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GOVERNMENT HORSE BREEDING.

The difficulty in obtaining desirable horses for military service has induced the United States government to undertake to raise a part of its army horses and mules. It is proposed to establish a station in Missouri, near Kansas City, another in Texas, near Fort Worth, and a third breeding establishment in Montana, near Miles City. It is an independent commercial enterprise on the part of the government to insure not only a supply of horses and mules for military service, but to raise best types of horses for cavalry mounts and artillery use.

The location of the breeding stations is admirable to obtain brood mares for foundation stock. Missouri is nearly as famous for the quality of her saddle and light harness horses as is Kentucky. There are several herds of well-bred horses in Montana, while the Texas horses are renowned for their hardiness and endurance. It has not yet been announced what breed of stallions will be used to sire cavalry mounts, but presumably it will be an American trotting-bred stallion. When selecting a sire to head the government carriage-horse breeding establishment Carmon, a son of Robert McGregor (2:17), was selected in preference to a Hackney French or German Coach stallion. Unquestionably expert judges can select from our domestic-bred horses all the foundation stock necessary to equip the government horse-breeding establishments.

Farmers and Drivers Journal.

AUSTRALIAN HAY IN ENGLAND.

Lately it has become quite the fashion in England to import hay from Queensland, pressed hay, particularly for race horses. English trainers prefer Australian grass to all others, and certain kinds are now selling in Britain for as high as forty dollars a ton. It is evident that there is some virtue possessed by this fodder from the Antipodes, for at different times the War office and the large bus companies have been purchasers. The bulk of this hay is oat grass and lucerne (alfalfa). In food value the first named at least is nowhere equal to prairie hay.

MISSOURI RETURNING TO SHEEP.

Missouri along with all the other Western States is getting back into sheep. This State used to be a large producer of wool and mutton. Droughts were responsible for the downfall of the industry, the present high sheep and wool values is responsible for its revival. Missouri buyers have been purchasing breeding stock, strongly all summer.

RESULTS OF STOCK JUDGING CONTEST AT VICTORIA FAIR.

The following are the winners in the stock judging competition and the score of the competitors in each class
 Class over 21 years of age—1st prize, S. H. Shannon, Cloverdale, 213; 2nd Jas. Turner, Ladner, 212; 3rd, Thos. Mackie, Port Guichon, 190; 4th, M. H. Dobie, Victoria, 190; 5th, John Watt, Victoria, 185; 6th, J. T. Maynard, Chilliwack, 180.

Class under 21 years of age—1st, Willford Maynard, Chilliwack, 225; 2nd, J. M. Morrison, Duncan, 215; 3rd, N. J. Shopland, Sydney, 188; 4th, Alex. Brethour, Sydney, 165; 5th, Neptune Grimmer, Pender Island, 135; 6th, Wynn Page, Matsqui, 130.

Heavy horses—T. J. Quick, Victoria, 90; Wynn Page, Matsqui, 80; James Lawrie, Ladner, 75; Jas. Turner, Ladner, 65; Duncan Montgomery, Port Guichon, 60; H. M. Vasey, Ladner, 60.

Light horses—J. M. Morrison, Duncan, 80; Jas. Turner, Ladner, 77; Duncan Montgomery, Port Guichon, 45.

Beef cattle—N. J. Shopland, Sydney, 95; Willford Maynard, Chilliwack, 90; J. T. Maynard, Chilliwack, 75; H. M. Vasey, Ladner, 70; Jas. Turner, Ladner, 70; Jas. Turner, Ladner, 70.

Dairy cattle—J. M. Morrison, Duncan, 85; John Watt, Victoria, 84; S. H. Shannon, Cloverdale, 75; A. Calvert, Westholme, 75; Willford Maynard, Chilliwack, 75; J. W. Martindale, Victoria, 70.

Sheep—Thos. Mackie, Port Guichon, 90; J. T. Maynard, Chilliwack, 70; Wm.

Maynard, Chilliwack, 60; J. W. Brethour, Sydney, 55.

Swine—S. H. Shannon, Cloverdale, 93; John Watt, Victoria, 65; J. W. Pimlott, Victoria, 62; N. J. Shopland, Sydney, 53.

WELL KNOWN ENGLISH FLOCK SOLD.

The well-known Southdown flock of the Duke of Richmond and Gordon's comprising 2200 sheep—over 1600 ewes and 500 lambs—was dispersed the other day by public auction. The average prices were: shearing ewes, 58s. 10d.; two-year-olds, 61s. 11d.; aged ewes, 15s. 6d.; lambs 33s. 2d.

BROWN SWISS CATTLE.

One of the most interesting exhibits at the Dominion Exhibition, Sherbrooke, Que., and one that commanded a deal of attention by farmers and others interested in dairy breeds of cattle was the herd of twenty head of Brown Swiss cattle, the property of Mr. C. E. Standish, Ayer's Cliff, Que. Mr. Standish is an extensive breeder of this great dairy breed of cattle. In a few words, we give a synopsis of what is one of the greatest and most profitable breeds of dairy cattle, and of which, in Canada at least, so little is known. Natives of Switzerland, where they have been bred for centuries, in the historic home of "Wm. Tell," they are distinguished from all other of the milk, or, perhaps, more correctly, dual-purpose breeds by their wonderfully strong constitutions, round, smooth, even bodies, great power of assimilation, promptly showing the effects of good care and feed in the increased flow of milk and rapid gain of flesh. But one of their greatest recommendations is their total freedom from nervousness. It is said, a cross, dangerous or nervous bull of the breed was never known. As to their dairy qualities, the cow, Brienz 168, at Chicago Dairy Show, in 1891, gave 81.7 lbs. of milk in one day, testing butter-fat equivalent to 3 1/2 lbs. butter in a day. This is official, as the United States Farmer's Bulletin, No. 106, will prove. Another gave 86.304 lbs. of milk a day, 50.60, and 70-lb.-a-day cows are by no means a scarcity, their milk testing from 4 to 5 per cent. butter-fat. In weight, the bulls, when developed, weigh from 1,800 to 2,200 lbs.; the cows, from 1,200 to 1,400 lbs. The stock bull is Brieno 1616, a son of Ernestino 2nd, whose butter record is 400 lbs. a year. He has never been beaten at New York and other State Fairs, and is the sire of the two first-prize bull calves at St. Louis in 1904. These cattle, where known, are as popular in America as in their "Alpine Home."

ALFALFA GROWING IN KANSAS.

In view of the increased attention being given to alfalfa-growing in this country, it might be interesting to note something of what has been accomplished in Kansas in the matter of producing it.

Kansas is unique in many things, but in none more than in the commanding position she occupies in relation to alfalfa-growing. Her development in this industry has been one of the marvels of her prolific agriculture, and with alfalfa, as with winter wheat, no other State is her equal in its area and production. The alfalfa field of Kansas now approximates nearly three-quarters of a million acres, and but three cultivated crops exceed it in annual area, viz: wheat, corn and oats. In combination with these alfalfa furnishes Kansas in abundance with perhaps the best and cheapest rations anywhere available for the maintenance of their livestock, for the excellence of which they are famed.

The credulity of the stranger to alfalfa, however fair-minded, is invariably taxed by a recitation of the truth about this wonderful plant; even the facts cut in two leave him in a perturbed state of doubt as to the veracity of the narrator, but thoroughly convincing are the experiences of those who are actually its growers. It is a perennial blessing to those who are so fortunate as to have an area devoted to its culture; yielding annually, whether the season be wet or dry, its several cuttings of hay unsurpassed in tonnage and quality, it is indeed esteemed as a benefaction, and doubly appreciated in those portions where it flourishes, but where the



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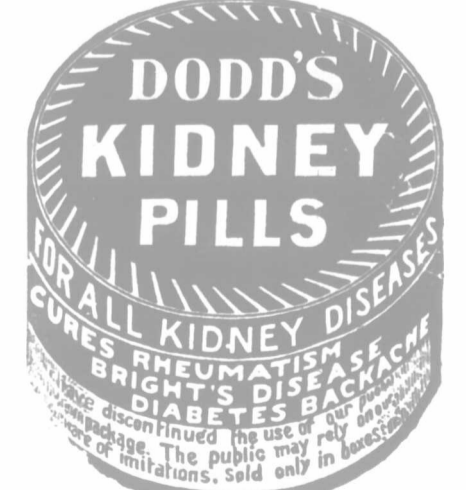
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clovers do not prosper. Another feature, too, that the wideawake farmer does not overlook or minimize is the improving effects of its roots, restoring and enriching rather than depleting the fertility of the soil in which they grow, to the great benefit of other succeeding crops. As is well known, alfalfa is one of the oldest forage plants, but to the husbandry of the American farmer it is of but recent acquisition. Kansas were among the most foremost to correctly estimate its worth, and its widespread introduction in the Sunflower State has been one of the most important factors in increasing bank deposits and the per capita wealth.

In Kansas alfalfa-growing was a prelude to prosperity, and is the steadfast promoter of her progress. From comparative obscurity it has steadily risen to the foremost rank of the hay plants, and has already resulted in quadrupling the State's output of tame hay. In 1890 the value was worth over 10 1/2 million dollars. The annual value of products of livestock in that time has been practically doubled, and alfalfa has made of Kansas, if not first, one of the foremost states in dairying—a most desirable branch of husbandry that, intelligently and generally followed, well-nigh insures continued and enlarged prosperity. Alfalfa, it seems, supplied the one requisite Providence failed to provide in establishing the otherwise ready-made conditions for dairying in Kansas, and the attention being given this mode of extensive farming in nearly every locality is having its beneficial influence, commercially and socially.

As a hay, there is none so good for all kinds of livestock as alfalfa, and for horses and hogs it is a most invaluable food either as a hay, a soiling crop, or as pasture. As a meat-maker, milk-maker, and money-maker, it is equally prized, and as a renovator and improver of soils it has no competitor.

The death is just announced of Mr. John Forrest of Glasgow, Scotland, for the past twenty-five years one of the best known Clydesdale judges in Britain. He will be remembered by Clydesdale men as one of the three judges appointed to decide the tie between the group of five yearlings by Macgregor and Lord Erskine at the Glasgow summer show in 1885.



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