

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL
IN THE DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

Agents for "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal,"
Winnipeg, Man.

1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE is published every Thursday. It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely illustrated with original engravings, and furnishes the most practical, reliable and profitable information for farmers, dairymen, gardeners, stockmen and home-makers of any publication in Canada.
2. TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—In Canada, England, Ireland, Scotland, Newfoundland and New Zealand, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 per year when not paid in advance. United States, \$2.50 per year; all other countries 12s.; in advance.
3. ADVERTISING RATES.—Single insertion, 25 cents per line, agate. Contract rates furnished on application.
4. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE is sent to subscribers until an explicit order is received for its discontinuance. All payments of arrearsages must be made as required by law.
5. THE LAW IS, that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrearsages are paid and their paper ordered to be discontinued.
6. REMITTANCES should be made direct to us, either by Money Order or Registered Letter, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we will not be responsible.
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8. ANONYMOUS communications will receive no attention. In every case the "Full Name and Post-office Address Must be Given."
9. WHEN A REPLY BY MAIL IS REQUIRED to Urgent Veterinary or Legal Enquiries, \$1 must be enclosed.
10. LETTERS intended for publication should be written on one side of the paper only.
11. CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Subscribers when ordering a change of address should give the old as well as the new P.O. address.
12. WE INVITE FARMERS to write us on any agricultural topic. We are always pleased to receive practical articles. For such as we consider valuable we will pay ten cents per inch printed matter. Criticisms of Articles, Suggestions How to Improve "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine," Descriptions of New Grains, Roots or Vegetables not generally known, Particulars of Experiments Tried, or Improved Methods of Cultivation, are each and all welcome. Contributions sent us must not be furnished other papers until after they have appeared in our columns. Rejected matter will be returned on receipt of postage.
13. ALL COMMUNICATIONS in reference to any matter connected with this paper should be addressed as below, and not to any individual connected with the paper.

Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),
LONDON, CANADA.

RENEWAL OFFER EXTENDED!

Thousands of our subscribers have taken advantage of this Special Renewal Offer, but some have written asking us to extend the date for a short time, so they will be able to secure the new subscriber.

We have decided to do this, and will make the offer good till January 15th, 1911.

It is as follows:

For one new yearly subscription and your own renewal for 12 months, we will accept \$2.00. For each new name in addition to the first one we will accept from you \$1.00, the balance of 50 cents being retained by you as a commission. Or, if preferred, you may send in the new names, accompanied by the full subscription price of \$1.50 each (United States subscriptions \$2.50 per year), and take your choice of one of our splendid premiums. These, like the paper, are astonishingly good value.

NOTE.—This is a special offer, good only till January 15th, 1911. Speak to your neighbor to-day. Get his name before he has signed for other papers. Roll in the new names now.

have had far too much of the wheat-growing craze. It is a speculative, skimming game, that speedily impoverishes the land, and reduced yields are even now forcing the Western grower into a more sensible system of mixed farming. The tendency on the part of the settler to stake all on a few wheat crops is already too mischievous in its effects, and it would, as a matter of fact, be a bad thing for Canadian agriculture if a rise of five or six cents in the price were to give an artificial stimulus to wheat growing. If a tax on foreign wheat could increase the price of bread, the British farmer would regard it as ill, and it would be a disaster to Canadian wheat-growing.

The true policy for Canada is the gradual opening of her new lands and the adoption of a rational crop rotation, in which, along with other crops, animal products and fruits, a reasonable quantity of wheat will be grown, and so markets will not be glutted with any one product, and the prices of all more likely to be sustained at a profitable range above the cost of production. Fortunately, the results of the recent British elections do not lend encouragement to the Imperial preference dream, which has no real merit to commend it to the Canadian farmer.

Get at the Facts.

Readers who have been following our columns for the past few years will have noticed our effort to publish in the form of correspondence detailed figures of cost, returns and profits in practically all lines of stock husbandry, such as the cost of raising a colt, cost of raising a steer, cost of keeping a cow, cost per cwt. of milk production, cost of team-power; cost, returns and profits from feeding hogs, poultry and sheep.

Of course, none of these questions can be answered categorically in unqualified terms of dollars and cents. So much depends upon conditions, and conditions present almost infinite variety. Nevertheless, we believe this correspondence, presenting, as it has done, accounts and calculations, by farmers working under a variety of conditions, and presenting experience from their several points of view, has been a most excellent class of matter to present for the consideration of our readers, and if it leads a number of us to adopt some more or less complete system of account-keeping, it will have served a most valuable purpose.

It is really astonishing how scant is the actual information about farm returns and farm profits. Who would have supposed, for instance, that it cost \$100 to \$150 a year to keep a farm horse? As a consequence of the lack of information, many wild estimates and broad statements are made. Seldom are these consistent. On the one hand, we have overzealous agitators, seeking to espouse the farmer's cause. Some of these agitators follow the example of certain other classes by putting on a poor mouth and representing agriculture as a beggared industry, and farmers as a poverty-stricken, mortgage-ridden, drudging class of people. Their argument loses weight with sensible persons because of its extremeness. On the other hand, we have men painting agriculture in rosy hues, underestimating costs and raising false hopes in the minds of enthusiasts. Every little while, some ill-balanced young man, enamored of the profits of a particular line of husbandry, such as poultry or horses or hogs, plunges headlong into it, and learns only after dear experience that such practice does not pay. A moderate and accurate knowledge of costs, returns and profits discounts pessimism on the one hand, and excessive optimism on the other. After all, what we need in agriculture, as in every other business, is to get at the facts; in other words, to know the truth. Upon such knowledge one can base sound and convincing arguments for relief from economic oppression, while at the same time ordering his business so as to make the most possible out of present opportunities. Knowing the truth will help to make us not only free, but efficient and prosperous.

You can secure a set of Staghorn Carvers (that retails in the stores from \$2.50 to \$5 per set) for sending in only three new yearly subscriptions to "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Magazine." Or a 10-piece Austrian China Tea Set (that retails from \$4 to \$6), for sending in only four new subscriptions. Look up the particulars and read about our other premiums in our announcement on page 79 of this issue.

To appreciate your stand as to agricultural protection, and agree with it entirely. It seems to me farmers' organizations have been asleep to their business interests in political affairs. C. D. Newcomb, Manager, Carter Co., Que.

HORSES.

Ninety-nine out of every hundred horses that turn out vicious become so through vicious training rather than from inheritance.

* * *

The two-year-old draft colts should be thoroughly accustomed to the ways of work during these winter days. Gradually accustom them to harness, bits, mouth pressure, and expect to take time to the task. A colt so near maturity should never be depreciated in value by bungling his education.

* * *

Nervousness and irritability in many horses are the result of those same traits in their masters. Especially in the training of young things, quietness, calmness, fearlessness, firmness and kindness control the movements of the master workman.

* * *

Beware the presence of the pot-bellied weanling colt! Every farmer may accept such an appearance in his foals as certain proof that he has been grossly negligent. He may also accept it as advance information that the selling price of that colt when grown is being cut twenty-five dollars or more by his carelessness.

For the Colt's Sake.

The man who is not taking good care of the weanling colt at this season looks very much like the fellow at the market who declares that there is no money in raising horses. The colt must have plenty of daily exercise, pure air without exposure to drafts, and plenty of wholesome, nutritious, bone-and-muscle-building foods. These things are not inaccessible on most farms, and humanity as well as self-interest demands that they be supplied. No special skill is required to crowd a colt into a stuffy, poorly-lighted, ill-ventilated stall, and leave it there for the winter, giving it such straw and coarse hay as will insure its development into a scraggy-looking, pot-bellied, stunted, sluggish yearling by spring. One never has to visit the farms of the country to find the men who manage thus; standing in the street corner any Saturday afternoon in the village, one can see them driving teams that look as though they started out to be respectable draft horses, but receiving no encouragement they stopped on the way. There can be no money, no pleasure or satisfaction in raising colts in that fashion. They should have clean, bright, fresh, tender hay; the best of oats and bran; skim milk can be given them to the very best advantage. Remember that they are babies pretty much yet, and give them some solicitous care at the season when appetizing foods do not abound.

Scottish Clydesdale Prizewinners.

The Scottish Farmer Album gives a tabulated record of prizes won by the progeny of Clydesdale sires during the year 1910, at eight leading shows. The first three sires stand as in 1909, with some variations as to number of representatives and total prizes, but none as to relative positions. Baron's Pride still holds the first place, with something in hand, but not nearly so much as in some preceding years. His female produce were decidedly more numerous, and took much higher positions, as a whole, than his male progeny. The relative positions of the eight horses having the highest number of first prizes to their credit are as follows: Baron's Pride, 42; Hiawatha, 38; Baron o' Buchlyvie, 34; Everlasting, 34; Oyama, 32; Revelanta, 17; Royal Favorite, 12; Royal Edward, 10. Following these in order are Sir Hugo, Marcellus, Scottish Crest, Ruby Pride, Montrave Ronald, Marmion, and Silver Cup.

The Hind Legs of Draft Horses.

If one part of a draft horse is of more importance than another, then it is probably correct to say that the hind legs of a drafter are his most important parts. On account of the heavy pulling which these horses regularly do, often on slippery footing, their hind legs are many times every day subjected to the severest kinds of strains, so that if they are not clean, strong and accurate in every way, the severity of the work is certain to hit the weak spot some day, and the usefulness and value of the horse is likely to be suddenly and severely depreciated.

The set of the hind legs of a horse has a very distinct relation to his strength and tendency to disease. To determine the correct position of the hind legs, they should be viewed directly from the rear and from a point at the side directly opposite the hind legs. From the rear position a plumb line dropped from the front of the buttock should just touch the point of the hock, and should divide the hock, cannon, pastern and foot into equal and equal halves. This gives the correct position of the legs as viewed from behind. The same line viewed from the side should be parallel with the line of the cannon bone, just