

sheep would be beneficial to the agriculture of this province, the grievance is more fancied than real, when the relative amounts invested in the mutton and bacon industries in Manitoba are compared.

The time has arrived for a provincial fat stock show, which will likely be held at Brandon, should the Wheat City be able to provide suitable quarters.

The poultry industry was presented to Western farmers in better and more business-like form by Mr. Elford than ever before, and any who have heard him will place a different intonation on the appellation "henmen" in future. The trouble has been in the past, that the henmen deserved the derisive inflexion which crept into one's voice, as these same henmen lived for the fancy and failed to make good as utility people. We hope and trust that Poultryman Elford will be given plenty of scope by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, and that the Minister will not doubt but what the West really want poultry illustration stations and want them badly!

The suggestion to bring a judge of horses from Great Britain, we do not fall in with, for several reasons, one is that the West is at present breeding heavy horses for the Canadian and not the British market; and then the selection, if made of an old country judge would be made from a narrow circle, the improvement could not be looked for; we believe it quite possible to get efficient, honest judges this side the Atlantic. A Shorthorn judge might be imported, because the old country market type is the same as the American type, and the number of judges to pick from greater. The lectures on cattle feeding were particularly good and practical, but opportunity for good hearing or discussion could not be had.

The horsemen discussed things of a general interest to farmers, such as hiring of stallions, the lien act, making notes given for stallions non-negotiable, and the principle of making each man on a syndicate joint note given for a stallion, responsible only for his share of that note. The association approved in no uncertain way of the principle of the latter and also of the lien act, but not of the other things. The provincial stallion show has come to stay and the location of that show can hardly be improved upon, if the proper facilities are afforded for holding it; there are plenty of horsemen in the city and counties adjacent so that a good exhibit may always be had. The holding of another cattle sale was decided upon, and we believe, and rightly so, for the present at least, at Winnipeg, railroad, sale barn and other facilities existing there that cannot be obtained elsewhere in the province. The live stock associations are growing in strength and breadth of view and conduct their sessions in a way that that is a credit to them, considerable business is done and with despatch.

HORSE

Some Suggestions to Stallioners.

A writer in "Farmer and Stock Breeder" (British) offers some pertinent advice to owners of stallions at this time of the year. In part he says: "It is a great pity that want of symmetrical knowledge of horses on the part of breeders compels the better-informed stallion owner to load his horse with superfluous flesh; if not, he gets but few mares. A plethoric stallion is bordering on disease, and is therefore not in a fit state to leave a maximum number of good, vigorous foals. The loaded horse also runs a risk of illness, or even death, and in any case he rarely continues at the stud so many years as might be expected of him were he not so over-loaded with flesh. In fairness, I will admit that the constitution of a Shire horse often becomes so accustomed to this extra load that the system adapts itself thereto to some extent; yet draft stallions rarely last so long as thoroughbreds for the following reasons. Hard work in infancy is supposed to shorten lives, and certainly it damages the wearing parts—the limbs—yet the longevity in racehorses is proverbial, though they are trained and raced almost to death at two years old.

"The long life of blood stallions may be traceable to the undoubted fact that they are never fattened up for the eye of breeders, because the

latter do not select a stallion by appearance, but on pedigree and racing records of the horse and his family connections. Let Shire and Clyde breeders give preference to the big-bodied, lean horse, and they will not regret the selection. Fat hides a multitude of symmetrical sins; hence its prevalence.

"Any artificial stimulus to a stallion with a view to increase of sexual appetite is not desirable, and the result will be disappointing. There is nothing special in the management of a stallion, but perhaps the cooler you keep him the more foals he leaves. Amongst general stock owners a little common sense alone is required. The various tricks and nostrums which some stallion men make use of are highly objectionable, and owners of mares should avoid those who use them.

"The stallion himself is as quiet as an old donkey to a real horseman, but he takes liberties with "a gardener" or linen draper type of man. The horse is naturally mouthy and irritable during the spring, especially when so highly fed; but he is never vicious. The most he ever does is to tread on your toes—this being easily prevented; or he may tear your sleeve with his mouth; but the prevention is so well known that I need not describe it. The stallion never kicks as the mare might; and he never strikes at a man who knows anything; but he needs an expert.

"The management and condition of the mare has much to do with the success in breeding, and

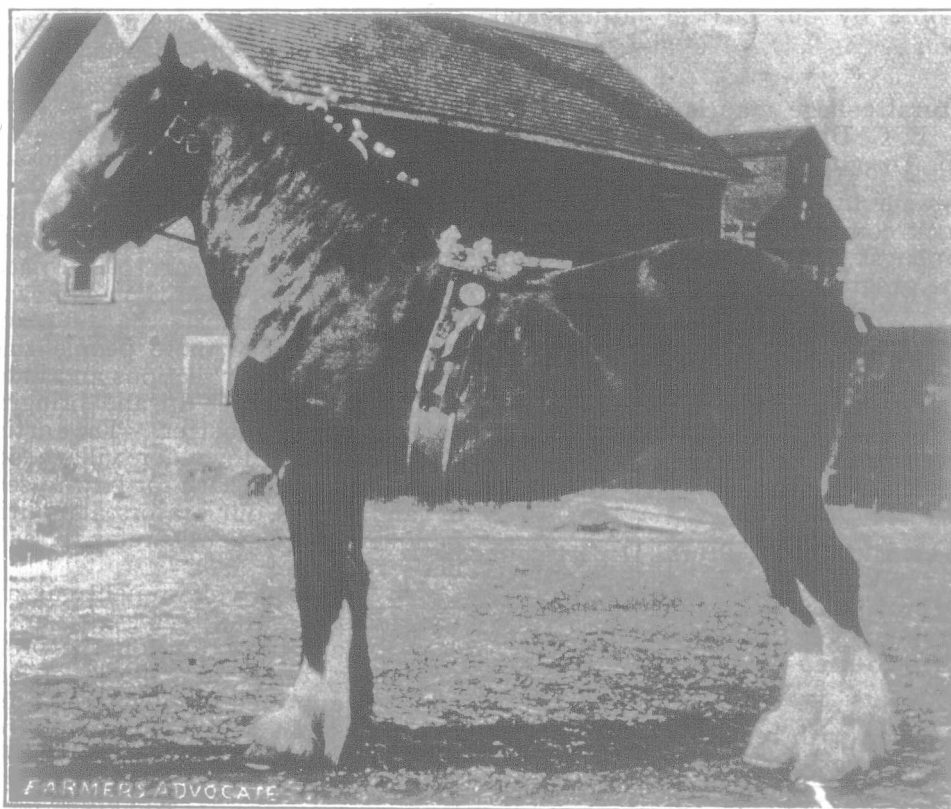
The Hackney for All Purposes.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

In your issue of the 14th ultimo there occurs a most amusing letter from Mr. Bradshaw on the Standard Bred as a fancy harness horse. His letter, while trying to champion the Standard Bred, seems to me to give the Hackney another lift, that is if he has not already taken his highest degree. He gives one instance where a Standard Bred horse won a red ribbon (second prize) in New York, in the last century, sometime, after being shod heavy in front, docked, etc., etc., and shown as a Hackney. What need to try to imitate that "merely fancy driver" if the Standard Bred could beat him at his own game?

But let us take it for granted that there is an occasional Standard Bred horse produced with conformation, quality and action it must at this date I think be pounded into the craniums of even the most devoted lovers of the American harness horse that the Hackney is first and the rest nowhere when it comes to competition as a horse for heavy leather. I think the big American horse shows have proved this without a shadow of a doubt, and also remember that the Standard Bred horse has been fought on his own ground. He has been bred for speed and speed has got, and all honor to the American horsemen who produced him, but I won't mention anything further on their faults of conformation and action as everyone knows them.

Mr. Bradshaw after all must be a very faint-hearted worshipper of his favorites when he does not have



A CHAMPION CLYDESDALE STALLION—"PERPETUAL MOTION", 2568.

1st prize 3 year old, Highland Agricultural Society, 1905; 1st prize 4 year old and over and champion Clydesdale, First Provincial Spring Stallion Show, Brandon, 1906.

this matter demands immediate consideration. She must work or she will not be healthy, but the work must not be so severe as some geldings can do; and the work must be balanced with such foods as leave the mare at her proper and healthy weight."

Try to Avoid Vice.

In a recent discussion on horse-breeding, a Scotch breeder of carriage horses with large experience said: "During a lengthy and varied experience in the breaking of young horses, one thing has been most forcibly brought home to me, viz., that there is nothing relating to horseflesh which has a stronger tendency to prove hereditary, than what may be termed inherent vice. In maintaining this theory, I do not mean to say that a mare that kicks or jibs in harness will throw all her produce with a like vice; still, if they neither kick or jib, it is in every way likely that they will display vice in some other way. Therefore, I would say to all breeders of any type of horses, do not breed from either mares or sires which have displayed inherent vice in any form. In addition to that, I am a strong advocate for all stallions that are to be used for the getting of harness horses being themselves exhibited in harness after they are over three years old."

This is the experience of all breeders of horses, every one can cite instances of peculiar traits of character in their mares appearing with almost mechanical precision in the produce.

faith enough in them to breed them but breeds Clydes instead which I suppose he sells on their "performance". He says "handsome is as handsome does," yes, it is truly a handsome sight to see a crippled looking brute of a sidewheeler going up the street at his 2:30 clip, throwing lots of dust alright with his ugly shuffle. What would such a horse do on a rough country trail?

I think if Mr. Bradshaw had the right kind of Hackneys he would be able to stay by them for business reasons as well as hobby as he calls it. They have symmetry, substance, quality and action, and breed a very small percentage of misfits. And if he bred big Hackneys there might be a few which would not show quality enough to become high priced drivers but would make the best of farm horses, doing double the work, do it easier, and look better on smaller rations, than the small hairy legged things with which this Western country is polluted.

WILL MOODIE.

Clip the Heavy Winter Coat Off Your Horses.

The clipping of a horse in the early spring is now conceded by all the leading veterinarians to be as essential to a horse's well being as shoeing him or giving him a comfortable bed to lie on. A clipped horse dries out rapidly after a hard day's work, and will rest comfortably and be refreshed for the work the following day. An unclipped horse is liable to catch the heaves, pneumonia and all sorts of colds, rheumatism, etc. More especially is this so in the early spring,