

or very bent hocks. The former cause undue concussion; the latter are apt to give way.

"Reject a horse that is 'split up'—that is, shows much daylight between the thighs; propelling power comes from behind, and must be deficient in horses without due muscular development between the thighs."

Careful selection, accompanied by ruthless discrimination, are but preliminaries to the problem entrusted to the judges in the ring for solution, and slowly but steadily the ultimates which contain among them the as yet unearthed winners are narrowed down till but the extra quality ones remain to face the decider of the placing. Paces and manners are once more compared and contrasted; shape, build and conformation, size of bone and shape of shoulder, strength of back and coupling of loins, are all noted, and, at last, to the relief of the onlookers, and accompanied by a buzz of excitement which develops into an opening, a searching, and it may be a marking of catalogues, the judge's book is signed, the winning colors distributed, and the various recipients depart to receive the congratulations of those who have been following with interest the wavering fortunes of the ring.

The first-prize horse is the especial favorite, and quite an admiring crowd now follow in his wake to estimate the points which gained him the coveted honor. His long rein, sloping shoulder, short back, well set on tail, grandly let-down hocks, together with muscular forearms and forcible impression of strength and reach, characterized in the usual expression of "standing over a lot of ground," are all in turn the subject of appreciation and comment which must be particularly gratifying to both owner and groom who have at length realized the hopes and aspirations of months.—[Farmers' Gazette.

Apparently, the angle that a horse's fore legs make with his shoulder is practically the same in all horses. Consequently, a horse with an oblique shoulder stands with upright fore legs, whereas the horse with an upright shoulder must incline his fore legs backwards. If this is so, to balance properly, the horse must advance his hind legs. As a result, the ground covered by a straight-shouldered horse is small. A well-formed horse will easily learn to stand well. When a horse, however, unnaturally stands over a lot of ground, a deficiency must needs show itself, and the slack-loined appearance of these straddled-out horses is the unpleasant result.—[Gonne.

Shall We Condone the Race Course?

To the Editor "Farmer's Advocate":

Are our agricultural shows fulfilling the mission for which they were established; if not, will it be out of place to speak of what many think are the leading detriments to the advancement of agricultural teaching, especially to the young men of our country. The causes are numerous—horse-racing, side-shows of a questionable character, gambling, etc. For the present I will speak only of one, the practice in which so many indulge of speeding in the ring, which in many cases is another form of horse-racing.

If horse-racing is an evil at one place, it must be the same at an agricultural fair. We look upon horse-racing as one of the greatest evils the country legalizes to-day. Whatever is hurtful to the morals of mankind is an evil. Some will say, "Is horse-racing hurtful to the people?" I will not stay to argue that point, but simply say I believe it is.

The horse is a noble animal, and whatever relates to his improvement cannot be unimportant; but racing does not improve the breed. We have it from the best of authority that there is not a horse that is the better for any purpose but short speed spurts because of the race-track. Now, if this current of evil, as I regard it, remain unchecked, whither will it carry us? It has come as a mighty flood, blighting our fairest young men, and in a short time who will be able to stem the tide?

The most successful county show that I attend has no horse-racing or other questionable attractions whatever. It is simply an agricultural fair, is best attended, and it will be hard to find a finer class of horses at any show. In conversation with the president and secretary of the same show, I was told that they have always paid one hundred cents on the dollar. I speak of the Norfolk County Show, held in Simcoe, Ontario, where fine horses, but not racing, constitute one of the most attractive features of the fair.

But some say, have you not observed the crowds that press continually around the racing ring at many fairs; it was the greatest center of attraction. With a heavy heart have I often observed it, and I speak from personal knowledge. Having filled all the offices from director to that of judge at some of our large shows, and I am prepared to add that if directors wish great crowds, regardless of results, the more they advertise the races the larger will be their gain—for a time, at least. Are the results of such a course advantageous? If the benefits over-balance the disadvantages then go on, but if these are of doubtful gain, I would say weigh well the next step. If positively injurious in their tendencies, then stamp them out forever. If a fair can be made successful only at the hazard of not the certainty of injury to the moral sense of youth, its suc-

cess is purchased at too great a price. Where are the father and mother who wish to see their sons follow the horse-race? All must know the downward course of such a career. Much could be written about wasted lives. Only recall to memory bright, promising young men of twenty years ago, who took their first lessons on the race-course. Do we find them improved morally, socially, religiously, and what about their finances? Probably all gone.

The past history of the race-track would not be very pleasant reading. I appeal to the young men of Canada. The hope of our country is in her young men, and where can we find a country with better resources or nobler young men? Canada has a right to expect great things from them. They have the blood of a noble ancestry flowing in their veins. Our pure northern air puts stamina in the blood and resolve in the heart. If our young men can be united into a solid confederacy for righteousness, and use all the strength of noble young manhood against all these evils that threaten our national welfare our future is assured. The evils resulting from the above practice are unlimited, and much could be written about them, but for the present I must cease, quoting from much better authority than myself, "Its whole flower and fruit is crime."

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Oxford Co., Ont.

STOCK.

Profitable Gains in Steer Feeding.

An experiment in feeding 130 two-year-old, 1,000-lb. choice steers with different foods and under different systems of feeding was conducted by Professor Mumford last year, at the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, and the results are published in Bulletin No. 103. The experiment commenced Nov. 28th, 1903, and ended June 2nd, 1904, a period of 186 days. The daily gain per steer varied in the various lots from 2.98 to 2.45 pounds; the average daily gain of all the lots was 2.25 pounds, or 419 lbs. per steer for the whole time. The cheapest gains were made where the labor element in preparing feed was reduced to the minimum, and these took the lead in net profit. The ten lots sold for an average of \$6.10 per cwt.

The results of this experiment are so striking that it appears that the grinding of corn for feeding choice two-year-old steers during the winter season is not warranted. The profits of feeding ear corn are fully twice as large as those secured in feeding corn meal or corn and cob meal.

The feeding of silage in moderate quantities is not necessarily conducive to heavy shrinkage in shipping or small percentages of dressed beef. The reader is cautioned not to conclude that since the feeding of silage was not followed with as large profits as the feeding of several other rations, that it has no place in beef production. Its use in growing young cattle and as a part of the ration of the breeding herd promises well in the hands of the experienced feeder, but to just what extent it may be profitably used for these purposes remains to be determined by future investigations.

Many who advocate the feeding of ear corn to cattle if hogs follow, advocate the feeding of meal if for any reason it seems desirable to eliminate the hog. The results of this experiment do not warrant such a conclusion. After eliminating the hog from the cattle-feeding operations here presented, the feeding of broken ear corn was followed with larger profits than the feeding of meal.

Remedy for Leaky Teat.

In reply to request of J. F. B. in the "Farmer's Advocate" of August 24th, page 1198, for a remedy for leaky teats (i. e., hole in side of teat), H. H. Julien, Oxley, Ont., writes: "Take a small sharp knife and cut out the lining of the old hole carefully. Sew it up with one or two stitches and tie each stitch separately. Insert in the natural channel a milk tube. Put some slack on a piece of cotton about two inches wide and wrap around teat about twice. Do not wrap too tightly. Tie a cord in the eye of the milking tube and fasten to another piece of cotton, put some slack on it, and wrap once around the teat. Take it out and clean it when you think the tube requires it. Perhaps the tube will need to be left in for three weeks. Do not squeeze on teat when drawing the milk, but rub the udder gently. Stop the end of the tube with a feather when not milking cow. It is best to sew with white silk thread and wax it. You will, no doubt, have to throw the cow when operating. If you unwrap the teat before the hole has healed up, wrap it up again until it is healed."

A. D. Carkner, Ormond, Ont., also writes in answer to the same question: "I have had satisfactory results from the following operation. Throw and tie cow, same as you would a horse. Insert milking tube in teat, to preserve milk duct. With sharp knife or other instrument remove skin from lips of opening, making a good flesh wound. Draw edges of hole together with a few stitches. Dress with some good healing ointment. Have also heard of small holes being closed by inserting a red hot wire into hole. Such these operations must be performed when cow is dry."

Soiling Cows.

My own judgment is that where at all possible, cows are better out of doors for at least a portion of each year, in order to preserve the health and vigor of the animals. Where farmers are living on limited areas of land, and have stables that are well ventilated and built so they can be kept in a clean and sanitary condition, then I think a system of soiling may be advisable. For the early part of the season, good corn silage would be quite satisfactory; later, clovers, oats and peas and green corn would prove suitable foods. However, as previously stated, I scarcely think it would pay our farmers to practice soiling to any great extent in Ontario. The cost of labor for this plan, and the probable injurious effect on the health of the animals confined throughout the year are two points which render this practice doubtful at the present time. I visited some dairies in Switzerland, where soiling is followed, and I was not very favorably impressed with their cleanliness, etc.

H. H. DEAN.

O. A. C., Guelph.

A Contest Between a Registered and Unregistered Shorthorn.

The judging of the Shorthorns at the Lincolnshire show last week was attended by a circumstance causing considerable excitement in the award of the championship for the best bull, Coates' Herdbook Shorthorns and Lincoln Red Shorthorns being the only breeds, and the contest lying between the best bull of each of these breeds. The cattle judges each held to their own breed; the sheep judges were then called in, and, singular to relate, these gentlemen also divided evenly, so that an independent umpire, in the shape of the famous Norfolk feeder, Mr. Learner, had to be requisitioned ere the final decision could be arrived at, when the honor was accorded to the Lincoln Red bull. This, it is believed, is the first occasion upon which a Lincoln Red has succeeded in vanquishing the Durham representative champion.

The two bulls in question were Mr. P. L. Mills' well-known King Christian of Denmark, who was champion of the Bath and West show at Nottingham, as well as occupying the highest position in his class at many leading shows of the breed, and no one can deny one of the most stylish bulls of his breed, full of quality, well grown, and very perfect in his symmetry and most valuable points, and Mr. T. B. Freshney's Saltfleet Bonus, a three-year-old, bred by Mr. Riggall, and a very massive, short-legged, even specimen, grandly filled on his top and in his thighs, and with a wealth of flesh of the kind that the butchers like: a stylish, pleasing stamp of bull in general appearance, too.—[Mark Lane Express.

Varieties of the Shorthorn.

Not unfrequently we hear breeders of the pure Shorthorn inveighing against the divisions and subdivisions of the breed. Not unnaturally their views are colored, either by lengthy association with the Coates Shorthorn; or, on the other hand, by prejudice from which their lack of sympathy arises. There can be no question, of course, that the pure Shorthorn, as represented in that monumental work, Coates' Herdbook, stands by itself. It occupies a plane to which other breeds may aspire but have not attained, and when the history of the world's beef production comes to be written, the extraordinary part played by the pure-bred red, white and roan will assuredly occupy a foremost place. But it must not be forgotten that in the subdivision of the Shorthorn there is a great practical use. Apart from the pure registered Shorthorn, there is a branch of it known as the Lincoln Red Shorthorn, and in America the Polled Durham, while in this country we have an immense reserve of Shorthorn blood in the unregistered, unpedigreed dairy herds, and in Ireland in the herds which produce those splendid store cattle.

Things sometimes move slowly, even in the twentieth century, and it may seem strange that so much useful material as we possess in the dairy herds of the country should not be recorded for the benefit of the breed. There are signs that farmers are awakening to the advantages of pedigree, as exemplified in a record of an animal's performances at the milk pail, but whether these will ever crystallize into a union having as its object the promotion of milk production on a more scientific basis than at present remains to be seen. We have, of course, in the pedigree Shorthorn attained to a high degree of perfection in breeding, but the success which breeders have achieved should not blind us to the fact that there are immense resources outside of the Herdbook which seriously deserve consideration. Of course it is open to pedigree men to endeavor to combine these resources, and work them up to qualify for a registered number, but that is done on so limited a scale as to be practically in the hands of only two or three. No doubt the fact that foreign buyers insist upon long pedigree is one of the chief reasons for the comparative unpopularity of this method of introducing outside blood into Shorthorn strains. But from the milk point of view we have the testimony of sound business men that it is a paying proceeding, and in spite of all that is said milk is of enormous importance to the agriculture and stock-breeding of this country. It is no secret that breeders of the Shorthorn express