

a four-ounce dose, ses 3 times a day

ortion occurs, as arms, an affected contact with other be cleaned up, the less and blankets to attend on her i-foal mares with- orted mare should olic solution and lution. With the on could be used

eg cover a large more free ground ow Amphitheatre ipege Horse Show and completeness l in America for n Square Garden, avillion, Chicago. see the show will d magnificence of nstitution. June the show and the asion.

ked Heels

d heels, care should to stand in a cold fa door, etc., when heated by violent a journey at a fast n with his legs so or the comfort of n with dry cloths, thout wetting, and n until it can be water, preferably should be resorted to allow the limbs eady mentioned. tion acting on the gested state from fever and cracked shing himself with l sets up a certain f mud being much lamp than others, and cracked heels a become partially of wet or mud, or nly chills the skin und again chilled, home; and then, ater, the legs, etc., after which there "glow" one feels just in a condition ught. at the legs should ney, washing with which some bran n water, followed g the legs, very tack of both mud



HEAVY DRAFT TEAMS LINED UP FOR HONORS AT THE 1908 WINNIPEG EXHIBITION. TWELVE IN THE ROW, PURE BRED AND GRADE CLYDESDALES AND PERCHERONS.

THE BREEDING OF HEAVY DRAFT HORSES

It is only to be expected that with the bringing under cultivation of millions of acres of new land each year and the cropping of several million more acres the country will require horse power. And not simply horse power in any form that circumstances offer, but horse power in parcels, as large as can conveniently be handled. The working of so much land requires machines of large size and large machines require that their motor power be closely attached. The demand for such motor power is so great that we will see more engines and cattle used, for the reason that the supply of horses will not be sufficient to move all the machinery that will be used to cultivate the land and harvest the crop. Such is the outlook for the breeders of heavy horses as far as the home demand goes. And when the home demand is absorbing the supply of heavy horses, the outside market is bound to feel a shortage and prices go up. Such is the situation today.

In Calgary the other day a man offered \$800 a pair for big sound teams, weighing up around 3300 a pair, but could not get them nor hear of such horses. Probably he could not have got them for the money anywhere in the West. Practically every town in the grain-growing districts has its spring sale of horses, at which farmers spend from ten thousand dollars upwards on horses and repeat the transaction the following spring. When we have got our farming operations properly organized the horse business will be reversed and farmers will be selling horses each year instead of buying.

In the matter of natural conditions for horse breeding, nature has been kind to Western Canada. True we have not got much of those heavy rich lands that are supposed to be necessary to produce horses of great weight, but we have sunshine, clear air, nutritious grasses, and a winter climate that invigorates rather than enervates. Experience has shown that there is no obstacle to our producing the very best class of heavy draft horses to be found in the world.

In one particular in horse breeding Western Canada has given the world a striking demonstration and that is in the matter of housing horses in winter. The humanitarian instincts of the Anglo-Saxon carried him beyond the line of necessity and comfort in the care of his stock resulting in unintentional pampering and consequent impairment of vigor and vitality. The proof is everywhere before our eyes that horses do better out of doors, altogether, in winter than

housed in close, stuffy, dark stables, where they breathe the air over and over again, lose their appetites, their systems become clogged by gorging and want of exercise, their coats dirty and ill-suited to the needs of the winter. At the Calgary show this spring the first and second prize draft teams, Hallman's Clydes and Jaques' Suffolks were horses that had run the range all winter being taken up only a few weeks previous to the show to be fitted. In the case of the Hallman pair not only were they fat, but had made a good proportion of their flesh during winter.

Mares and weanling foals naturally should not be exposed to the full rigors of winter without some protection, but plenty of straw and the shelter of a well stacked corral or yard is infinitely better than a dark, over-crowded drafty or foul, or even of one of these "comfortable" stables where the manure never freezes and water is always at hand.

Probably the greatest injury to our horse stock through winter mal-treatment is with brood mares and weanlings. If there is one more fertile cause than another of trouble with foals and mares foaling it is keeping mares too closely confined and too highly fed during winter. Foal rearing is a natural function and goes forward with the other natural functions, but if these other functions are impaired or suspended the function of foal rearing also suffers impair or suspension. Every muscle of the mare should have a chance to stretch and relax, and the digestive systems should be kept in active operation through exercise.

With weanlings the mistake though not often made is nevertheless sometimes observed of high feeding the first winter. At the Brandon show this spring were at least two foals that were simply loaded with flesh, so fat that they lacked energy and ambition, their systems were overloaded and the certain result of such treatment will be over-strained joints, bones sprung out of shape, growth arrested, feet contracted and probably hind legs carrying a "shot" of grease. There is a certain condition between the "bone-yard" and "lump of fat" that is most conducive to the best development of a healthy draft horse. Yearling and two-year-olds should not carry that maturity of appearance that is most becoming to four-year-olds and over. The colt should look young and raw and coltish. Keep him in fair flesh, feed him on bone and muscle-forming

foods, but avoid the mud-fat condition.

But while the outdoor life is much better than the indoor existence a blending of the two systems is very probably the best method of wintering horses. The best guide a man can have in the matter of wintering horses is to give them as near as possible what they want, and the chances are this will be the open prairie in day time and a well strawed, wind-protected corral at night.

"What breed is best?" All of them. We are hearing a lot of criticism these days upon the type of Clydesdale, the Scotchman is giving us, (in exchange for our money of course) but adverse criticism is also leveled at the Percheron, Suffolk, Shire and Belgian. The fact of the matter is all the breeds fall short of the ideal horse and all possess certain features of the ideal in greater proportion than others, consequently there is and always will be differences of opinion as to what emphasis should be put upon the excellencies of each breed. In countries where certain breeds are used to a greater extent than others it is not proved that the class of commercial draft horse raised there is on that account superior to the draft horses of other breeds, in other countries. It is generally admitted that the Percheron stock in the States comes to maturity earlier and has greater weight than the Clydesdale in Canada, and, on the other hand, it is a recognized fact that the Canadian Clydesdale, while smaller, has more quality and is longer lived. But they have corn and blue grass in the States to make flesh while we feed oats and a pasture grass that makes a harder bone, albeit less flesh.

The main thing in horse breeding is to pick out the breed that best suits the personal tastes and that is most largely bred in the locality, give this breed close study with reference to the mares owned, patronize the best stallions and keep as near to type as circumstances will permit. Illustrations are not wanting of the direct and pronounced effect of using pure-bred sires on mongrel or grade mares. In the show-ring at Calgary this spring, was a heavy draft gelding, one of the third prize team, that is just two crosses from the Cayuse. But just here is where many people get discouraged with a breed. The first two or three crosses show remarkable improvement, then it very often happens that the third or fourth progeny will not be as good as the second, and the progress that has been made seems to be slipping away. The explanation is