor subjects being dentistry, pharmacy, chemistry, physics and horseshoeing.

The second year's examinations are to be in animal physiology, anatomy, histology and embryology, pharmacology and pharmacology, parasitology, including bacteriology—a course of work with which little fault can be found, as it is quite comprehensive. Here again the practical must be brought out prominently by lectures and clinical work in veterinary medicine and surgery. Pathology (general), including laboratory, should be introduced during the second year's work. The instruction in dentistry and horseshoeing should be completed, and the introduction to veterinary obstetrics should take place.

The major subjects in the second year should be anatomy of the domesticated animals, physiology, veterinary medicine, veterinary surgery, general therapeutics and general pathology; minor subjects being histology and embryology, pharmacy and pharmacology.

The insistence on practice with a qualified practitioner during the vacation between the second and third years is to be commended. It might be well to go a step further, and indicate who may be considered as qualified practitioners, which would be of much benefit to the student. The possession of a veterinary surgeon's diploma is not sufficient evidence that a man is fit or qualified to do tutorial work during the vacation. This matter might well be left to the Association.

The third and final year's work is an important one, the subjects to be examined upon by the Senate statute being as follows: pathology, zootechnics, veterinary surgery and medicine, sanitary science, veterinary jurisprudence, toxicology. In addition, there should be examination in meat and milk inspection, and clinical medicine and surgery. The following subjects we would class, therefore, as majors: veterinary surgery, veterinary medicine, special pathology, special therapeutics, clinical medicine and surgery; under the classification of minors coming meat and milk inspection, veterinary jurisprudence, sanitary science, toxicology, and zootechnics. Three exceedingly busy years will have been filled in by the student, but the college product will be of a higher standard.

Under the university statute, the successful conclusion of the work will entitle the student to the V. S. diploma of the University. It is intended to admit the V. S. to the degree of D. V. S. one year thereafter, provided he presents an approved thesis or the result of special work in a research laboratory in one of the subjects in the curriculum. This regulation, we think, should be amended or there will be few doctors in veterinary science. Research laboratories open to veterinarians in Canada are few, to all intents and purposes as yet non-existent. It would be well to amend this regulation, so that the presentation of an approved thesis after five years' practice would admit to the degree, or, if considered necessary, an examination to be held in addition. A somewhat similar method governs in Great Britain with regard to obtaining the Fellowship of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. The University should certainly appoint the examiners, and, as an additional suggestion, should elect one or two prominent veterinarians to the committee on agriculture and veterinary science. If the plan outlined above is followed, we are satisfied that the profession will rank higher with the public and the members will benefit thereby.

Dr. A. S. Alexander, V.S., in an address before the Wisconsin State Board of Agriculture, said: "Go to Toronto, Canada, and watch the teams as they pass. Their uniformity of breed type, color, conformation and quality, shows that one breed has been used from start to finish through long years, until to-day the average horse is a creditable representation of that breed. To such a breeding center the buyer may go, confident that there he will find a full supply of the kind of horses he wants."

A Chilled-meat Scheme Advocated for the N.-W. T.

Without doubt one of the most serious problems which to-day confronts ranchers and stockmen of the Territories is the beef question. Great Britain at present is the chief consumer of our surplus; then at the offset let us state that the number of beef animals produced in Canada suitable for the British markets is exceedingly small. The satisfactory type for the British markets is the naturally low, square, deeply-fleshed two-year-old, after he has been well fitted; three-year-olds of like conformation also take well, but four-year-olds, and many of them are exported from the ranges, are not favorites, owing to age and size. The type desired is the type our best breeders are aiming to produce, yet few of that kind cross the water from our ranges, showing that impressive sires of the beef breeds, rich in individuality and of outstanding pedigree, are little used. This is a most serious mistake, and one that is handicapping the export beef trade of Canada. Bulls of mixed breeding, frequently with a dash of dairy blood, are often used, simply because the initial cost is easier met. Such a policy is ruinous, both from a national and individual standpoint. Many pure-bred scrubs are also used for no better reason.

Where at all practicable, a more systematic method of winter feeding must be adopted. It is perfectly true that fairly well matured animals rustle all winter, and are in fair condition when spring arrives. To permit stock to rustle all winter where it can be avoided is poor policy, for about one-third of an animal's life on the Western range is usually spent without gain in weight. Some extra feed and better shelter would convert the present lost third period into one of gain, and, as a result, more rapid growth, additional beef, and more money.

Shipping beef on foot over 5,000 miles, about half of that by rail, is the present mode of export. Consider the cost of space, the difficulties of feeding (especially the rail portion), the cost of feed, the attendant's wages, and, above all, the shrinkage owing to unfavorable conditions for increased gains. Were photos taken of the average steer at the commencement and termination of his last journey, there would be that about it which would remind one of some patent medicine cuts, "Before" and "After," under inverted conditions. Quantity is not the only loss which the fatiguing journey causes, the quality has also greatly deteriorated. Kill an average steer when ready for shipment, the fat is white and the lean a good color, but by the time it reaches Great Britain the fat has turned yellow and the lean meat a much darker color than is desired.

To avoid the larger portion of this loss, we advise adopting the chilled-meat system. This would necessitate the erection of large cold-storage buildings of the most approved style at some central place. Just so soon as the industry assumed a fair size a cannery would likely be erected in connection, and large feeding sheds should form part of the scheme where some "finishing off" work could be done when such was considered advisable. The refuse from the beet sugar industry at Raymond could also be profitably utilized in this connection, either by shipping the steers to the feed or vice versa.

By visiting the leading stock-yards of this continent a correct idea of the average quality of the cattle shipped to these leading centers can be formed, and we believe that the statement is safe which claims that considerably over half are lacking either in form or finish, and in view of the latter we have suggested the feeding yards.

In 1902 the United States exported to Great



Group of Western Cowboys Ready for Action.