

THE HORSE.

A Few Horse Hints.

It is getting a little late for the hard-worked team to run out at night. It will be easier to keep them in condition if they are stabled and well fed.

Avoid washing the horses' legs; better let them dry and comb and brush out with currycomb and brush.

Fresh, cool air is necessary in the stable, but drafts on the heated team may cause colds and coughs.

The spring colt will do better weaned than running with his working dam.

It is a good time now, or between now and the middle of November, to breed for a fall colt.

Give the stallion plenty of exercise; it would do him good to take his place on the plow, provided he is carefully handled.

Two horses on a two-furrowed plow are not enough. Better make it three or four and accomplish more work with less strain.

Keep the team going steadily. It is not the man who drives fastest who accomplishes most, but he who keeps the horses moving from morning till night will do a good day's work.

Keep a little oxide of zinc ointment on hand. It is good for scratches and sores.

Do not allow the horses too much water after feeding. A little water and often, is a good rule while at the fall plowing.

When the ground gets soft in the fall is a very good time to start the colt; the plow being a very suitable implement for a beginning.

Do not sell all the good horses and keep the "plugs" for the boy to work. This is a poor way to encourage him to look after his team well.

Don't expect the hired man to keep his team fat without oats, and don't allow him to feed more than four or five quarts at a feed.

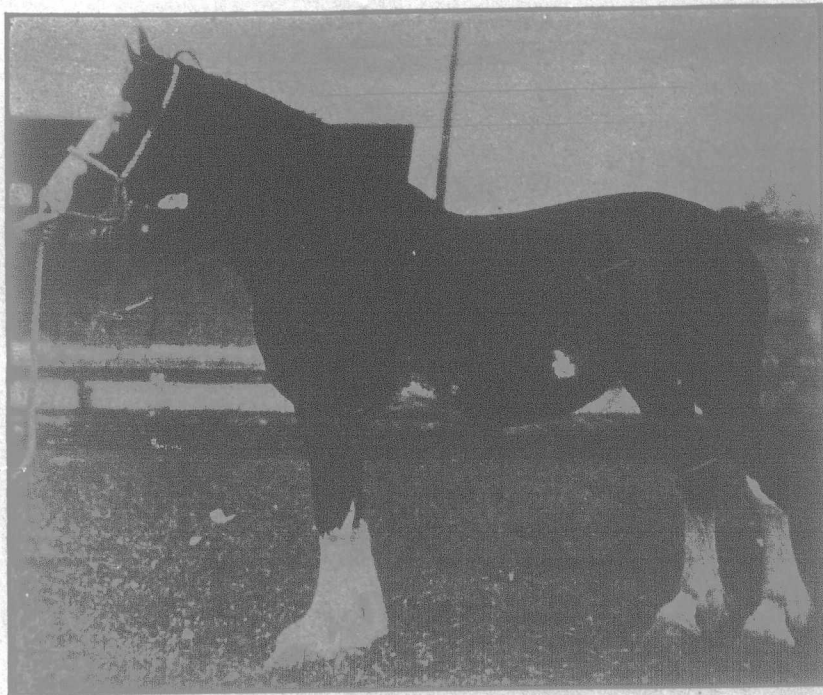
The colts in the pasture should have shelter on cold, stormy nights.

The Farm Chunk.

We have many times advised farmer horsemen to stick to the heavy draft horse as the best all-round proposition so far as his horse-breeding efforts are concerned. Weight has been emphasized time and again, and it has been the belief of many in close touch with horse breeding in this country that the heavier the animals were the better, provided quality was not lost. Quite recently we heard criticisms of the present-day Clydesdale as being a little too fine in the bone and not showing sufficient weight and constitution. We had all our theories upset not long since by a practical farmer who was watching the judging of a class for horses 1,400 pounds and under at the Western Fair. There were some good teams in this class, and one particularly outstanding pair. The farmer remarked that these were just the right kind of a farm team; not too big nor yet too small, and a pair that would require much less feed than a team which would weigh two or three hundred pounds per horse heavier. They were a good pair of farm chunks, but they were by no means a small team.

Now the question comes up: Is it a fact that the farmer can use a team of horses weighing thirteen or fourteen hundred pounds each to better advantage than he can a heavier team of drafters? There is no doubt but that they can be fed more cheaply, provided they are the thick kind of easy-feeding horses, and for considerable of the farm work, practically all of it, they will do just as much as the heavier horses. They are easier on themselves on the road; they will make better time, and for the lighter work, such as harrowing, shallow plowing, corn cultivation, etc., on the farm they will probably out-distance the heavier horse a little. On the other hand the heavy drafter, up to a good weight, is a better horse on the heavy work, such as deep plowing with a two-furrowed plow, cultivating with the spring-tooth or broad-shared cultivator, and hauling heavy loads. But where the heavy drafter has the greatest advantage over the farm chunk is in breeding. As a general thing it pays the farmer better to keep a large percentage of mares to do his farm work. With the mare he has two chances. If anything goes wrong with her she may still be valuable as a breeder, and

anyway she should do a fair share of the farm work and still raise a colt. The question is: Which is the more valuable a colt from a heavy draft mare, weighing say 1,600 pounds, or one from the handy farm mare, weighing say 1,300 pounds? We have always advised farmers to breed the heavy draft mare because market quotations have shown that the high-quality, heavy drafter was the horse in steadiest and keenest demand, and generally brought highest prices. In the past the surplus of farm horses has been used for heavy hauling in the cities, and for this heavy hauling nothing but the biggest of drafters can command the highest prices. It seems a safer proposition to depend upon the heavier mares to do the work and to use them for breeding purposes, than to trifle with the lighter mare. As a general thing, breeders get enough of the smaller kind, even from matings of the heavy horses.

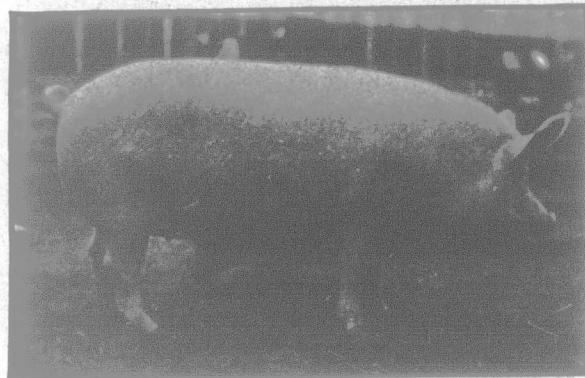


Ruby Jen (imp.)

Champion Clydesdale mare at Ottawa for R. Ness & Son, Howick, Que.

Some horsemen in England are boosting what they call a light, heavy draft horse at the present time, claiming that the Shire-Clydesdales are too big, heavy and slow. These men are urging a lighter, more active horse, a sort of general utility animal. Those who advocate the breeding of such an animal are finding opposition from the Shire and Clydesdale men, who still believe that weight is important.

Speed counts considerably in this country, and the average farmer likes a horse that can get over the ground. He wants a smart walker, but the gait of the horse, or at least the speed at which he walks is largely established through training in his early years. We will agree that a thirteen or fourteen-hundred-pound farm chunk is a very handy animal, and no one would blame a farmer for favoring this type to do his farm work, but until such time as these lighter horses are in as keen demand as the heavy drafter, it is doubtful whether as an all-round farm horse, taking breeding value into consideration, they are as profitable as the heavy drafter. They are nice to work and easy to feed, but do they pay as well in the long run? Discussion is invited.



Yorkshire Sow.

First prize in class over 12 and under 18 months at Toronto and Ottawa for John Duck, Port Credit.

Horse Stock of the United Kingdom.

Figures recently published in the Live Stock Journal indicate that Great Britain has not lost in horse stock so severely since the war began as was at first believed. Compared with figures collected just before the war, the horse stock of the United Kingdom shows a decrease of only 39,977, and the figures are still 69,695 in excess of the ten-year average, 1905 to 1914. As compared with last year, the United Kingdom's horse stock has increased by no fewer than 72,390 head, a recovery of nearly two-thirds of the losses in the first year of war. The recovery

is in every classification but largest in those used for agriculture. These figures are very satisfactory indeed, and no one would have believed that such a recuperation could have been possible this year.

LIVE STOCK.

The Outlook for Feed From the West.

The following letter from a Western Canada farmer, who is in touch with the grain situation, will be read with interest by those who contemplate purchasing feed from the West this winter.

"Threshing returns are showing yields of wheat all the way from 40 bushels down. The average yield in Manitoba of the area threshed will probably be about 10 bushels, and quite a large percentage of this will be feed wheat. There will be more feed wheat threshed in Manitoba than in either Saskatchewan or Alberta.

"In Saskatchewan the crop is very spotted, some splendid fields being harvested as well as some very poor stuff. There will be considerable feed wheat in Saskatchewan. In Alberta the crop is generally good, and there will be little feed wheat shipped from this province.

"There is a factor, however, in regard to feed wheat that must be taken into consideration, and this is the price. It is now quoted at over one dollar at Fort William for number 1 feed, and even very poor samples are quoted around 90 cents.

"The oat and barley crops are lighter than anticipated, and none too good quality on the whole. Prices for these grains, you will notice by market reports, are also very high. There is certainly plenty of feed wheat in the country, but a scarcity of milling wheat here and in the States, but some of this feed wheat will no doubt be used for milling purposes. In a letter from the chief grain inspector he said that much of it was being worked for export, which would probably indicate that four European Allies are using this feed wheat for a coarse flour."

English Live Stock News.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

That great dual-purpose Shorthorn cow, Darlington Cranford 21st, owned by the Rev. C. H. Brocklebank in Cambridgeshire, England, has just produced her eighth calf, a white bull to Salmon's Premier. She was bred by the late George Taylor, at Cranford. Born on April 26th, 1906, she was by Sir Barrington 5th, out of Darling 4th, a thousand-gallon cow. At the Cranford sale in 1909, Darlington Cranford 21st, then a three-year-old heifer, with her first calf at foot, was purchased by E. S. Godsell for 310 guineas, the same breeder taking her heifer calf at 30 guineas. She then went on tour and won at a lot of shows and took highest honors by carrying off the dairy Shorthorn championship at the Royal Show at Liverpool. In that year she gave over 800 gallons of milk, and at the time was about as perfect a specimen of dairy cow as one could wish to see, a nice roan, with a great frame, short legs, grand udder, and a perfect Bates' head and horn. The following is a record of her produce and the prices they have made in public:

	Guineas
Salmon's Darling 2nd, cow, c. May 4, 1909.....	66
Salmon's Heir, bull, c. May 7, 1910.....	600
Salmon's Darling 5th, cow c. August 5, 1911.....	130
Salmon's Darling 6th, cow, c. June 28, 1912.....	80
Salmon's Darling 10th, cow, c. July 11, 1913.....	80
Prince of Salmons, bull, c. June 7th, 1914.....	170
Salmon's Diamond, bull, c. May 9, 1915.....	400
Total.....	1,526

She cost the Rev. C. H. Brocklebank 200 guineas when he bought her. The 1916 "baby" should be worth quite that much.

There is another boomlet in dairy Shorthorns—Dual-purpose Shorthorns, I should say—in England. For 45 head of pure-bred dairy Shorthorns, sold on J. L. Shirley's behalf at Bletchley on Sept. 12th, an average of £84 9s. 4d. was secured, or a total of £3,801. The cows and heifers made £87 2s. 5d. apiece, and the bulls £76 5s. 4d. Six heifers of Shirley's own breeding made the praiseworthy average of £132 6s. They included Silverton Telluria, sold to Captain Buxton for 260 guineas.

At the first of two autumn sales of Shorthorns at Kingham, held by John Thornton & Co., trade