

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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DOMINION.

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HORSES.

The Farmer Boy and the Horse.

An old friend of mine who has spent all his life on the farm without becoming even a fair judge of a horse, said to me a few days ago, while in a confidential mood: "If I had life to live over again, I would endeavor while a boy to study horse-judging, so that I could pick out the good ones," said he. "I know I have lost a lot of money and failed to make a great deal because I was not so good a judge of horseflesh as I might have been." I fancy, if the majority of old farmers were to speak their mind on this question, they would say the same thing.

To the young man of the present day the experience of those who have preceded them ought to be of great interest on this question. It is much easier for a young man to obtain an intimate knowledge of horse-judging to-day than it was twenty years ago, and hence it is that the farmer of the future will require to know more of horses than his father. Whether it is the intention to breed horses or not, the necessity for being able to judge them is important, because every farm must needs have them, and every farmer must own a number.

It is safe to say that there is not a young farmer in Manitoba who has any aptitude for judging who may not become a good judge of a horse. Like everything else that is learned, it requires that an interest must first be taken in the subject, and secondly, that that interest be maintained. No one should expect to become proficient in judging any class of stock in a short time; that would be impossible. It takes time to become a horse-judge, but the greater the interest in the subject, the sooner may a fair knowledge be obtained.

But when a fair knowledge of the subject has been obtained, the danger point has been reached, with some men. It is then, unfortunately, that far too many get the idea that they "know a horse," and after they have become recognized in their localities as judges, they soon feel that there is little to be learned.

Not long ago I ran across a fine-looking horse that had been bought in Winnipeg last spring for a long price. The purchaser was known in his

district as a horseman, but, upon examination, the horse was found to have very bad sidebones. The buyer admitted he was not aware of their presence until his attention was drawn to them, and no one could fail to realize that far too much money had been paid for the animal. This is merely one example of a supposedly good horseman being badly fooled, when there was no occasion for it, had he been more careful in his examination. I would, therefore, like my friend, the farm boy, to realize that there is a lot to be learned about the horse, but there is no more interesting nor, in fact, valuable subject than horse-judging, and there is not a Western boy who cannot improve his knowledge of our noble friend if he will.

Manitoba.

Automobiles Slower Than Horses.

Virtue is said to be its own reward, and per contra, it may be said that sinning brings its punishment in due time. On this latter score the automobilists have of late been suffering. So contemptuous of the law were many users of the machine that officers and constables everywhere were licensed to make arrests, whether there was cause for them or not. Any number of innocent victims to this spirit of persecution could be cited. It would seem, really, that the time had arrived when

"But man, proud man,
Drest in a little brief authority,
Most ignorant of what he's most assur'd—
His glassy essence—like an angry ape,
Plays such fantastic tricks before high Heaven,
As make the angels weep."

Like the famous school teacher who always boxed a boy's ears when he met one, "because if he hasn't done mischief, he is contemplating it," the average constable and policeman, too, has come to look upon the automobile occupant with the most insolent suspicion. On the way to and from the races at Sheepshead Bay, Suburban Day, the motor cars crept along, particularly after reaching Brooklyn, through Prospect Park, New York, and down the magnificent driveway to the ocean. Speeding horses, training for the light-harness race-tracks and speedways, swept by the machines as though the latter were standing still. There was no fear or hesitation on the part of the horse-drivers, but the chauffeurs had lost their nerve, and couldn't be coerced nor cajoled into going faster. It was a slow, and, at the pace, in a cramped space, tedious means of travel. On top of a four-horse coach, when the pace may be as slow as you like, the sensation is always agreeable, because of more room, the elevation and the opportunity for enjoying the scenery, watching the horses at work, the skill of the whip in making every horse go up in his collar, and the always-contagious good fellowship of the dozen or more passengers. As the old coaching song ran:

"The team trots merrily o'er the road,
The rattling bars have charms;
Eleven and four is our average load,
And we change at the Coachman's Arms."

We learn with pleasure that the various interests in Connecticut that have been urging an automobile law which shall be fair to automobiles and the public, have finally agreed upon a measure which it is expected will be adopted. The speed limit of the bill fixes the rate at twelve miles an hour in cities and boroughs and twenty miles an hour in the country, with heavy fines for violations. The legislative committee on public health and safety favored the suspension of the licenses of persons violating the speed limits, but finally decided to omit this penalty after a conference with the attorney-general, who questioned its legality. Motor bicycles come under the same law, and must carry license numbers the same as an automobile. The wisdom of the horseman and the autoist will eventually prevail, to the end that we may have everywhere rational speed laws and a respectful observance of them.—[Rider and Driver.

Mr. D. Messenger, Guelph, Ont., writes the "Farmer's Advocate": "I am much pleased with article on page 916, in your issue of June 22nd, entitled 'Draft Horse Breeding.' It carried me back to my boyhood days, and brings to my mind afresh the land of my birth, as also the home of the best live stock of all breeds in the world."

Tell Your Wants

TO OVER 30,000 OF CANADA'S BEST FARMERS BY ADVERTISING IN THE "WANT AND FOR SALE" COLUMN OF THE "FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE," LONDON, ONT.

STOCK.

Holstein-Friesian Records.

Following is the report of the sub-committee appointed May 23rd, 1905:

To the Members of the Executive, Canadian Holstein-Friesian Association:

Gentlemen,—Your sub-committee, as instructed, proceeded to Ottawa, and were favored by the Minister of Agriculture, giving us a lengthy interview, in which we availed ourselves of the opportunity of explaining in detail:

1st.—That many years ago, the Holstein-Friesian Association were favored with an invitation from Mr. Fred Hodson, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture of the Province of Ontario, to locate our offices at the Parliament Buildings, Toronto. We then took the ground that as our association was registering stock from all parts of the Dominion, we did not wish to become involved with the provincial authorities.

And, also, that the system of affiliation then proposed would destroy the usefulness of our organization for business purposes. We explained that we were then in our infancy, and the proposition of assistance was very tempting, but to-day we are very pleased we did not yield, for, in comparison with the progress made by other associations, we are well pleased with the course we then adopted, and, consequently, regard the present invitation for affiliating with the other breeders' associations at Ottawa as a probable danger, and are naturally cautious in our movements regarding same.

2nd.—We also showed the Minister that through the discussion which then took place, the Holstein people determined, if possible, to secure the creation of a Dominion Live-stock Cattle-breeders' Act, and, consequently, to-day, by the impulse of the Canadian Holstein-Friesian Association of Canada, who were successful in so doing, the nationalizing of all breeds was made possible.

We also emphasized the fact that we considered when we were incorporated by the Dominion Act we then became the only "National Holstein Record Association," as the Act does not permit more than one association for one breed of cattle, and as we were entitled to show in our seal evidence of our Dominion incorporation, there could not be any possibility of deception being practiced upon the railroad authorities.

We also endeavored to satisfy the Minister that, although the affiliation of all small and weak associations seemed necessary, at the same time experience has shown us that under that condition these small associations did not grow to any extent, for where the business of two or three breeders' associations was conducted by one official it was like an individual serving two or three masters at the same time, and that if our association found it necessary to remove their offices and, consequently, their officers to Ottawa, and accept of the generous offer made by the Minister's Department to supply us with stationery, office accommodation and free postage, this would not be a sufficient inducement, unless we were thoroughly satisfied that our business interests would not suffer, and, to guard against this, we found it necessary to demand an individual office for the conducting of our affairs.

And, as to the part of the agreement referring to the Live-stock Commissioner, we pointed out that we did not consider the Live-stock Commissioner's actions were at all discreet, and, by his actions, he has already forfeited our respect, and, consequently, our Executive were very emphatic on the question of the present Live-stock Commissioner being barred against having anything to do with the inspection and management of their work. The Minister, on the other hand, pointed out the difficulty of his complying with our request, as the Live-stock Commissioner was his officer, and it was in his department that such work would be performed. On the other hand, regarding the individual office demanded by us if we locate in the Departmental Building, the Minister promised very kindly to look further into that question.

Your committee, later on in the day, visited the office accommodation set apart for the purpose of keeping the affiliated National Records, interviewed the different clerks, examined the system which had been inaugurated, and are sorry to have to report we were not at all satisfied with the accommodation already afforded, and consider the affiliation plan a serious blunder, the room so far set apart for their accommodation not being more than sufficient to properly carry on the work of the Shorthorn Association, let alone the affiliated associations. But, as it was stated, they had not yet completed their arrangements, the future may reveal a different state of affairs. Your committee also enquired from the proper officials regarding the possibility of being discriminated against in the matter of freight rates, and, as far as we can learn, there is very little likelihood of this being inflicted upon a Dominion incorporated cattle-breeders' association. With this matter we are still occupied, and expect to make a report later on.

Your committee also enquired into the cost of our work being conducted as it should be conducted in Ottawa, and find it will make an immediate annual increased difference of about \$350.00.

All of which we respectfully submit.

Signed on behalf of the sub-committee,
MATT. RICHARDSON, President.