

squab, the ten-weeks'-old duck, the high-priced breakfast cereal; of anything that's expensive and out of season; of anything that tickles the palate. Hang the cost of it, for we're only living once and we might as well have the best of everything to eat here, for there is nothing on record to prove that eatables are provided in the hereafter.

Mr. Hill and others who are preaching the simple life and plainer living are all accorded respectful hearing, but they do not seem to be gaining much of a following. The people of this continent will not live any more simply than they're doing until they have to—and may they never have to! In the meantime there is a cue here for the producer. Remember it's the beef-steak on the steer that makes his value; that quality in every food stuff makes its price; that taste is running longer on quality and shorter on the low grade truck all the time; and despite the herculean efforts of magazine contributors to simplify our gastronomical tastes, demand for quality is growing stronger all the time. The public doesn't want soup bones, shank, chuck and belly meat any more. They're after porterhouse, tenderloin and the fancy cuts. Let them have it. Give them the beef-steak steer.

MY OPINION ON SOME MATTERS

Arrangements have been made with an experienced agriculturist and a competent writer to prepare a weekly letter under the caption, "My Opinion on Some Matters."

These notes will be interesting and helpful. Matters of real import to the man who tills the soil and tends herds and flocks will be dealt with.

Feeling that questions such as he proposes to discuss can be treated to better advantage under an assumed name our contributor has decided to be known to readers of THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE as "Airchie McClure." Having had years of practical experience in the Canadian West, the subjects treated cannot fail to be of practical interest to farmers engaged in the various branches of this great industry. His ability as a journalist can be judged by our readers after he has contributed a few weekly budgets.

Is There Not Need For Reform In The National Livestock Record Board?

While the creation of the Canadian National Live Stock Record Board was intended to work great advantage to the pure-bred live stock industry of Canada, and through it to the whole

live stock business, the vesting of the offices solely in Eastern men, and those Ontario breeders, has prevented this corporation from becoming national in either aims or character. To be correct, it has been more concerned in conserving the interests of a few dealers and breeders in Ontario by furthering matters to increase their sales in the United States, than it has been in considering the real needs of the live stock industry of Canada as a whole. To be perfectly frank, its vision was not sufficiently wide to see beyond the great lakes. The board is reported to have been zealous in prosecuting a Western cattle breeder for wrong doing, and rightly so; but when a case of apparent fraud on the part of some Ontario dealer in purebred stallions was brought to its attention by a provincial deputy minister of agriculture the zeal of the board apparently was expended by the interchange of some correspondence.

The National Live Stock Board of Canada is not, apparently, as alert as it might be, and this alleged remissness is pertinently and succinctly called to the attention of Canadian breeders by "Scotland Yet," on page 736 of the issue of May 18. Briefly, the C. N. L. S. Board is stated to have placed on its accredited list a stud book dubbed by an Old Country writer (evidently well posted on the matter) "an upstart stud book." His statements indicate that there is dead wood in the board, or something worse.

Breeders of purebred stock would like to know the reasons the board had for accepting and placing under its aegis this new stud book, and whether any proper investigation was made as to its claims or reliability. A provincial board of agriculture refused recently to enroll a stallion said to be recorded in this so-called upstart stud book, not being satisfied with the evidence that entry in such a stud book could make an animal purebred. With the privilege of free use of the mails—a Dominion grant of \$7,500—the breeders of Canada do not expect a board, constituted to foster the purebred stock industry, play the wanton, as it apparently has done with upstart stud books. Further, one notes that the live stock commissioner suggested the advisability of a different form of pedigree certificate; the change to the tabulated (extended) form, used by two breed associations. This idea was mooted and urged upon the breed societies and record board in THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE six or seven years ago; but the same unprogressive body of men are still in the saddle, so that we are not optimistic as to the adoption of the live stock commissioner's suggestion. The old form of pedigree certificate is out-of-date, and does not give true information as to any animal's breeding, for the simple reason only one side is given. It appears to me that some of our provincial breeders' associations should call for an investigation as to the board's methods, or lack of method. It has done good work in the past, but its reputation alone will not carry it on, or whitewash alleged errors in extending its guardianship to Old Country or United States

mushroom stud or herd books, apparently manufactured for foreign consumption.

WESTERN BREEDER.

[Note.—"Western Breeder's" remarks are to the point. Western Canadian breeders should be represented on the Record Board. Even if it were found impracticable to attend board meetings, the Western men could serve well by giving advice by letter. With regard to the "upstart stud book" an explanation from John Brant, secretary of the National Live Stock Records, appears on another page.—EDITOR.]

HORSE

Observations on Horse Subjects

This is the fence building season, and during the next few weeks several thousand miles of fencing of some kind or other will be strung out over prairie Canada. Fortunately, the idea is passing that barb wire is the only kind of fence worth a man's while investing his money in. The barb wire age is passing, but it has persisted longer than can be readily explained. Why any man starting out with the idea of raising horses should "queer" a lot of his chances of success by stringing his premises with material that is bound sooner or later to blemish, damage or even kill outright some of his equine possessions, is a matter we could never quite understand.

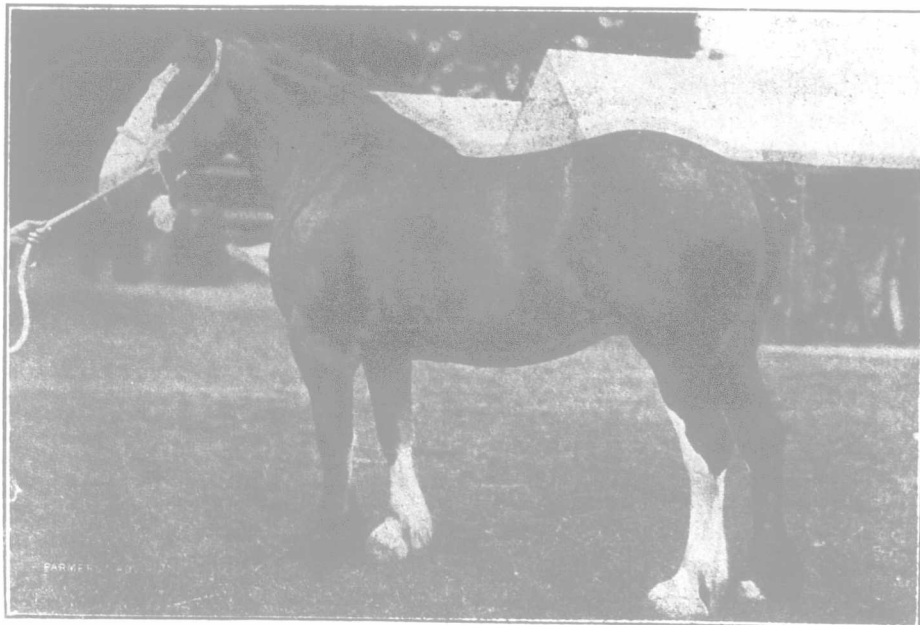
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Barb wire fencing is one of the most serious handicaps to horse raising in Western Canada. Size up a bunch of Western raised horses, farm raised horses, and note the number of them that carry the marks of intimate acquaintance with the barbed strand. A blemished horse is worth less money than an unblemished one; if he has been too badly cut up his usefulness is lessened, even to the point of his being altogether worthless. And all because the horse had got tangled up in a barb wire that somebody had hung out on a poplar stake under the mistaken notion that they were "improving" their holdings and helping to civilize the country. Cut out building barb wire fences. They don't add anything to the picturesqueness of the landscape; they are hardly half satisfactory in serving the purpose a fence ought to; they cost less money; that is the only argument that has ever been offered as an excuse for their existence. And it is unsound, for the damage wrought by this horse blemisher and assassinator each year amounts to several times the difference between its cost and the cost of a reliable fence, one that will serve every purpose a fence ought to, without possessing the flesh-tearing tendon-ripping, bone rasping qualities associated with the barbed strand. Build smooth wire fences around fields wherever horses are likely to be confined. The barbed kind will serve as well as the other the purpose of keeping the animals in, so long as they don't try to get out. It's when they tangle themselves up trying to get through that trouble begins, and blood starts to flow. The horse that makes war on barbed wire may come off victor, but his owner runs some chance of having a carcass to bury or a nearly useless brute about the place. He can't afford to take them.

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The agricultural society of South Qu'Appelle, Sask., started this season in a line of work that is worth other agricultural societies thinking about. They leased from a reliable firm of breeders in the province a Clydesdale stallion for use in their district during the breeding season. The terms and conditions under which the stallion was leased were not given in the brief information we received anent the transaction, but the principle of this system of securing the use of stallions is worth considering.

Anyone conversant with horse breeding in Scotland knows the lengths to which stallion leasing has been carried on there, and the results that have been attained therefrom. What draft horse breeding in this country needs is organized effort along somewhat similar lines. We



APPROVED TYPE OF BROOD MARE