

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).

TWO DISTINCT PUBLICATIONS—EASTERN AND WESTERN.

EASTERN OFFICE:

CARLING STREET, LONDON, ONT.

WESTERN OFFICE:

IMPERIAL BANK BLOCK, CORNER BATHURST AVE. AND MAIN ST.,
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA.

BRANCH OFFICE: CALGARY, ALBERTA, N.-W. T.

LONDON (ENGLAND) OFFICE:

W. W. CHAPMAN, Agent, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street,
London, W. C., England.

JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is published every Thursday (52 issues per year). It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most profitable, practical, reliable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, and stockmen, of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, United States, England, Ireland and Scotland, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 when not paid in advance. All other countries, 12s.
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LONDON, CANADA.

Growing Sugar Beets.

The successful growing of sugar beets in any locality is an object lesson in good farming. One great difficulty the factories have had to contend with is to get enough beets grown. Special interest and value, therefore, attaches to the contributions elsewhere in this issue from Dr. A. E. Shuttleworth, Superintendent Agricultural Department Ontario Sugar Company, and several successful growers in various counties, giving a resume of their experience on just such points as beginners desire to know. From his experience and observation in this country, and also in Germany, where beet-growing is carried on to perfection, and beet-sugar production an industry of national magnitude, Dr. Shuttleworth is in a position to speak with authority. The actual experience and results described by other writers is most encouraging and helpful. Speaking of crops to precede beets, has any reader tried the summer-fallow? Would not the freedom from weeds, and the extra good crops possible, more than make up for the season's crop missed?

"Immeasurable Stores."

"It is in every way gratifying to find that our Canadian periodicals are making such a show of merit nowadays. One of the most carefully edited of our publications—a thing to be glad of, considering its large circulation and the class it reaches—is the 'Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine.' Patriotism; literature; love of nature; good common-sense business methods in relation to farm management; together with an immeasurable store of valuable information, judiciously tempered by a spice of humor here and there in its pages, make of the 'Farmer's Advocate' a publication that should be reckoned upon as a factor for the good of the Canadian farmer, and for the good of Canada also. It would be an excellent thing if such a high-class paper could be taken in every Canadian home. This paper, which has heretofore appeared monthly, is now issued weekly."—[Prince Edward Island Magazine and Educational Outlook,

HORSES.

Starting Colts to Work.

On account of the lateness of the spring, farm work will not be commenced until about the time at which spring seeding is nearly finished some years, hence, when the ground is in condition to work, it will be the object of every farmer to rush it along, and get as much as possible done in a short time, in order to not be too late with seeding. On this account all available help will be forced into service, and it is probable many colts or young horses that have had little or no preparation will be put to work, and the anxiety to get forward with the work will have a tendency to make men, who are naturally careful and intelligent in such matters, forget the requirements of their teams in their anxiety to get the work done. Here exists the danger. If colts or unprepared horses are required to do a fair day's work at first, it is probable their shoulders will become sore or bruised, or their muscles become so tired that they will not be able to continue, while, on the other hand, even though practically unfitted for work, if intelligently used for the first few days, they will, in all probability, be able to perform, without serious injury, at least a moderate amount of work. We take it for granted that the colts have had sufficient education to enable them to be hitched and driven without trouble. Where practicable, it is wise to hitch a colt with an old horse, but where there are two colts that have to be put to work, the splitting of the teams in order to place each one with an old mate would prohibit the performance of a full day's work with either team, unless the old horse were given the short end of the doubletree, which in many cases is not satisfactory, and in such cases it might be wise to work the young ones together. The colt, or colt team, should be carefully harnessed; it should be seen that the harness, especially the collar, fits properly and is kept clean. Where the team is worked to a plow, if possible have an old horse in the furrow; if the colt be in on the off-side, it will be noticed that he will not walk the furrow properly, but will plant the near foot many times upon the land while the off foot keeps the furrow. This walking on uneven ground has a great tendency to cause sweeney or shoulder slip, which will disable him for a long time. Whether working to plow, or other implement or machine, the colts should not be expected to do full work the first few days. After a few rounds have been gone a rest of a few minutes should be given, and the collars should be lifted forward on their necks, in order to allow the air to circulate and the shoulders to cool. It is also good practice to rub the shoulders well with the hand or a cloth. When the collars are replaced, before starting again, care should be taken to part the mane carefully and see that none of it exists between the collar and the shoulder. Repeated short rests the first day, fewer the second, fewer still the third, etc., will gradually accustom the colts to their work, and after a few days they will be able to work steadily, unless the labor be hard and the weather quite warm. When brought to the stables for meals, the harness and collars should be taken off and the collars dried. The shoulders should be well rubbed, and if perspiration has been free it is good practice to wash them well with cold water, to which a little salt has been added. The collars should be thoroughly cleaned before being put on again. If after a few days the muscles of the shoulders have shrunk, and, as a consequence, the collars are too wide, as is usually the case, pads, usually called "sweat pads," should be worn, as it is practically impossible to work any horse, much less a colt, with an ill-fitting collar, without producing sore shoulders, and all teamsters know that it is a hard matter to get such sores to heal without rest, and it is cruel to work the animal while the soreness or rawness exists. When the collars fit properly, and reasonable care is taken, there will seldom be trouble, but with ill-fitting collars or careless attention even old horses must suffer. When there is excessive sweating there is a great tendency to tenderness of the shoulders from what is practically a scalding. This can be avoided to a great extent by bathing frequently with cold water, and if it occur the symptoms and soreness can be checked by, in addition to the bathing, the application of a lotion, made of an ounce each of sulphate of zinc and acetate of lead to a quart of soft water; even when there are raw surfaces there can be no better application than this lotion. When abscesses, either serous (containing a thin fluid), which appear suddenly and are not very sore to the touch, or purulent (containing pus), and which appear more slowly and are quite sore to pressure, appear, there is nothing to be done but lance, allow escape of the contents, give rest and flush out the cavities twice daily, either with the above lotion or a five per cent. solution of carbolic or other good antiseptic.

"WHIP."

A General-purpose Horse.

I noticed an article in the "Farmer's Advocate" of April 7th, entitled, "What Constitutes a General-purpose Horse?" in which the question is asked: is the horse of 1,350 lbs. a proper general-purpose horse? I consider that a horse that is built right and weighs from 1,250 to 1,350 pounds is heavy enough. When I say built right I want to be understood to mean he must not stand less than 15½ hands high; if 16hands, so much the better; should have a nice round barrel, well ribbed up; should be well up in the neck, and the neck of good length; should have good flat bone, and his legs covered with fine hair, and not a great amount of it. We have on our farm a five-year-old horse as near a good general-purpose horse as I ever saw—he weighs 1,250 lbs. in moderate flesh. Our farm is a clay loam, and he will do any work on the farm with ease, and if I want to go to town I can drive him from eight to ten miles an hour without hurting him a bit. Your correspondent says he has seen good, sound teams weighing 1,410 to 1,430 lbs. sent to the stable because they were too heavy. I think the judges did right. In several agricultural societies in Lambton County a new class has been added to the larger horses. They are now classed General-purpose, agricultural and heavy draft. The general-purpose horse weight from 1,250 to 1,350 lbs., the agricultural from 1,350 to 1,500 lbs., and the heavy draft as heavy as you can get them with good quality. Walter Harland Smith is admitted to be an expert horse judge and handles a great many horses every year. In your issue of April 7th, he quoted general-purpose and express horses from 1,200 to 1,350 lbs.

LOVER OF A GOOD HORSE.

Lambton Co., Ont.

Stallion Inspection.

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Sir,—I would like to express my ideas concerning the weight of the three classes of heavy horses. The weight of the general-purpose horse should be from 1,200 to 1,350 pounds; weight of the agricultural horse from 1,350 to 1,500 pounds; weight of the draft horse from 1,500 pounds to as much more as quality will allow. Quality is essential in each class, and the only way we can get quality is to have all stallions inspected by a veterinary, and an act of Parliament to prohibit the unsound ones from public service. In regard to showing those classes, the exhibitor usually tries to get his horse or team in a class lighter than he belongs. To overcome that, the judge should commence with the general-purpose class first, take the agricultural second, and the draft third. When he finds a good horse or team too heavy, or not the right style, instead of sending him back to the stable, tell him to come on in another class.

WM. GALLOWAY.

Lambton Co., Ont.

Quarantine Rules.

The following official statement of the new quarantine regulations adopted by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, bearing date March 30th, 1904, has been issued: Persons contemplating the importation of animals from countries other than the United States must obtain a permit from the Minister of Agriculture at Ottawa. Animals arriving by sea must enter through certain quarantine stations. The quarantine periods are as follows: For cattle from Great Britain, Ireland or the Channel Islands, sixty days; from all other countries, except the United States and Mexico, ninety days. For sheep, goats and swine, fifteen days. Cattle must submit to the tuberculin test before being released from quarantine. Cattle reacting to the tuberculin test shall be permanently marked in the right ear with the letter "T" by the officer making the test. Horses are subject to inspection only.

With respect to animals from the United States, western horses, including range horses, cattle and sheep are subject to inspection. Swine, except for immediate slaughter, are subject to fifteen days' quarantine. Cattle for breeding or milk production must be accompanied by tuberculin test charts or be tested. All suspected animals may be detained, those found diseased to be dealt with as the exigencies of the case require, and as ordered by the Minister.

Animals may be permitted to pass through Canada in bond from one port in the United States to another, and from a port in the United States for export from a Canadian sea port, subject to inspection at the latter.

Animals exported from Canadian sea ports must be inspected, and Canadian animals exported via ports in the United States must be inspected before leaving Canada.

Infected vessels, yards, stables, sheds and other premises used for animals, are to be thoroughly disinfected.

The railway and stock-yards must be kept clean and comfortable. The cars used in live-stock traffic are to be cleansed and disinfected after each load. Wide powers are given to inspectors to see that the regulations are observed, and heavy penalties are imposed for infraction of the regulations.