

would be worth more when driven over to the shambles.

Let the breeders of dairy cattle, therefore, while keeping their ambition centered on milk and butter-fat, seek to combine with this, so far as convenient, a fairly smooth, hearty and substantial type; while breeders of beef cattle, on the other hand, will do well to encourage a liberal degree of milking quality, and Shorthorn breeders, in particular, to concentrate their effort on a judicious combination, in high degree, of beef type with dairy capacity. The idea is feasible, but it requires time, judgment, and persistent development of milking function by means of hand-milking, together with yearly records of milk and butter-fat yields, to accomplish the ideal.

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"The FARMER'S ADVOCATE" desires to enlist the co-operation of its readers in securing photographs suitable for illustration purposes, such as pictures of attractive farm homes, snugly enclosed in well-ordered settings of trees, vines, shrubbery, flowers and grass; rural schools and school grounds exhibiting some artistic sense in their architecture and surroundings; comfortable farm steadings, especially those enlivened by a touch of human or animal life; choice bits of rural landscape, or more elaborate panoramic views; pictures of farming operations; snapshots depicting phases of rural life or character; photos of freaks or oddities—in fact, anything pertaining to agriculture or rural life that is calculated to instruct, inspire, please, interest, or amuse.

HORSE

Alfalfa for Horses

On the feeding of alfalfa to horses, Jos. E. Wing, the well known American authority on alfalfa says: "When alfalfa hay is first fed to horses or mules not accustomed to it, and fed in large amounts, it sometimes, not always, makes them urinate more freely than is their wont. This is nearly always a very temporary effect, and in a short time they eat alfalfa hay with no other noticeable effect than that they are in better flesh than when eating other forage, work better and feel better.

"Alfalfa hay for horses or mules should be allowed to get fairly mature before being cut, should be well cured and have no mold on it. The last cutting of alfalfa is usually too late to make the best horse feed, the coarser crops growing earlier in the season serving better. Neither horses nor mules should be fed all the alfalfa hay they will consume; it is too rich a feed and they do not need so much of it, though it is ordinarily fed in limitless amounts with no perceptible injury."

Muscles of the Horse

About 40 per cent of the weight of an ordinary horse is muscle. All muscles concerned with locomotion are attached to bones, and when they contract they cause the bones to which they are fastened to move. The lower parts of a horse's legs are nearly all bones, but the muscles in the body and upper part of the limbs are attached to various parts of the bony construction by tendons, and can thus produce a motion of the parts located some distance away.

The amount of motion produced by the action of the muscles of, say, one of the horse's hind legs, will depend upon the length of the muscles, and the length and the relation of the bones to which they are attached. The commonest idea among students of this subject is expressed in these words: "Long muscles for speed, short muscles for power." A long muscle enables a horse to get over the ground rapidly. A short muscle, however, is not powerful because of its shortness, but because in horses constructed on that plant the muscles are thicker, contain more fibres, all of which pulling together when contracted exert a greater pulling force than a long, more slender muscle. It is because of this that in buying horses to draw heavy loads, we look for large and heavy muscles, while in roadsters we must attach importance to the length of the muscles.

The most of a horse's muscle is in the hind quarters. This may be a surprise to you, said Mr. Marshall, of the Ohio Agricultural College, recently, but the next time you have an opportunity to see a horse pulling a very heavy load study him carefully. You will be impressed with the idea that most of the work is being done with the hind legs. When the hind foot is moved forward the toe rests on the ground and the leg is bent at the hock joint; if the toe does not slip, and the horse is strong enough for his load, the muscles above, pulling on the tendon fastened to the back and upper point of the hock, will close the joint—or, in other words, straighten the leg and cause the body to move forward. It is by the performance of this act at every step that the horse moves; although, of course, the strain on all the parts is much greater when pulling very hard. This will also show the necessity of having large broad, straight joints and legs, that give the horse the most secure footing. You have probably also noticed when driving that many horses put their hind foot on the ground in front of the mark left by the fore foot, and the faster they go the greater will be the distance between the marks made by the fore and hind feet. The hocks should be strong, and the legs not so crooked as to seem weak, or so straight as to lessen the leverage afforded by this very wonderful arrangement of the parts.—*Agricultural Gazette.*

Canadian Percheron Horse Breeders' Association

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

I should be glad if you could find space in your paper for a little information in regard to the Canadian Percheron Horse Breeders' Association.

The Association purposes publishing the first volume of the Canadian Percheron Stud Book in January 1909, and wishing to make it as up to date as possible are anxious to have the pedigrees of all Percherons now owned in Canada recorded in it.

This is essential to the breeders themselves from an economic point of view, because, according to the Rules of Entry for Canadian or American-bred Percherons, the ancestors of the animal to be recorded, back to and including the imported ones, must also be recorded in the Canadian Book. As there are quite frequently twenty or twenty-five of such ancestors to record in order to bring in one animal it can readily be seen that the Association could not afford to pay for recording and printing these ancestors in order to complete pedigrees. Up to the present time, and until January 1st, 1909, the expense of recording these ancestors has been defrayed from a grant made to the National Records by the government to assist weak associations, but after January 1st, 1909, this grant is likely to be discontinued as the association is supposed to be strong enough to work out its own salvation, so that after that date the person recording an animal will have to pay for recording these ancestors, unless they are already recorded in the Canadian Book, and in place of paying a fee of \$5, for recording a stallion before 1909, it may cost considerably more after that date.

A person having only one stallion to record would pay a fee of \$5, and for this fee would become a member of the association for the current year besides getting his horse recorded, if he were to get any more stallions in that year it would cost him only \$3 each to get them recorded, and in addition to this he would be entitled to all publications issued by the association subsequent to his becoming a member. The Percheron Society of America charges \$5 for each volume of their Stud Book to members, whereas members of the Canadian Association will receive the volumes of the Canadian Stud Book which are printed after their becoming members, free of charge. It behoves the breeders and importers of Percherons to bestir themselves and get in touch with one another through the association, for while the Executive Committee are doing, and will continue to do, all in their power to advance the interests of the breed, and of the association, yet they would be glad to hear from the breeders in different parts of Canada as to what steps it would seem advisable to take in their particular locality to benefit the industry.

At many of the principal fairs this year the Percheron Stallion Class was numerically as strong as the Clydesdale Stallion Class. What would the Clydesdale breeders say to a Percheron man judging their horses in the show ring? Yet the Percheron breeders had to be content in most cases with a Clyde man judging their horses. This does not seem right or proper, and it rests with the breeders and importers themselves to make this association a strong enough organization to appoint their own judges, or to see that judges satisfactory to them are appointed at the principal fairs.

One does not necessarily have to be a breeder or an importer in order to belong to the association, anyone interested in the breed to the extent of forwarding his name and address, together with a fee of \$2.00 per annum to the secretary, becomes a member, and as this is the first year of the association's existence, it is money that is needed to put it firmly on its feet, and the more membership fees that are sent in this year the better will the association be able to look after the Percheron interests next year.

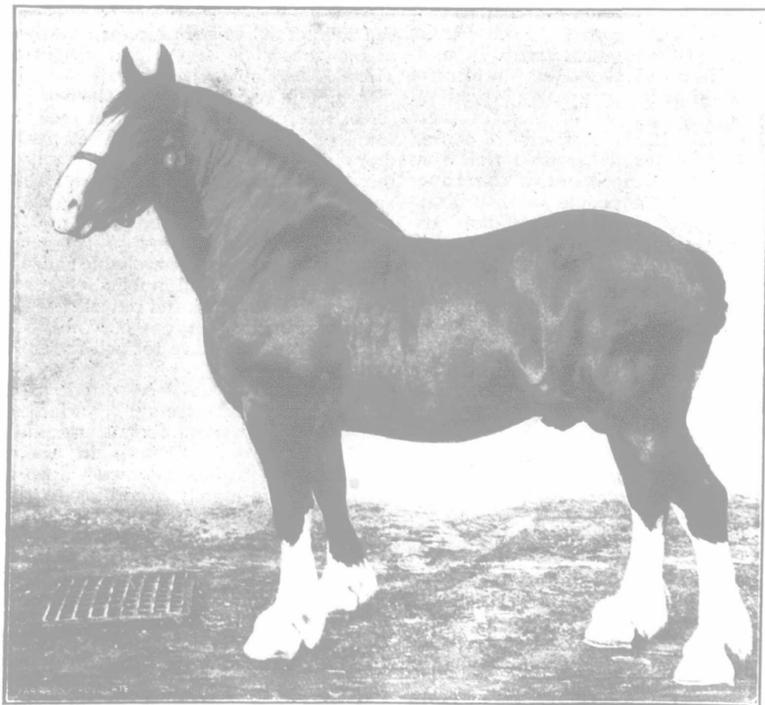
Yours truly,
F. R. PIKE,
Secretary-Treasurer.

Greasing the Hoof After Washing

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:—

I notice in your issue of Sept. 23rd an article regarding the use of hoof liniments. The veterinarian who wrote the article asserts that oils or grease should never be used on the horse's hoof. I agree with him that the natural moisture for the horse's hoof is water, but I think that after the foot has been washed, a coating of some ointment is beneficial, in that it helps to retain the moisture by retarding evaporation. In this I am supported by no less an authority than Prof. Lungvitz, Director of the Shoeing School of the Royal Veterinary College, Dresden, from whose work, translated by Dr. Adams, I quote the following:—"If front hoofs are washed once a day, sufficient moisture will penetrate the horn to give it that degree of suppleness (elasticity) which is possessed by an unshod hoof, and which contributes to a proper expansion of the hoof when the body weight is placed upon it. In order to prevent a hoof from again drying out, the entire hoof should receive a thorough application of an oil or ointment." I am not writing this in order to help the sale of hoof ointments, for I believe that any fat that is not rancid will answer the purpose. Cosmoline is a good hoof salve. However, in oiling, it is essential that the hoof should be first cleaned, or the dirt will form a greasy crust, underneath which the horn is liable to become brittle. I notice that some blacksmiths have a practice of rasping the whole surface of the wall of the hoof. This is injurious, for it destroys the natural covering, and renders the hoof more liable to dry out and crack. To prevent too great softening of the horn in wet weather, the addition of common yellow rosin to the salve is advised. I do not for a moment maintain that hoof ointments have any influence on the growth of the hoof. The essential factor in the development of the hoof is good circulation in the foot and coronary band. This is maintained by regular exercise.

Ala.
CYMRO.



SIR MARCUS [7790] (IMP.)

Clydesdale stallion; bay; foaled 1903. Grand champion, Toronto and Chicago, 1907; first at Toronto, and champion at Western Fair, London, 1908. Imported and owned by Graham-Renfrew Co., Ltd., Bedford Park, Ont. Sire, Sir Simon, by Sir Everard.