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considerable numbers of cattle in winter for the export trade. The scarcity of live stock in sight strikes one as a singular feature in a district of country where all the conditions are so favorable for this industry and the farms so peculiarly fitted for raising in abundance all the necessary food for stock. Seeing less than half a dozen foals, scarcely a score of calves, and fewer than a hundred sheep, in a hundred miles of travel, one wonders where the supply is coming from to meet the ever-increasing demand for these classes of stock, and the quality of the animals seen, as a rule, it must be said, is far from being what might reasonably be expected in a country where herds of the improved breeds of stock have so long been kept, and the advantages of the use of pure-bred sires in grading up the character of the stock have been so often and well demonstrated in the Fat Stock and other leading shows, of which the district is the center. Graziers and feeders complain of the difficulty of securing thrifty, well-bred young cattle for their purposes, and shippers deplore the same disadvantage in competing in the markets for the highest prices, and yet comparatively little progress is made in the way of improvement. It is indeed passing strange that farmers continue so indifferent in the matter of improving the quality of their stock when the facilities are so easily within their reach, and the necessary expense so moderate under judicious management.

It is remarkable that the fertility of these farms is apparently so well maintained where so little stock is kept, and this can only be explained by the fact that clover has been so generally grown, and a system of rotation of crops followed in which roots have had a prominent place, by which weeds have been kept in check and the supply of humus maintained in the soil.

The seasons in the last few years have been singularly favorable to the farmers of Western Ontario, generous June rains ensuring bountiful crops, whereas a dry June would certainly have meant partial if not serious failure, and the danger is that, forgetful of the fact that a dry summer may come in any year, carelessness in the cultivation of the seed-bed and for the conservation of moisture, might result in serious shortage, for which more general provision should be made in the way of fodder and forage crops, such as corn and rape, to supplement the pastures; and, in many cases, the need of more attention to drainage is apparent in the color of the crops, a precaution that well repays the cost in almost every case, and often in a single season.

While pointing out the defects mentioned, we are not disposed to criticize unduly, but, on the other hand, are glad to acknowledge that much improvement is manifest in the appearance of the farms of Ontario in the matter of buildings and fences, in the cleanness of the farms from noxious weeds, and in the taste displayed by many in tree-planting, and in neatness in the keeping of door-yards and lawns, and the farm generally. Farmers are farming better than they did years ago, and are prospering, as they well deserve to do. With more attention given to the points herein indicated, and to the conservation of their wood-lots, by excluding the cattle from them, together with the more general adoption of a sane system of road improvement, the farmers of Ontario may be complimented on their enterprise, and may congratulate themselves on the favorable conditions of their lot in this fair land.

HORSES.

Opinion is now fairly unanimous that the agricultural horse conforms in type to the drafter, but has much less scale and substance.

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In the pure-bred draft classes it does not follow that if an animal is not up to sixteen hundred pounds it should not get a prize, but weight should receive consideration, other points being satisfactory.

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A good coat of whitewash all over the stables—floors, ceilings, walls, mangers, etc.—is sure to destroy those distemper germs that are awaiting to attack the horses next spring.

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One of the pitics in horse-breeding is that there is not enough first-class horses to go around. Many a man has to use breeding stock that he knows is not up to his ideal, but has no other course open to him.

* * *

If a judge at the fair should come along and scarcely take two looks at your horse, then give the prize to an animal that you believe is not half as good as yours, it won't hurt the horse's reputation very much, and you may lay it to a difference of opinion.

And don't forget to trim the colt's feet.

Influenza or Pink-eye.

At present there is, in many sections of Ontario, an epizootic of a form of influenza, often called pink-eye. It is not so serious nor yet so regular in its symptoms as the outbreak of pink-eye in the early eighties. Many cases are not serious, and all that is necessary is rest, good care and laxative diet for a few days, while others quickly develop serious symptoms, and require prompt and energetic treatment. While there is no doubt it is always wise for the owner to employ a veterinarian to attend to all serious cases, there are those who are not within reasonable distance of professional help, hence it may be wise to give the symptoms and treatment for cases in which there are no complications.

The first symptoms usually noticed are a dullness, listlessness, and refusal or partial inability to eat or drink. With few exceptions, there is a soreness of the throat and a cough, which can be easily produced and aggravated by slight pressure with the fingers on the patient's throat. The eyes become dull and bloodshot, all the mucous membranes are infected, the eyelids sometimes swell and the eyes discharge tears; there is usually a discharge from the nostrils, at first watery, but in a few days becoming thicker and somewhat purulent. In other cases there is no discharge from either eyes or nostrils. A free discharge from the nostrils is always a favorable symptom. The temperature is increased to 102 to 107 degrees Fahr. There is usually a greater or less inability to swallow, and, in endeavoring to drink he will gulp, and a portion of the water return through the nostrils. The appetite is more or less impaired. In some cases there is difficulty

anything he will eat. He should be given 20 grains sulphate of quinine, and 2 drams chlorate of potash about every five or six hours, and his throat should be rubbed twice daily for two or three days with equal parts spirits of ammonia, raw linseed oil, and oil of turpentine, and a woolen cloth should be tied around his throat to keep it warm. The administration of aconite, so often given in these cases, should be avoided, as, if given in sufficient quantities to have any action in reducing fever, it has a very undesirable action upon the heart, by reducing both the strength and number of the beats of an already weakened organ. If the patient will not take nourishment, a mixture of milk, fresh eggs and whisky should be given frequently with a syringe, as described. When the acute stages have passed, tonics, as ½ ounce tincture of nux vomica and 2 drams tincture of iron, mixed with 2 ounces water, should be given four or five times daily. If breathing becomes labored, it is well to hold a pot of boiling water with a little carbolic acid in it under his nostrils, and force him to inhale the steam for a few minutes three or four times daily. In rare cases the breathing becomes so labored there is danger of suffocation unless an operation called tracheotomy, which consists in inserting a tube in the windpipe, is performed. As before stated, this, and all serious complications, can be successfully treated only by a veterinarian.

"WHIP."

Care of Horses' Feet.

In hot weather the feet of farm horses are very liable to become a source of pain to the animals themselves, and of inconvenience to their owners, owing to unfitness for work, and that, usually, when the demand for horseflesh is greatest.

It is, therefore, a matter of importance for farmers, says a writer in the English Agricultural Gazette, to see that all possible care is taken of their horses' feet at all times, and particularly during the summer months, as a lame horse, from any cause, is an undesirable asset, no matter what his value is when sound, or how well made and salable he may be in other respects. Horses, above all animals, have to get their own living, and more often than not their owners, by walking and trotting, and, in the case of racehorses, galloping. Hence the absolute necessity of each animal possessing a set of sound feet which will stand the strain of constant use.

Among the best classes of heavy horses there is no doubt that the feet have received due attention, and the show horses of to-day stand on better bottoms than did their ancestors of twenty, or even ten, years ago; but still there is room for improvement. The fact that a large number of horses are prepared for show, is no doubt responsible for some improvement, inasmuch as the yearling or two-year-old intended for exhibition gets the attentions of the shoeing smith early in life, and a shapely foot is the natural result, and it would be well if similar treatment were given to all young horses, so as to prevent the thin, shelly and broken hoofs which one occasionally sees on the neglected three-year-old on being put into the team.

Heredity is another point to remember in regard to horses' feet. If the parents have big, sound and shapely hoofs, the offspring will follow suit, but they will also follow just as much in the narrow, contracted order, and it is the latter which are most likely to develop ailments incidental to horses' feet.

Assuming that ordinary care has been given from weaning time upwards to the growth of the foot, and the animal is in regular work, it remains for the horsekeeper or groom to see that no horse is allowed to stand for hours in a filthy stable, that the feet are pecked out regularly, and that a simple remedy, such as common salt and tar, is applied to the clefts of the frog, if there is the least suspicion of "thrush," which is a very common ailment, and often causes a horse to go "short" when shown in the judging-ring, or before a prospective buyer.

In this connection, it may be said that the floors of many farm stables are calculated to produce "thrush" almost without fail. Rough native stone, with huge holes, into which the liquid drains and stands, to form a bath for the horses' heels, is a fair description of some stable "bottoms"—not floors—and out of such good sound feet cannot possibly come without a good deal of



Monk's Polly.

A prizewinning English Shire mare.