

as they are doing now. Show me that we are to have Government inspection, security for notes and deposits, and a few other reasonable safeguards, and then you can finish off your revised Bank Act with all the frills you want to. You may even trim it with lace and insertion if you do not insert into it any little jokers that will kill the reforms that are needed. If you do that we shall probably jump up into the air and fall on you from a great height, thereby doing you "grievous bodily harm."

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Of course it is not exactly polite to talk back to eminent people in that way, but some very eminent people are at present trying to bamboozle the public, and that is the kind of talk that will be most likely to stop them.

"Keep your eye on the ball."

Protection, Privation and Public Health.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

I venture to draw your attention to an article in the May number of the English Review, entitled "Protection and Public Health," being the text of a lecture delivered in London (Eng.) last March, by Sir Alfred Mond, Bart., M. P.

Among much very interesting matter he quotes an instance of the casual connection between protection and disease furnished at the present moment by Italy. Italy has a very considerable duty on wheat. The Italians, it is said, cannot substitute rye or potatoes, and are driven to resort to Indian corn. The result of the substitution of Indian corn, which is a very poor food for a human being, is said to be a terrible skin disease called pellagra, which leads to paralysis, insanity and suicide, and accounts for about 10 to 12 per cent. of the total mortality of the country. It is suggested that if the Government took off the wheat duty, and so allowed the population to buy imported wheat, the public health would be at once improved, for there is found a very close parallel between the rise and fall of the number of deaths and cases of insanity from pellagra with the rise and fall in the price of wheat.

Sir Alfred Mond says the Americans are the most patient people he has ever met. No others, he says, would support such a system as exemplified in their tariff on raw wool and all woollen goods, running to 50 and 60 per cent. One of the results of their woollen duty is that in a very cold and inclement country the great mass of the population is obliged to wear cotton goods, which are quite unsuited to the climate, simply because they cannot afford to buy wool. He goes on to say that there appears to be very little doubt that considerable amount of tuberculosis and pneumonia in the United States to-day is to be traced directly to these duties on wool, which compel a large part of the population to wear cotton goods.

Sir Alfred Mond points out one remarkable and significant fact, which is that the death-rate is lowest in free-trade countries—England, Denmark and Holland, and highest in the most highly protected countries. He adds that it is not altogether surprising that in England, Denmark and Holland, which are all free-trade countries, and have practically no food taxes, the bulk of the population are better fed, better clothed and better housed than in protected countries. "Statistically," he claims, "that fact stands; of course, we can interpret it as we like; but that the introduction of a protective system must in the future, as it has in the past, in this or any other country, have a deleterious effect in all directions on the health of the nation, seems to me to be practically axiomatic."

I refrain from further quotations, but knowing the interest you have in this topic, as evidenced by the frequent reference to it in your columns, I felt impelled to bring to your notice an article dealing with some of the historical results of protection, looked at from the broad standpoint of the life of the nation as a whole.

Glasgow, Scotland.

C. BRADFIELD.

Few better seasons are afforded for the clearing up of an unsightly and altogether unprofitable old fence or fence-row than just now, when the seed is in the ground and the crop is growing, but not ready for further cultivation or harvest. Old fence-bottoms, used as farm "dumps" for stones, broken rails and all kinds of rubbish, are ideal places for the growth of noxious weeds and the breeding of some of our most destructive insect pests. Clean them up and place them under cultivation, thus changing a waste place into a productive area.

HORSES.

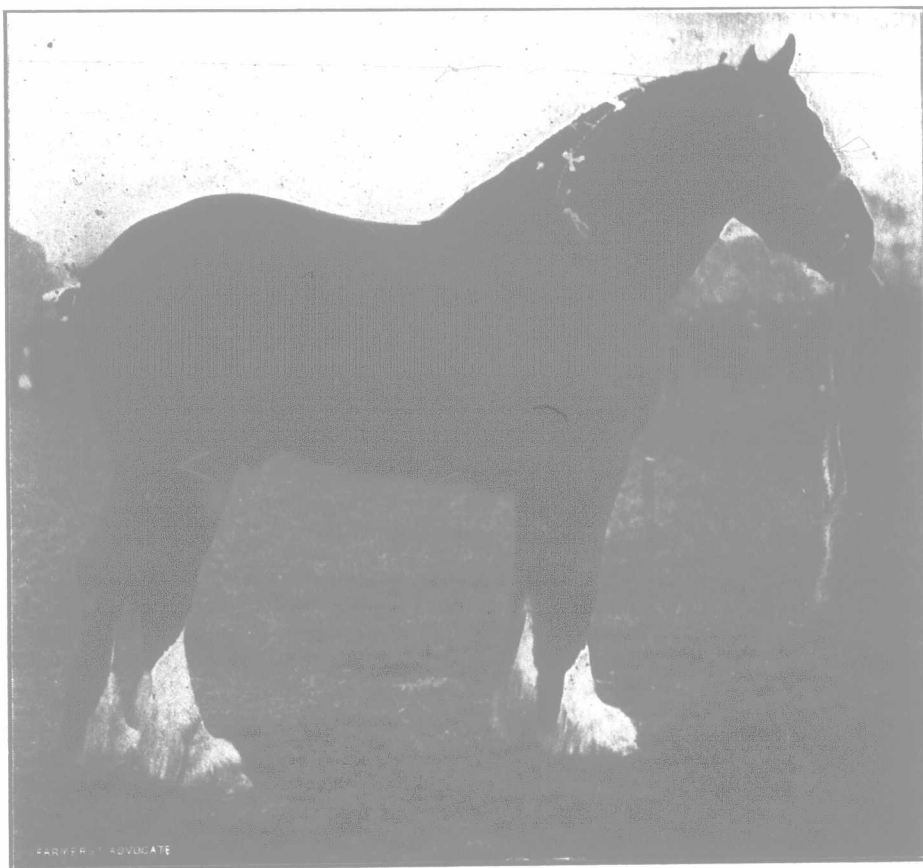
The colts away to pasture require salt regularly.

Very young colts have been known to be killed by sunstroke. On very hot days it is often well to keep the mare inside during the middle of the day, and avoid the risk. This is only necessary while the colt is quite young.

Divide the summer's work equitably amongst the horses. The mare with foal at foot should be, as far as possible, exempt, but the geldings and mares not suckling colts should each be required to do their share. Too often one team is the "standby," doing all the summer work.

Knowing that the most fertile period of a mare's life is between the ages of four and twelve years, which makes her usefulness as a breeder very short indeed, there seems to be little reason why every big, strong, growthy, well-developed two-year-old filly not required for hard work during the summer she is three years of age should not be bred.

In the course of Whip's full, reliable and altogether excellent article on the care of the mare and foal at time of parturition (issue May 23rd), a slip of the pen accounts for an error of prescription which, while probably not dangerous, being intended for external application only, must needs



Ascot Chief.

First-prize three-year-old Clydesdale stallion at Glasgow Stallion Show, and winner of the Brydon Challenge Shield; also first at Ayr.

be corrected. For dressing the navel of the foal the proper strength of bichloride of mercury solution is 15 grains to eight ounces of water—not 15 grains to the ounce as stated.

During the hot summer weather the work horse enjoys a drink of fresh, cool water before he gets his morning meal. Watering before feeding should be the rule. This is practiced on many farms, and many who follow it at noon and night depart from it in the morning, leaving the watering until the horse is taken out to work. This should not be, as it is just as important to the horse to get water before breakfast as before his noon or evening meal.

The time at which mares should be returned to the horse after being bred is a question upon which the opinions of horsemen differ. It is a known fact that mares differ in this respect, and it is well to observe carefully each individual mare which is being bred. Estrum usually lasts with mares over a period of from five to nine days, and its recurrence commonly occurs twenty-one days from its commencement on a former occasion. While this is generally the case with mares whose reproductive organs are in a normal state, there are many mares whose periods show a deviation from the rule, and it is well to observe closely each individual brood mare in this respect in order to make the best success of the breeding business.

Uniformity in Foals.

A writer in "The Farmer's Advocate & Home Journal," Winnipeg, Man., complains that he has had much trouble in horse-breeding in getting his mares to produce matched teams. He has been breeding Clydesdales, and has now fifteen colts, some with three straight crosses of Clydesdale blood in them, and no two of the colts are enough alike to produce anything like a matched team. The mares used were grades of the Clydesdale breed, and the stallions were the best available in the particular section. Are a grade group of mares likely to throw a lot of foals anything but uniform in type, even though the mares have been mated to the same stallion as far as possible, and these stallions of a fine type? Were different sires of a different quality mated with these grade mares, many apparently sound reasons could be given in explanation, but where there has been but few sires used, and these for as long and as consistently as possible, there is a case which seems conclusive, yet there must be some explanation for such disparity of type where from fifteen well-bred Clydesdale grades no two will mate sufficiently well to make a matched team. The conclusion that must be arrived at by a breeder would be that an unfortunate selection of sires has been made, not that they were necessarily of an inferior type, but that they have not that strong prepotent character that makes the ideal sire.

Commenting further, the editor drew attention to the fact that, in breeding, it must be remembered that even the most noted breeders get types which they have least reason to expect, from certain matings. New breeders must remember that each individual in the breed is made up of several lines of blood, that each animal in every line of ancestry is exerting a greater or less influence on the progeny of to-day, and it is this differentiated influence of past generations that gives the lack of uniformity even among the purest blood of the breed. It must be borne in mind that in the Clydesdale breed the mating that gave the Prince of Wales gave only one Prince of Wales. Likewise, we had but one Earnley, and we have but one Baron's Pride, and in his long line of progeny there is but one Baron of Buchlyvie. Some of the greatest prizewinners are noted most for the disparity of their get, yet, in the main, from the

better-bred horses come the best types that win in the show-ring, and that give the greatest uniformity to their get. Even among the best, though, of every breed, the uniformity of get can never be known until the individual is tried. The more likely to produce uniformity is the sire that has behind him a line of ancestry that is marked with the same quality and type as himself, rather than the horse that, although a fine individual in himself, is the progeny of an upstanding, nervous sire and a low-set, sluggish mare which have been mated to get the medium type. Where a fine type of pure-bred mares was used, fair or even surprisingly good results may be gotten, but when mated with grade mares, the stallion with uniform lines of blood in his veins might be expected to get by far the most uniform lot of colts.

As ancestry is difficult to locate or trace back in this new country, a farmer has to depend largely upon individual merit in the selection of a stallion to mate to his mares, although he would do well to look over the stallion's pedigree and see that he has a horse whose sire and dam have noted blood in their veins.

It cannot be hoped to reduce breeding to the certainty of a mathematical problem. If we could, anyone might make a success of breeding, and poor horses would be rare. Breeding the higher types of even grade horses successfully requires a long apprenticeship or study of horse life. To the farmer raised with good horses, the