

opinion of the matter is it is well worthy of recognition by all who are interested in the improvement of horses, but it is no detriment to the continuous use of scrub stallions, for to every registered horse in this district there are six mongrels. This part of Southern Alberta is at present undergoing a change from a range country to farming. It will take some little time to convert the errors, but men will perforce have to come to the conclusion that it pays to raise good stock only when they are compelled to run them on land they own and pay taxes on.

It costs as much to raise, if not produce, a \$20 pony as it does a \$200 horse. It is my opinion it would be out of the question to interfere with scrub studs and try to enforce the discontinuance of their use with the public. The object lesson will come to men patronizing the like, as I have already witnessed lately. A lumberman came down to buy horses for the woods teams that fit his order, from fourteen to fifteen hundred. He did not hesitate to pay \$560 a team. Some gray teams were shown him, at sight of which he began to pull his moustache and beat the ground with his foot, and at once divert his attention to something else, without asking the owner the figure he might have the audacity to ask for them. Such experiences are humiliating to some degree, but cannot fail to be beneficial to more than the parties actually concerned. We must abide the time of the scrub stallion, which I think will not be long now.

I may state, in conclusion, that the clause relating to the enforcement of a lien for service fees, in my opinion, is extended over too long a period. In many cases it is impossible to trace up the offspring of such service, the statement being made they are dead. Besides, a man may breed five to ten mares; one half have foals. The game is scarcely worth the plunder, seeing that you can only collect fee for service of mares that actually have foals. Some people say, "Insure a colt to stand up and suck. Such is absurd, and should never be condescended to by the owner of any worthy stallion; it gives the owners of the mares the chance of overworking his mare; if she loses her foal, he is out nothing.

HORSEMAN.

A WEAK SPOT IN HORSE-BREEDING.

Yours in reference to the enrolment and breeding of stallions to hand. The horse I bought three years ago was unfit that season for breeding purposes, on account of having too many mares the season before. On that account, I dissolved partnership, and had to sell him. I think that is one of the great errors—a horse having too many mares. I used them in the County of Norfolk, England, and we never allowed a horse more than sixty mares in the season, and never travelled more than twelve miles during the day. I find the owners of stallions to-day are thinking too much of the dollar, and, again, are not using the right kind of a mare to breed from a good horse. In that case it's an impossibility to give a valuable horse a show when the foal arrives. We have two very good Clyde horses, imported in this and the Melford district this spring, and are under a syndicate, and they are much needed. I much object to the fee being so high and to stallions being allowed to travel with unsound feet and legs. I'm not in this syndicate, and I don't know their rules. L. J. P.

REGISTERING IMPORTED CLYDESDALES.

Anent the action recently taken by the Directors of the Canadian Clydesdale Association, re the registration of Clydesdales imported to Canada, the Scottish Farmer of April 20th says:

"Clydesdale breeders in this country have got a nasty knock from their Canadian customers. It is no surprise to the writer that the check has come. Breeders here are to pay the penalty for neglect of registration. On and after the first day of June, 1907, only animals registered in the Clydesdale Studbook here, and out of mares registered in the Studbook here, will be eligible for record in the Canadian Clydesdale Studbook. But not only so; the sire and dam of the sire, and the sire and dam of the dam, must also be registered. This makes the Canadian rules parallel with those of the United States, and the fate of the short-pedigreed filly is sealed so far as Canada is concerned. No blame can be attached to the Canadian. He knows that the Clydesdale Studbook has been published for twenty-nine years, and its thirtieth volume has now been opened. To him it appears absurd that animals of pure breeding should in this country only show a bare three-cross pedigree. He means to protect himself, and after June 1st there will be no more free importation of short-pedigreed types."

The meeting of members of the Canadian Clydesdale Association, advertised to be held in Toronto on May 23rd, is for consideration of the amendment to the rules of registration referred to, and which, it is expected, will be adopted by that meeting. It looks like a reasonable and sensible proposition, though it may be considered prudent or necessary to limit somewhat.

HORSE-BREEDING PROBLEMS IN THE ANNAPOLIS VALLEY.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

It is possibly not far from the facts of the case to say that no two farmers in Annapolis Co., N. S., have the same opinion as to what is the best kind of horse for the farm. Consequently we have all sorts and conditions of horses, from the little, 800-pound pony to the 1,600 or 1,700 pound wood pile, that has some of the blood of everything extant, from the rabbit to the elephant. This is a result, partly of the preference of farmers, up to the last decade, for oxen instead of horses for draft purposes. A considerable portion of the yearly income on these small farms is derived from the sale of lumber and cordwood obtained from the mountains on each side of the Valley, and the prevailing opinion has been that horses are unfit for the rough mountain work, and, rather than keep a pair of oxen for winter and incur the expense of keeping horses, too, just for summer farm work, the oxen have, until lately, been the motive power for draft



Durbar (imp.) (11635).

Clydesdale stallion; bay; foaled 1901. Sire Baron's Pride (9122). Property of Orangeville Horse Breeders' Association, Orangeville, Ontario. James Woodland, Secretary.

while a family horse for driving and light work has been considered sufficient on the majority of farms. It is true, too, that these light, nervous horses are not fit for the mountain work, but now the introduction of heavier and quieter blood by some of our best farmers has demonstrated the fact that a horse of proper breeding and training will work in as rough a place as oxen. As a consequence we have some fair types of general-purpose horses, possibly amounting to eight per cent. of those owned in the County. Another reason for the nondescript class of horses we have here is that, as a consequence of our small and rocky farms, the efforts of our farmers are diversified, and farming does not receive full attention, as in Ontario. As a result, we can show a sample of everything that could be conceived in the horse line.

Up to the present, if the opinions of all the farmers were taken and averaged, we would find a demand for something like the following: A horse with good style, that would live on weeds and grass roots, weigh about 1,100 pounds, be able to do a mile in 2½ minutes, and pull a load of two tons up an incline of 15 degrees. However, we are getting down to better ideas now, and possibly ten per cent. of the best farmers would ask for a general-purpose horse of 1,300 pounds, fair roadster, and of quiet disposition. To get this—or to approximate it, at least—possibly a light Clydesdale would be in favor for use on our best mares. It is an impossibility for stallion owners, even now, to know what style of horse to bring into the County. It is to be hoped that the taste for better farm horses will spread, and that it will result in better farming.

Annapolis Co., N. S.

R. J. MESSENGER.

Arthur T. Woodley, Brome Co., P. Q.: "I would not be without 'The Farmer's Advocate' for three times the price."

STALLION LICENSE NOT NEEDED.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

As regards the stallion-license act, I think we can get along quite nicely without it yet. The man who intends to own and drive a horse is the best judge of what he wants, and the Government has no right to say what kind of horses we are to use. It would only mean that the farmer would pay the license fee in the long run, and this fee would just be to keep up an army of veterinary surgeons that are out of a job. I think they should at least give the farmer credit for knowing what he wants. FARMER.

Lambton Co., Ont.

STALLION REGISTRATION LAW FOR MINNESOTA.

According to a Western exchange, Minnesota has been making an earnest effort towards securing a stallion-registration law from the present Legislature, and with prospects of success. Some of the essential features of the proposed law are: Verification and registration of pedigrees in the

case of registered horses; veterinary examination of all stallions over four years; horses to be released from further examination after ten years of age. This work to be in charge of a board consisting of the President of the State Horse-breeders' Association, Professor of Animal Husbandry in the College of Agriculture, and the Professor of Veterinary Medicine in the Agricultural College of the State University. Actual examination to be done by committees of two, each committee consisting of a practical horseman and a veterinarian. The horses are to be assembled at specified places in each county for examination. Examination and registration fee, \$3.00. License to be renewed each year without examination, except as mentioned, renewal fee, \$2.00. Stallions are divided into two general classes—pure-bred and grade. It is made a misdemeanor to use pedigrees or illustrations on posters or otherwise so as to mislead.

LIVE STOCK.

GIVE PASTURES A CHANCE.

When the food supply in the barns runs low in springtime, and the outdoor work of the farm is pressing, the desire to get the stock out to pasture grows stronger as the days go by. But it pays to resist the temptation and yield not until the grass has had a fair start and has covered the ground with a supply that will stand considerable cropping without leaving the land bare and exposed to the sun and wind. Pastures closely cropped in the early spring are handicapped for the whole summer, and yield much less sustenance for stock than those given a fair chance to fill up before being eaten off closely, as the latter will better resist drouth and come again quicker after a rainy spell.

The young and tender grass, while it has a wholesome influence in purifying the blood and restoring health to debilitated animals, and is aptly styled by the old herdsmen and shepherds Doctor Green, is yet washy and lacking in substance, and should be supplemented by some dry fodder for the first two or three weeks after the animals are turned on the pastures. This tends to avoid any loss of condition, and prevents undue purging from too greedy consumption of the watery grass, and at the same time saves the pastures, as animals will stop eating when their stomachs are filled; indeed, seem to realize more sensibly than do some humans that "enough is sufficient." Where there are two or more pasture fields on the farm, it is good practice to change the stock from one field to another every two or