

injudicious itself as future be establish a 4-limbed, Ireland's —indeed, crossing, oughbred y feather size) will ers up to , be par-an impor-

ow itself, fact that of 1,200, horses to ction, of tance enes in two 3 years of ever seen he noted us cham- r, and he re for his e London r hunter- and Irish e so even all satis- ard, and a l Gavello, sgar, was stronger ond prize ossess the e the two ed at the g the 58 point to efficient in th regard ood that a winners very nice t pleasing t splendid rosettes.

ce's Lady's Excite- ; Katrine, ing, from een, from ork, from

hunters of In each l sum per 50, made d of £10, e displays id though e general y. I will k the disap- ting to nent mys- s. Prom- muscular, lexander,

of Straffan, Co. Kildare, and named Redshan. He was a son of that veteran sire, Red Prince II., above mentioned, and in the year 1906 he was the junior champion at Ballsbridge. On the present occasion he was chosen as the winner of the championship of the entire hunter section, and is a horse of grand symmetry, great muscle and nice quality. The champion of the young horses likely to make hunters was found in Fairy Princess, belonging to Mr. Murray, of Newbridge, and a handsome chestnut daughter of Red Prince II., who thus had the signal distinction of siring a trio of champions. Among the other exhibitors who came into special prominence, the following may be named:—Mr. T. J. Studdert, Athboy; Capt. A. Maude, Hillsboro; Mr. Wm. Gregg, Castlereagh; Mr. H. C. Walton, Crewe; Mr. Thos. Donovan, Cork; Mr. R. Laverly, Dungannon; Mr. J. Rohan, Midleton; Messrs. Slocock, Carlow; Mr. J. Miling, Comber; Mr. C. H. B. Caldwell, Navan; and Mr. E. Malone, Lucan.

The harness section at Ballsbridge has to take a subsidiary place, but still it never fails to attract some grand teams of stylish steppers, several of them coming from across the channel. Some classes for cobs and ponies also succeeded in bringing together interesting displays, and both these sections well maintained their reputations at the late show.

It was peculiarly unfortunate that the weather proved most inclement right through, and each day's proceedings were greatly marred by heavy rain; still, enthusiasm was as usual very buoyant, and the entire show was voted a distinct success, and a credit to the country.

EMERALD ISLE.

The Future of the Percheron

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:—

It was the American demand, largely for a draft horse that could get up and go, that produced the modern Percheron. A century ago, the weight for the breed, as officially stated, was 1,200 to 1,400 lbs. At that time they were bus horses. But for the past hundred years the industries in which draft horses are employed have been calling all the time for more weight and strength. When the Americans first began talking about the ton horse the world was a little incredulous but the ton horse epoch is not only here, but passing. Modern civilization is demanding a constantly increasing size in draft horses, and the demand will be met.

The history of the Percheron on this continent is rather too large to be briefly told. About the beginning of last century some French horses of draft blood were imported into this country. The breed in those days seems to have been adapted about as much for trotting as for draft purposes. At any rate, one stallion in this first importation sired a horse from which a strain of trotters was founded. By 1850 the Percherons were sixteen hundred pound horses. This was the weight of the famous Louis Napoleon, imported in 1851 into Ohio, the first great Percheron that appeared in the Central States, and the horse that was destined to inaugurate that era of draft breeding that has finally placed the breed he represented in first place as the favorite drafter of the American people. To-day, in the United States, there are probably three times as many Percherons as there are of any other one draft breed.

The type of the breed as modernly developed is thus described by an American authority on horses:—

"Typically, the Percheron is a horse of some range, not squatty or chunky. He has a top line that differs from that of most other breeds in that correctly it is higher just back of the coupling and between the points of the hip-bones. This, of course, accentuates any lowness of the back or droop of the quarters that may be present. He has good width, his ribs well sprung out from the backbone, and rounded like a barrel, but his quarters should not be bagged out like the hams of a Poland-China hog. Instead, they should have a flowing, rounded contour, indicative of promptitude of movement as well of strength. The neck should be well arched, not coarse, and well set up, topped off with a head that appears rather small for the size of the horse. Short, stubby necks and heavy, sour heads are not typical of the breed. The bone often appears light, judged by the standard of some other breeds, but it is of the stuff that wears, as has been proved on the streets. The pasterns are not long. Coupled with this sort of conformation, there is in the typical Percheron a breezy gait of motion and an air of elegance characteristic of no other breed."

In contrast with the American development of this breed of horses, and the rapidity with which Percherons popularized themselves in the United States, especially in the Central and Western States, the great French drafters were, until a very few years ago unknown, practically speaking, on this side of the boundary. We had good Clydesdales and Shires, as good representatives of these two British draft breeds as were to be found outside Britain, but the horses that came out of Flanders, originally, the breed that has a history dating back to the Saracenic invasion of Europe early in the eighth century, never, till recently, attained much prominence in this country. For some reason, largely, we believe, because this country was peopled by Scotch and English, the two outstanding British draft breeds, maintained here that vast measure of popularity which at home has made them the strongest in favor with the public of the draft breeds.

But a change is at hand even in this domain of the Shire and Clyde. Our prairie heritage is by no means all occupied yet. The kind of horse that will predominate in this country will be decided by the ideals of the men who are coming in here now have of what constitutes perfection in drafters. The American and the Percheron are inseparable. Where the former is there also will be found the latter.

The increasing popularity of the Percheron in this country is best evidenced by the increasing number of these great dappled grey and black horses that one sees about our cities. Here in Winnipeg, their use by cartage companies, railways, the abattoir companies, by brewers and in other lines where strength and weight are required, combined with docility and a whole lot of horse sense, one finds the Percheron forging rapidly to the front. And on the farms, when the breed is known as it will be known in a very few years more, the Percheron will come into his own here just as he has come into it on the farms of the Central and Western States during the last fifty years. And it will not take him half a century to do it either.

Winnipeg.

AN IOWA CANADIAN.

STOCK

Discussions on Live-Stock subjects welcomed.

Selecting Feeding Cattle

Most farmers who winter-feed purchase a portion, at least, of the stock they require. There are a few feeding in a small way who raise a sufficient number of young cattle each year to supply their needs, but the majority of winter feeders depend on buying steers about this season from their neighbors or from others who do not care to feed stock for market. Some men have some certain plan they follow in buying, some certain district they go to each fall for their feeding stock, others pick up likely-looking steers wherever they are to be found. Wherever a man goes for his supplies there are certain points to be kept in mind, some certain sure indications of feeding quality in the cattle he buys, that are too important to be over-looked, and while known to most buyers are worth emphasizing here.

It pays to pick your steers. As a general rule a farmer with a bunch of young stock has a few culls, long legged, slab-sided animals which he is anxious to work off with the good ones. He is even willing to knock off a little from the price of all providing the buyer will take the culls along too. It doesn't pay to buy this kind of stocker at any price. It would hardly pay to take him as a gift. A buyer requires to select his stock. He needs to cull out these runts and nondescripts, for he will find in the first quality stuff quite enough unthrifty, poor-feeding animals before the winter is over. It pays to give a good price for feeders. The cheap ones in the long run are money losers for the man who feeds them.

Breed is a minor consideration in feeding cattle. A man wants them, of course, to be of a beefing breed, but whether they are Shorthorns, Angus, Herefords or Galloway's pure bred or grades, makes very little difference, providing they have the type and conformation that gives them the ability to make rapid and economical gains. Among the breeds there is no superiority of one over another in beef making. The ability to lay on flesh and fat economically depends wholly on type.

The ones that will feed best and mature earliest are the thick set, short-legged, deeply fleshed animals that carry quite a fair proportion of natural fleshing on them. The feeder wants a steer with a fair weight of bone, a good sized paunch and a broad, deep chest. These points are not essential from the butcher's standpoint, since he wants meat without bone or waste material, but for the feeder they are essential considerations. They are the best outward indications to him of the thrift and probable capacity for feed and gain in the animal he is purchasing. Blocky steers are always the most thrifty, as a rule they are the early maturing ones and they require less grain in proportion to hay for laying on flesh and keeping in good condition. The man who cannot discover the undesirable individuals in a feeding lot should never go in for fattening steers. He will loose every time, for the poor ones will scale his profits down so that feeding will be unprofitable.

Depraved Appetite in Cattle

I have a heifer nearly three years old that is in very poor condition. She began to fail after she calved in the spring, and she eats a considerable lot of earth. We examined her mouth and found her back teeth all black. She seems to have considerable trouble in chewing feed. The cows are pastured on peat land. What caused her teeth to get black and what is it she needs that makes her eat the dirt?

B. C.

L. R. W.

Cattle without any appreciable cause lick the clothes of their care-takers, chew and swallow articles of clothing, bones, old shoes, earth, coal, gravel, and even the dung of other cattle. Cattle suffering from this disease have a capricious appetite as regards their ordinary food, but evince a strong desire for the articles above mentioned. Cows in calf and young cattle are especially liable to develop these symptoms. They are frequently known to swallow such articles as small pocket knives, table forks, nails, wire, needles, coins, lumps of clay, and hair, which may give rise to secondary symptoms of a more or less serious nature. The small pointed objects such as pins, needles, and wire, etc., often taken by accident with the food, are liable to penetrate the walls of the second stomach, and make their way to the heart with fatal results, sometimes these objects even pierce the abdominal walls forming a fistula. Animals so affected become restless and uneasy, and frequently bellow. The disease may last for months, and in extreme cases, the animal will die from emaciation and exhaustion.

In general terms the causes of depraved appetite are so numerous that the trouble must be looked upon as a symptom of many morbid conditions rather than as a disease of itself. Heredity is said to be a cause, this may be the case, when, from long continued unhygienic conditions, a weakness of constitution is transmitted from parent to offspring. Another cause is the feeding of animals on exhausted soil that lacks especially the elements of lime and phosphorus, absence of soda salts in hay grown on certain lands. Soils that have been cropped to exhaustion are robbed of both earthy, and alkaline salts, animals fed on the exclusive products of such a soil, frequently suffer, not only from depraved appetite, but also from a disease called osteo-malacia which is a softened condition of the bones. Digestive disorders though starting from a different point tend toward the same end. Faulty food operates in a similar manner. The following are examples of such food. The rank products of wet or swampy soils, the fibrous plants which grow on poor or wet or soured soils, and generally spoiled food which has undergone fermentation.

Yearly breeding and constant milking, by undermining the general health predispose so strongly, that in many cases this depraved appetite is seen in dairy cows. The last period of gestation, when the demands of the growing calf are greatest, is a period of especial danger. Permanent stabling which denies the invigorating influence of the sun, exercise and pure air, predisposes strongly to this disease. Dry seasons have been noticed to increase the affection, by the reduction of food supply.

The course, if the affection is chronic, unless arrested by the supervision of more favorable conditions. It may last for a year or longer. Recovery often takes place when the animal is turned out to pasture and open air life, and especially if a liberal grain ration is added. The cause of the disease should be carefully sought for, and if discovered steps should be taken to remedy it. The general aim should be to improve the process of digestion, and to supply the animal with a sufficiency of sound and wholesome food and water. A complete change of environment and diet may be necessary. Cattle pastured on low swampy land must be moved to pasture on higher land.

It occasionally happens, however, that only one individual in a herd suffers, though all are fed alike. In such cases the disease is likely to arise from an imperfect assimilation by the animal, of the nutritive elements of the food which is supplied to it.

For the medicinal treatment of these cases the following prescription has been found satisfactory: Carbonate of iron 4 ounces, finely ground bone, or bone flour, 1 pound; powdered gentian, 4 ounces; common salt, 8 ounces; powdered fenugreek, 4 ounces; mix. A heaping tablespoonful mixed with wet bran or grain three times a day to each animal affected, in addition to this, 3 tablespoonfuls of powdered charcoal may be given, mixed with the food three times a day.

VETERINARIAN.

By treating any soft wood well seasoned with creosote, it can be made to last as a fence post from 15 to 20 years. The method is very simple. The apparatus consists of an iron tank under which a fire can be built, and a smaller tank outside. The timber is immersed for six hours in the hot creosote and then quickly transferred to the cold creosote bath. The change acts on the pores of the wood, forcing in the creosote.