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APRIL 22, 1914

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

801

to choose one str. ed. The large mare
of extreme size n. e feminine and refined
than others of, so the proportions
alone are no upon which to base a
judgment of final qualities.

There are aditions and circumstances
entering into its of a season's foal crop
which may overcome the best breeding procliv-
ities of the female. Among these governing fac-
tors may be mentioned food, labor and care.

Feeding has much to do with successful breed-
ing. Not only is a balanced ration required but
the constituents entering into that ration must
be chosen according to their respective merits.
Corn may be added to until it forms a part of
a balanced ration, yet the results are not so
satisfactory as a ration of similar percentages
composed of hay, oats and bran. Oats are better
than corn for breeding mares; oats and bran are
better than oats alone and in some trials, mares
fed grass and hay with no grain produced more
foals than when fed grain of any kind. The fol-
lowing table is the result of experimental work
conducted by G. L. Carlson.

No. of Mares	Feeds	Average	No. of	Per
Bred		Age	Foals	Cent.
468	Range Feed	10.1	425	91
183	Grass in Summer; alfalfa winter...	9.9	161	81
208	Hay, oats, bran ..	9.2	147	71
398	Hay and corn	8.7	195	49
231	Corn, bran, hay...	8.9	117	52
306	Corn, alfalfa or clover	8.8	177	58
418	Hay and oats	9.	284	68

The results of this experiment are at variance
with breeders' ideas, but the difference in fod-
ders grown in different districts and the Prov-
inces will always prevent a unanimity of opin-
ion. There is one object to be kept in view and
that is to keep the brood mare in normal health,
and as near natural conditions as possible. Grass,
of course, is nature's food for the horse, and
we are not surprised to learn that the brood mare
under these conditions was most successful in performing her natural functions.

Saddle horses are subjected to violent efforts
at times, and in addition to this the weight of
the rider makes the retention of the foetus until the time of normal delivery diffi-
cult in that class of mares. Those mares pro-
ducing the greatest number of foals are found
engaged in farm work, especially those which
are never obliged to leave the place. Freedom
from over-exertion and protection from colds are
the conditions which added to the proper type of
mare will ensure a successful breeding season.

LIVE STOCK.

Our Scottish Letter.

The weather is a baffling theme these days.
We had a magnificent winter—indeed we had
scarcely any real winter weather from the begin-
ning of November until the end of February.
Rural work was proceeded with without inter-
mission and everything promised well for an
early seed time. March opened well, but after
the first week rain fell incessantly in the west of
Scotland and at present it is simply impossible
to go on the land. Nearly all the advantage
gained by the open winter has been lost, and
so far as this part of the country is concerned,
unless there be an immediate improvement Spring
will be late and the seed will be sown in any-
thing but a dry bed. A curious feature is that
this is by no means the universal experience.
In the east and north-east of Scotland, there
has been a long spell of dry weather, and so
late as the month of February farmers in some
parts were carting water from long distances for
their stock. As I write, something like half a
gale is blowing and it is a wet, dirty night.
The week end was beautiful. Friday and Satur-
day were ideal Spring days, but since Saturday
night it has been raining heavily at times, and
seldom has it been altogether dry. The outlook
is not cheerful, and unless the weather improves,
1914 will be a late season.

Death has been busy among prominent men in
the agricultural world. The veteran, James
Hope, of Eastbains, Dunbar, the greatest potato
grower in Scotland, perhaps in Great Britain has
passed away, having almost reached the patri-
archal age of ninety. He was a wonderful man;
farming the most famous of the famous red soil
farms of Dunbar in East Lothian his methods and
success were the last words in arable farming.
His holding was like a colony, the workers of
all grades, male and female, constituting a small
army, and the weekly wages bill must have been
enormous. The rent paid was somewhere about
£5 per imperial acre, and the capital involved,
must have reached a very high figure. The sys-
tem of cultivation was intensive to a degree, and
no visitor to Scotland could be said to have

exhausted the country until he had seen East-
bains. The fields are much more like great
garden plots than agricultural enclosures, and
the system of cultivation led to the land being
kept absolutely free of weeds. Mr. Hope in his
time was a keen sportsman. He kept a pack of
hounds, was for many years M. F. H. and col-
onel of a regiment of volunteers. Altogether as
an organizer of farm labor, he was a captain of
the first rank and no finer specimen of the Scot-
tish tenant farmer ever lived. Two of his sons
are in the House of Commons. John D. Hope is
member for the home county of East Lothian,
while Harry Hope who is his father's successor
in his farming operations, is member for But-
shire, consisting of the three islands of Bute,
Arran and Cumbrae in the Firth of Clyde. A
unique honor was paid to Harry Hope last week.
He was presented with his portrait in oils, the
result of a one-shilling subscription from his
constituents. Altogether we Scottish agricultur-
ists are rather proud of the Hopes.

Colin M. Cameron, one of the best-known and
most successful breeders of Shorthorns in Ros-
shire also passed away last week. He was not
an old man, having scarcely reached his sixtieth
year, but for some time his health has not been
good. He was a close friend of the famous Ar-
gentine exporter, Dan MacLennan, who like
himself was a native of Beach Isle, and he took
an active part in promoting the testimonial to
Mr. MacLennan from Shorthorn breeders. Mr.
Cameron bred many high-class Shorthorns and
was an excellent judge. He was factor on sev-
eral properties in the north of Scotland and a
trusted witness in cases connected with land and
stock. As one of the leading men in the north-
ern counties he will be greatly missed.

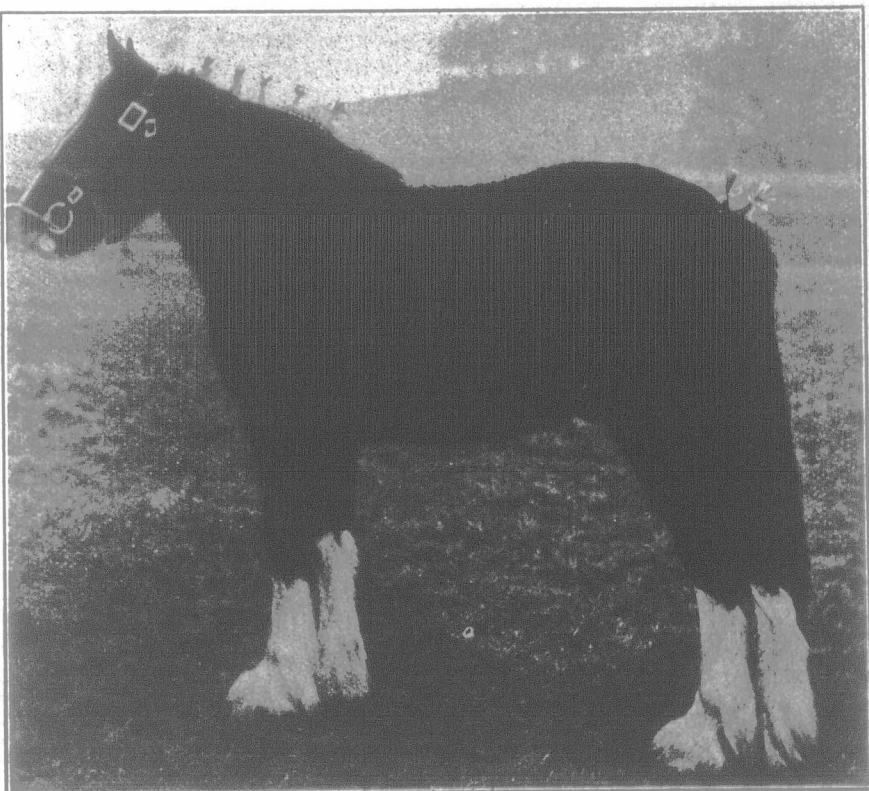
Ulster at present bulks large in the world's
eye. Recently we had an opportunity of seeing
Ulster agriculture at its best. The town of Bal-

garded as a crop that pays very well. In one
creamery visited the money paid out for milk in
1913 amounted to £35,000, the average price to
the farmers, taking the milk season throughout,
was about five pence per gallon. Winter dairy-
ing is nowhere practiced, the feeling of the farm-
ers being that the cost of feeding stuffs would
exceed any profits that might be looked for. As
an illustration of the success of small tenancies
where there is security of tenure, the experience
of Ulster is worth much. The charter of agri-
cultural liberty and progress in Ireland was
Gladstone's Land Act of 1881. It gave security
of tenure, and this encouraged the farmers to im-
prove their houses and homesteads. But it also
gave freedom of cropping, and free sale of the
tenants' improvements, and this last created a
dual ownership, the difficulties of which could
only be extricated by a scheme of Land Pur-
chase which at last came during the administra-
tion of the late Mr. Wyndham. Under this
scheme the tenant becomes proprietor at the end
of 69½ years, and the State meanwhile finances
the transaction as between the owner and the
occupier. It is a great scheme, and it has work-
ed an agrarian revolution in Ireland. Emigra-
tion has been checked, tillage has been revived,
and the Irish farmer is relatively a much more
prosperous individual to-day than either his
English or Scotch neighbor. He enjoys advan-
tages in tenure of which they are wholly ignor-
ant, and security for his capital, the absence of
which has often been a disaster for the British
farmer.

The later bull sales maintained the high
range of prices set at the earlier. The existence
of foot and mouth disease alike in England and
Ireland no doubt operated to the success of the
sales in Scotland. The top price paid for a
Galloway bull stirk was £52-10s (50 gns.), the
seller being William Donaldson of Dunkyan, Kil-

learn, the head of the
famous shipping firm of
Donaldson Bros., Glas-
gow and Montreal. The
top price of an Ayrshire
bull stirk was £170, a
record figure at an auc-
tion sale in Scotland for
an animal of that kind.
The fortunate expos-
er was Thomas Scott,
Netherhall, Sandilands,
Lanark, whose stock has
long enjoyed a first-rate
reputation. Mr. Scott
was late in recognizing
the merits of a Milk
Record, but he had the
cows that made good
records, and when the
public tester gave his re-
sults what was gener-
ally suspected was found
to be true of the Nether-
hall herd. At Lanark,
250 Ayrshire bull stirks
were sold at an average
price of £16.8.6, a very
fine return, due almost
wholly to the public
milk records.

We have had a good
deal of discussion lately
about the modern
Clydesdale, his weight
and utility. As a re-
sult, the facts have
been somewhat narrowly
surveyed, and on the
whole it appears



Dunure Refiner.

First-prize two-year-old Clydesdale stallion, and winner of the Cawdor Cup at
Glasgow Stallion Show, the property of Wm. Dunlop.

lymoney is situated in North Antrim, and the
farmers around are an exceptionally go-a-head
race. It would be hard to match them in enter-
prise, and they have the keen commercial instinct
of the Scot developed to an almost uncanny
degree. Farms in the neighborhood named are
not large. One of 70 acres is regarded as above
the average, and most of them are not more
than 50 acres in extent. The people are a phre-
nomenally thrifty race, driving a hard bargain,
but industrious and honorable to a degree. The
Ulster Scot is perhaps the toughest piece of hu-
manity on earth, and his thrift and industry
have transformed the least promising part of
Ireland into the most prosperous. Co-operative
methods of handling all kinds of agricultural
produce have been adopted, and the system of
collecting, assorting and marketing eggs is an
eye-opener to the visitor, so also is the cream-
ery system of handling milk and its products.
In Ireland a creamery is strictly what its name
declares it to be. Only the cream is handled
there: the separated milk is returned to the
farmer to feed his calves. The cream is manu-
factured into butter or it is shipped to the Scots
or English markets fresh, and used on the fol-
lowing day. A great trade is done in pigs and
bacon, and flax is still a crop to be reckoned
with in Ulster. It is an expensive and exhaust-
ing crop to raise, but in spite of all it is re-

évident that the modern Clydesdale is quite
as heavy while he is a much better wear-
ing animal than his ancestors. Six of the stal-
lions owned by the Northern Steed Co., Elgin,
were recently weighed and measured. They all
stood over 17 hands, and their average weight
was 2006 lbs each. It was our good fortune
last week to view a parade of almost all of the
47 stallions owned by Messrs. A. & W. Montgom-
ery for 1914. The great majority of these were
over 17 hands, and among them not one of the
short-ribbed long-legged type could be found.
Some of them were fully 17.2 hands and we
should say that only one of them would be under
17 hands. What chiefly impressed us was their
solid weight and draft horse type on the best
of feet and legs. Not all of them were to be
classed as show-horses, but in respect of cart-
horse type and character, there can be little
doubt that the average merit was far higher than
could have been found in a like number of draft
stallions 25 years ago. The best and most
powerful looking horse in the bunch was the
celebrated Everlasting 11331: the best balanced
and most beautiful show horse was the Gold Cup
winner of last year, the young horse Baron's
Seal. Nothing more uniformly level and true
has been seen in the Clydesdale world for a long
time. He is a very heavy thick horse standing
on limbs of matchless quality with first-class