

him harm. A little will do good, while the exercise will be very beneficial.

Horses never were intended to be tied up all day long in stalls, and their systems rebel when it is attempted. They need to get out on the soft, moist turf, to canter and graze and roll. They need exercise, freedom, pure air and comfort; and, winter or summer, they should have it.

THE FUTURE OF THE PERCHERON.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The history of the Percheron on this continent is rather too large to be briefly told. About the beginning of last century, some French horses of draft blood were imported into America. One stallion in this first importation sired a horse from which a strain of trotters was founded. By 1850 the Percherons were sixteen-hundred-pound horses. This was the weight of the famous Louis Napoleon, imported in 1851 into Ohio, the first great Percheron that appeared in the Central States, and the horse that was destined to inaugurate that era of draft breeding that has finally placed the breed he represented in first place, as the favorite drafter of the American people. To-day, in the United States, there are probably three times as many Percherons as there are of any other one draft breed.

The type of the breed, as modernly developed, is thus described by an American authority on horses:

"Typically, the Percheron is a horse of some range, not squatty or chunky. He has a top line that differs from that of most other breeds, in that, correctly, it is higher just back of the coupling and between the points of the hip bones. This, of course, accentuates any lowness of the back or droop of the quarters that may be present. He has good width, his ribs well sprung out from the backbone, and rounded like a barrel, but his quarters should not be bagged out like the hams of a Poland-China hog. Instead, they should have a flowing, rounded contour, indicative of promptitude of movement, as well as of strength. The neck should be well arched, not coarse, and well set up, topped off with a head that appears rather small for the size of the horse. Short, stubby necks and heavy, sour heads are not typical of the breed. The bone often appears light, judged by the standard of some other breeds, but it is of the stuff that wears, as has been proved on the streets. The pasterns are not long. Coupled with this sort of conformation, there is in the typical Percheron a breezy gaiety of motion and an air of elegance characteristic of no other breed."

In contrast with the American development of this breed of horses, and the rapidity with which Percherons popularized themselves in the United States, especially in the Central and Western States, the great French drafters were, until a very few years ago, unknown, practically speaking, on this side of the boundary. We had good Clydesdales and Shires—as good representatives of these two British draft breeds as were to be found outside of Britain—but the horses that came out of Flanders, originally, the breed that has a history dating back to the Saracenic invasion of Europe, early in the eighth century, never, till recently, attained much prominence in this country. For some reason—largely, we believe, because this country was peopled by Scotch and English—the two outstanding British draft breeds maintained here that vast measure of popularity which at home has made them the strongest in favor with the public of the draft breeds.

But a change is at hand, even in this domain of the Shire and Clyde. Our prairie heritage is by no means all occupied yet. The kind of horse that will predominate in this country will be decided by the ideals the men who are coming in here now have of what constitutes perfection in drafters. The American and the Percheron are inseparable. Where the former is, there also will be found the latter.

The increasing popularity of the Percheron in this country is best evidenced by the increasing number of these great dappled-gray and black horses that one can see about our cities. In horses that one can see about our cities, Winnipeg, in use by cartage companies, railways, the abattoir companies, by brewers, and in other lines where strength and weight are required, combined with docility and a whole lot of horse sense, one finds the Percheron forging rapidly to the front. And on the farms, when the breed is known, as it will be known in a very few years more, the Percheron will come into his own here just as he has come into it on the farms of the Central and Western States during the last fifty years. And it will not take him half a century to do it, either.

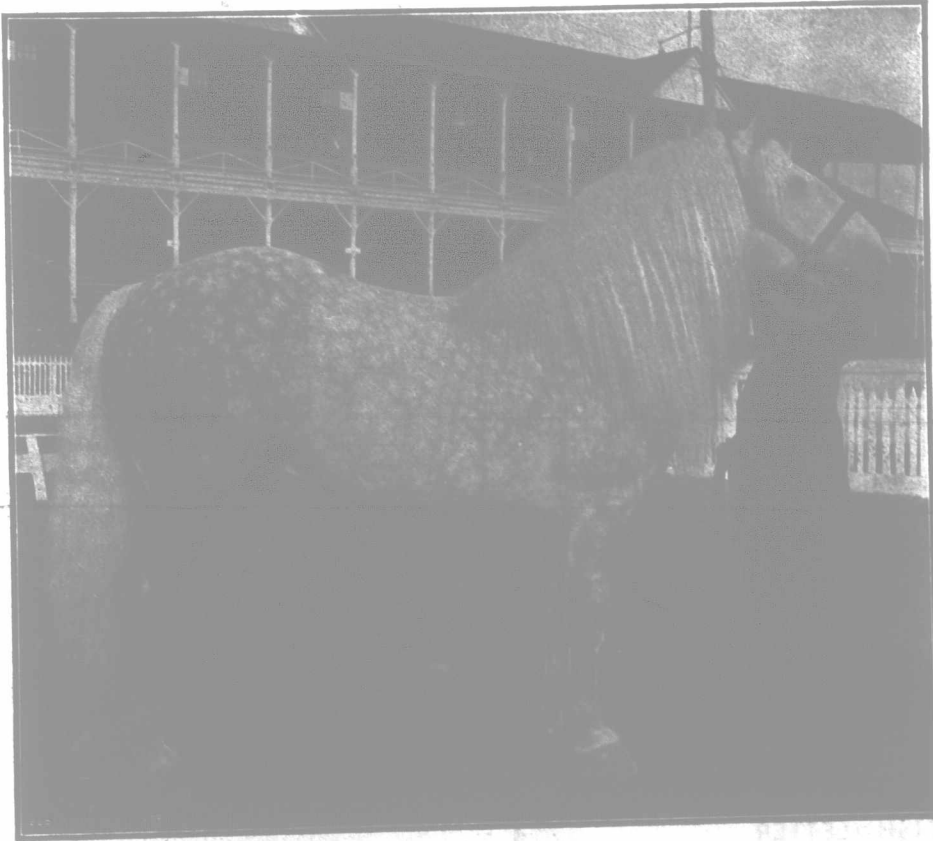
Winnipeg.

AN IOWA CANADIAN.

SKIM MILK FOR THE WEANLING.

A little skim milk judiciously fed will often do wonders for the weanling draft colt. Skim milk is used for the rearing of beeves, which at maturity are worth scarcely half as much per pound as a first-class draft horse. Yet, many a promising colt is stunted in his first winter, and his prospective value reduced thereby to the extent of fifty dollars or more, for the lack of a little skim milk or other suitable feed.

Of course, there is an easy possibility of overdoing the milk-feeding business, especially if new milk be used. The youngster may show such a fondness for the milk that his owner will be tempted to give him too much, thus promoting a too-rapid growth and laying on of flesh. Only a little should be allowed at first, and the amount increased with caution. Pure sweet milk should be used, and, in respect to quantity, the feeder should keep on the safe side. Just how much should be used, is a matter of discretion, but a gallon of skim milk, in two or three feeds daily, will be a benefit to almost any colt, and the cost will be well repaid. Let us have the experience of readers on this subject.



Comier (imp.) 129 (53767).

Percheron stallion. Foaled 1902. Winner of first prize in aged class, Western Fair, London, 1908. Imported and owned by Hamilton & Hawthorne, Simcoe, Ontario.

LIVE STOCK.

ECONOMIZING THE MEAL RATION.

With bran hovering between twenty and twenty-five dollars a ton, oats around forty cents a bushel, corn soaring into the eighties, and barley flirting in the neighborhood of the sixty-cent mark, it becomes a problem of prime importance in stock-feeding how to economize the meal ration. Official experimental work, as well as the experience of many practical stockmen, go to prove that, by a judicious combination of farm-grown roughage, satisfactory feeding results may be obtained with a quite low meal ration, consisting in part of such by-product feeding stuffs as oil meal, oil-cake meal, cottonseed meal, gluten meal, and other less-known feeds.

With the purposes of enabling experienced feeders to assist each other by comparison of notes, we invite a discussion on this subject of stock-feeding, under the following heads:

1. Outline your favorite system of winter-feeding beef cattle, dairy cattle, sheep or swine, as the case may be?

2. What combination of roughage do you find best adapted to economize the meal ration.

3. At present prices, what do you consider the most profitable grains or meals to purchase for the purpose of supplementing farm-grown fodder and grains?

4. Cattlemen who have had experience with corn silage or corn fodder in combination with clover or alfalfa hay are particularly requested to relate their experience with it as a meal-saving ration.

5. Any other points bearing on the purchase of stock or feed, the stabling and care of stock, preparation of feed, or the present outlook for the cattle-feeder, will be welcome. Prompt, brief and pointed answers are desired.

ONTARIO VETERINARY COLLEGE OPENED.

It is 47 years since Dr. Andrew Smith came to Canada to give lectures in veterinary science, and to lay the foundation for the Ontario Veterinary College. In 1866 the College had three graduates. To-day there are 186 students enrolled on the College register. During the interval of years, 3,000 students have received training under Dr. Smith, and the great majority of these are successful practitioners of veterinary science in Canada and the United States. Of the 186 students enrolled to-day, one-third are from the United States. And so it has been for many years past; the Ontario Veterinary College has contributed to no small degree to the well-being of the live-stock interests of America.

These facts were forcibly presented at the opening exercises of the Ontario Veterinary College on October 12th. Not only was the past carefully reviewed, and well-merited tributes paid to Dr. Andrew Smith for his services to the live-stock interests of the country during so many years, but the future of the College was set forth in terms that mark the beginning of a new era in the study of veterinary science in Canada. A three-

years' course has been established; the College has been placed in close relationship with Toronto University, and in future the Ontario Department of Agriculture will be responsible for its success. There is a demand for better-trained veterinarians. A wider field for usefulness is opening up, to meet which a more comprehensive course of study has been mapped out, in order to give students the equipment they need for the work. It is hoped that the standard of the profession will be raised, and that it will become more efficient in looking after the health of dumb animals, and furthering a better system of inspection in regard to meat and milk products.

The opening exercises were marked by the first public appearance of the Hon. Jas. S. Duff as Minister of Agriculture, who expressed himself as being in hearty accord with the new arrangements regarding the Ontario Veterinary College, and promised to do his part in furthering the interests of the College, and in making it of greater benefit to the agricultural interests of the country.

The Hon. Nelson Monteith, to whom much credit is due in effecting the change in the relations of the College to the Department of Agriculture, presided at the opening exercises. He paid a high tribute to the valuable services rendered by Dr. Smith, and asked, on behalf of Dr. Grange, the new principal, the same loyalty that the College had always shown its founder.

GROWTH OF VETERINARY SCIENCE.

Dr. Grange, in his inaugural address, traced the beginning of the study of veterinary science. There are records of the practice of veterinary surgery as far back as 500 B. C. In the 16th century there was a marked revival in veterinary surgery, under Francis I. This was followed by a period of inactivity, when the science fell into disuse. In the eighteenth century contagious diseases among dumb animals became alarmingly prevalent. In 1761 a school of veterinary science—the first in Europe—was established at Lyons, France. This was followed in 1791 by the establishment of the Veterinary College in London, England. In 1820 the Highland Agricultural Society took up the work, and the veterinary college, known the world over through the work of Professor Dick, was established. About 50 years ago veterinary science began to receive some attention in Canada through the importation of live stock from the Old Land, and the danger of bringing in disease. A committee of citizens took the matter up, prominent among them being the late Hon. Adam Ferguson and the late Professor Buckland. The two latter were sent on a deputa-