

the competition of teachers for schools, combined with the penuriousness of many taxpayers and trustees, forced down salaries, which the Government, in turn, was asked to arbitrarily raise.

In our opinion, the best way to raise salaries is to reduce the competition, by introducing a scope and kind of education that will allow and encourage each boy to develop along the line for which he is "cut out." Our schools at present fail to do this. Unintentionally, but persistently and effectively, they have led nearly all the cleverest boys away from the farm, the factory and the forge, and inclined an undue proportion of them to prefer positions as teachers, clerks or lawyers, at starvation wages, rather than those various walks of life which, under a more rational, better-balanced and less "bookish" school influence, they would have elected to follow.

Teachers' salaries, like commodities of commerce, are chiefly regulated by the relation of supply and demand. When public educational systems are reformed along rational lines, the problem of teachers' salaries, like the labor problem and many others, will be advanced a long step toward a satisfactory solution.

HORSES.

PONY OUTFITS AT BROME CO. FAIR.

One of the most attractive features at the Brome Co., P. Q., exhibition this season was the pony outfit ridden and driven by little Miss Doris Cleveland Ralston (daughter of A. E. Ralston), illustrated by the companion pictures in this issue of "The Farmer's Advocate," just as they appeared in competition and in the grand parade, where they made a great "hit," well deserving the honors won. Doris is nine years old, and Trixie six. Duncan Anderson, who was present at the show in the capacity of a judge, expressed his delight with the turnout, heartily commending such features in preference to the so-called "attractions" that have degraded so many fairs and tended to ruin them as educational institutions.

GROOMING PAYS.

On the Experimental Farm at Lacombe, Alta., we are required to spend ten minutes every morning and fifteen minutes at night in actual work of cleaning each of our horses, and in fact we spend, quite often, half an hour apiece in the evening.

I have been asked time and again this summer how many horses we have. When I tell them that we put in a crop of about ninety acres, plowed fifty this spring, besides doing all our experimental work, with five horses, and took off a crop of hay of nearly one hundred tons, they all look surprised at the condition our horses are in.

I think that it is labor well spent, for, if your horse is lazy and slow, and you have to keep a stock of whips in supply to get a day's work out of him, a far cheaper way is to keep your horse thoroughly cleaned, and he comes out of the stable in the morning as if he hadn't done a day's work for a month. A good idea is to rub the back of the fetlock joint and the pastern with the palm of the hand for, say, half a minute to each limb. It is a wonderful preventive of sores, etc., at the fetlock and pastern.

The horse is, has been, and will be, man's greatest help in the power line, no matter how many inventions come out to take his place; and every comfort we can give him, in common sense, should be his, and the better he will do our work for us.

C. E. CRAIG.

THE SHORTAGE OF HORSES.

There is a reported shortage of ten thousand foals this year in the British Isles, a decrease in the horse supply large enough to be serious, and likely to be far-reaching in its results. Among our own breeders, there were fewer colts produced this year than last, the decrease being due largely to the heavy mortality in foals at birth. In Ontario and on the other side of the line a similar condition prevails. There is a heavy shortage in the visible supply of all kinds of horses, while the demand in all classes for high-quality animals was never more active. It looks as if horse prices must go higher, especially values for horses of the higher grades. The motor-car was widely heralded as the likely death-knell of the horse-breeding industry; so the bicycle a few years earlier was going to drive horses entirely from the roads; the invention of the steam engine, a century before, seemed likely to put horses altogether out of existence. But the development of all these means of reducing horse energy for power and motive purpose seems only to increase the de-

mand for the equine species. And the indications are that this demand is going to become steadily greater. The automobile has ceased to be a novelty, and in the larger American and European cities those who can afford to do so are returning to the horse. There are hundreds of motor cabs in New York that are now never seen outside their garages, while the "sinful rich" sweep down the boulevards and through the parks, their equipages moved by the noble power of yore. The demand for horses seems likely to steadily increase. They will be in demand even when the navigation of the air becomes a fixed reality. Present indications are that they will be a mighty profitable line for farmers to give increased attention to. There is little danger of an oversupply.—[Farmer's Advocate, Winnipeg.

LAMENESS IN HORSES.

SPRAIN OF THE FLEXOR TENDONS.

Sprain of the flexor tendons (usually called sprain of the back sinews) is a frequent cause of

after bathing, apply an anodyne liniment, as one composed of two ounces laudanum, one ounce chloroform, one ounce acetate of lead, and water to make a pint. When the acute soreness and inflammation have subsided, change to cold water and a stimulant liniment, as one composed of two ounces oil of turpentine, two ounces tincture of arnica, four ounces alcohol, and water to make a pint; and, in an hour after applying the liniment, apply a bandage that has been soaked in cold water (commonly spoken of as "a cold-water bandage"), to be left on until time for next bathing. If a thickening of the tendons remains or lameness continues for longer than two or three weeks, a blister should be applied. In some cases repeated blisterings are necessary, but, unless the lesion has been very severe, the case is likely to yield to ordinary treatment.

SPRAIN OF THE SUSPENSORY LIGAMENT.

This is a ligament that extends on the posterior surface of each cannon bone, in front of the flexor tendons, and close to the bone, from knee or hock to the pastern. It is attached superiorly

to the bones of the knee or hock, is flat and thin, passes down close to the flat, posterior surface of the bone to near the fetlock joint, where it divides; one portion passes outwards and downwards, and the other inwards and downwards to the anterior surface of the limb, where they join the extensor tendon of the limb at about the pastern joint. The edges of the ligament can be readily felt in the healthy limb, and in highly-bred, clean-limbed horses can be readily seen. Severe sprain of this ligament, with rupture, is often seen in race-horses, and is called "breaking down."

In these cases lameness is very acute, the fetlock pad descends, sometimes as low as the ground, and the toe of the foot turns upwards when the animal walks. Horses that have suffered from this severe lesion will make a partial recovery, but a thickening of the part is always permanent, and the patient never again able to stand training, but may be useful for slow work. It is not of this severe lesion we wish to write, but of ordinary sprain of the ligament, without extensive, or, probably, without any rupture. This may occur in any horse from slipping, heavy drawing, driving over rough ground, etc.

Symptoms.—The symptoms are not as easily noticed as in sprain of the tendons, as a sprained ligament does not present well-marked swelling. The lameness will be more or less severe, according to the extent of the lesion. When standing, the patient will point the foot, and during progression will stub the toe, and avoid, as far as possible, letting his weight rest upon the heel. Careful manipulation with thumb and finger will locate the seat of trouble. The course of the ligament from knee or hock to the fetlock joint should be carefully followed, and gentle pressure exerted all the way down. When the sprained part is reached the horse will evince pain in the usual way. It will be plainly noticed that there is almost an entire absence of the local heat and swelling that is present in sprain of either muscular or tendinous tissue, but the sensitiveness to pressure is well marked.

Treatment.—In ordinary cases, the same treatment adopted for sprain of the tendons will suffice, but it is often noticed that the lameness is



"Trixie" Under Saddle.



"Trixie" Before the Carriage.