

first of all to do one another and since then they've been engaged pretty steadily in doing the whole world.

On this side of the Atlantic conditions very similar prevail. Ontario in respect to the rest of America occupies much the same position in purebred stock affairs as Britain does in respect to the world. Ontario is the stamping ground in this line for the continent, just as Britain is the supply field of the world, and she attained to this position by precisely similar means. Logically there is no reason why any part of America should not produce horses, cattle, sheep and swine of merit equal to that which any other district produces. But the fact is they don't do it. When was there ever a year in all the history of the International Live Stock Show in Chicago when the studs, herds, and flocks of Old Ontario did not emerge with the premier honors of the ring? And one of the reasons why Ontario has worked herself up to this position in purebred stock affairs is because she supported and maintained in as much purity and with as much emphasis on agricultural things as possible, the stock fairs which she had modelled from those of the Motherland. Her live stock men were ever enthusiasts for the live stock show. They lived for it, planned for it, bred for it, fitted for it, and exhibited at it until they had created a reputation for their exhibitions and their stock, that redounded far beyond the confines of their own province. Their shows were famous, their stock was famous and they are profiting from the fame which their efforts, enterprise and common sense had created.

The agricultural fair idea once it had taken root, spread and spread rapidly all over America until any place with any pretensions whatever had its fair. Towns that had less need of shows than have the denizens of the equator of fur lined coats, projected exhibitions of amazing magnitude. They were established in districts that had little or nothing to maintain them as agricultural exhibitions, and in order that they might continue to exist their managers sought to popularize them by adding features to the program that, functionally, were quite apart from the true function of the fair—horse-races, side-shows, spectacular performances and athletic events. Canadians as well as Americans greatly enjoy being humbugged and we all like to be amused. Consequently this idea too, spread rapidly; people got the notion that a fair's only function was to furnish them an outing or a few hours' amusement, and, in some cases agriculture was lost sight of almost completely.

We don't have to travel a thousand miles from Winnipeg to run up against shows of this nature. In fact, in Manitoba it's easier to find this kind than any other. Fairs where the live stock of the district is represented by a few "critters" huddled together in a corral, and the products of the soil by a few potatoes or a bag of wheat reposing in solemn state in the center of the neglected show house, while the crowd screams itself hoarse over the races or the success of the local nine, or indulges in foolish contemplation of the antics of the brazen painted "beauties."

Live stock is the essential feature, the significant factor of agricultural fairs, and we of these Western provinces would do well to read aright the world-wide history writ so large on these things, and adapt our institutions so that they may redound to our own credit. We are giving altogether too little attention to the products of agriculture in our fairs. We are emphasizing too much those things which should not be flaunted or tolerated anywhere, much less chaperoned by any institution that poses as an exposition of agriculture. At Winnipeg the other day all previous records of attendance they said were surpassed. On farmers' day forty thousand passed the turnstiles and disported themselves about the grounds. Judging in the live stock classes was in full swing. But not one quarter of the farmers who on that day visited the fair, saw a single award placed or gave any attention whatever to the live stock exhibits. Their interest was centered on the racing, the bespangled dancing girls or the barkers. Winnipeg's display of live stock was the equal of any collection that could be gathered together in Western Canada. Some of the best judges

from the Old Land, from our own country, and from the United States gave demonstrations of the judging art in the ring. It was an occasion that does not come to some of these people every day or every year. It was an opportunity fraught with great educational advantage to those who deserved to profit by it.

We've got to get away from this idea that has been engrafted on to us during the past few years, that agricultural fairs are designed to furnish sensational amusements. We've got to bring them back to the basic principle upon which they were founded, and on which every one that is successful has been operated. There are two things that should form the major and essential portion of our fairs, and these are live stock and the products of the soil. These are the features that must ever be kept to the front if fairs are to be a true success, if they are to accomplish that for which they were created and for which they receive public patronage and support. These are the features that no matter what occurs must never be relegated to any position other than foremost. It was for these things that agricultural fairs were called into existence—it is for them that they endure.

The people of this country have been badly trained in the matter of agricultural fairs. We've gotten so we can't appreciate the purely agricultural features as they should be appreciated. We've got to get back closer to the old original, old-fashioned things upon which fairs have existed for the last two hundred years, and upon which they're going to continue to subsist as long as they endure. Let us not forget that live stock and the products of the soil are the significant features in these institutions.

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The scattered visits of the devastating hail storm show the wisdom of the prudent farmer who carries hail insurance. Many a new settler has been tided over what would otherwise be an exceptionally lean year by taking forethought to the extent of being prepared for the worst. No man in commercial life carries his own risk. Insurance of any kind means a distribution of loss where loss occurs, and where there is no loss the insured gains in the feeling of contentment and satisfaction enjoyed.

This year may prove no worse than others; there has been little damage so far, but immunity in the past is no guarantee for the future. It is well to carry insurance. It gives stability to your business and is a rock in the day of trouble.

## HORSE

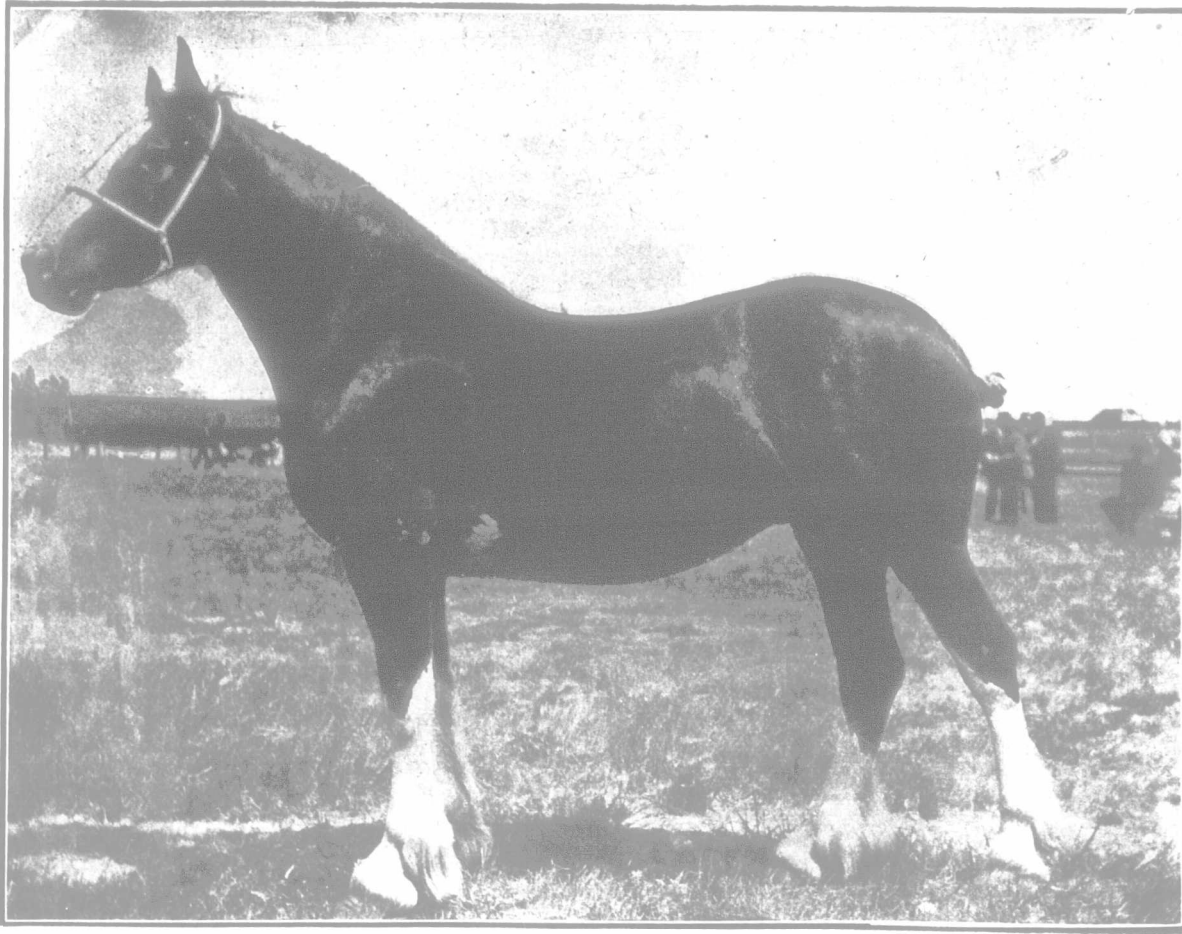
### Barbaric Cruelty Unpunished.

A press dispatch of July 12th stated that Montreal was indignant over the decision rendered in the Recorder's Court the previous afternoon by Recorder Dupuis, in which he allowed two men, proven to have beaten a team of horses until huge welts appeared on their backs, to escape any kind of punishment. "Recorder Dupuis astonished the officers present in the court by allowing both men their freedom, on the ground that the horses had not been unduly flogged, as blood had not been drawn. He remarked that when a man was sentenced to be flogged, the stipulation was 'until blood is drawn,' and that, similarly, when it was necessary to flog horses, the operation could be continued until blood is drawn. In the case of the accused that had not been done, and, therefore, he could not sentence them. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals have decided to appeal the case, and will carry it to the higher courts."

This officer must be either a beast or a fool—or both. If callous to the sufferings of horses, he is a brute; if under the impression that cruelty consists in drawing blood, he is a fool. Presumably, their legs might be broken, or they might be starved to death, or tortured in endless ways with impunity, so long as no blood were drawn.

Some day, when the world is really civilized, men will be thrust into penitentiary for such conduct, and the rights of the animal kingdom as strongly insisted on as the rights of fellow men. But as yet we are dwelling in a comparatively cruel, benighted age, in which the general public accepts an ordinary amount of cruelty to animals as a matter of course, and only the Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, aided, to be sure, by a few humane individuals, look after the interests of the brute creation. There are exceptions, however, and they are becoming more numerous as years go on, as the public learns that animals have nerves, the same as men and women.

The general run of teamsters have little idea of humane treatment beyond the commercial one. If a horse is suffering so severely that it cannot work without serious loss in condition, it is rested; seldom otherwise. Still we call ourselves a Christian people, and send out missionaries to the heathen. There is need for missionaries on our own streets, roads and farms—missionaries of the grand, noble gospel of kindness to animals. It is everybody's business to interfere with cruelty to the lower animals, as much as of defenceless women and of children. As for the judge, we should like to see him lose his job.



THREE-YEAR-OLD CLYDESDALE MARE, EVA'S GEM.  
First in her class and Champion female at Winnipeg Exhibition. Bred by A. & G. Match, Lumsden.  
Owned and exhibited by R. H. Taber, Condie.