

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL
IN THE DOMINION.

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Agents for "The Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal,"
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1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE is published every Thursday. It is impartial and independent of all cliques and 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.
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a matter of business between the buyer and seller. And as the American Government makes the condition for free entry that the animal must be recorded in the Canadian Records, the seller has a strong argument that nothing further is demanded from him in the regulations.

True, many of our breeders are life members of American Associations, but their shares of stock are transferable, and may be sold to other breeders. Some breeders of individual breeds are under the impression that the American Association with which they are associated is the only association solely interested in that particular breed. It is true that all breeds are registered at the one place in Canada, but it is a National Record Office, equally interested in the furtherance of all breeds.

Some American associations were rather clever in making Canadian breeders officers of their associations. Naturally, this draws patronage, but is it a sound reason for deserting our own records?

American associations also make small donations to our exhibitions, and are receiving patronage on that account. Here is an interesting point. It should be a well-known fact to all sheep-breeders in Canada that the profits accruing from registrations made in our own Canadian records, over and above the small amount necessary for clerical work in the offices, are available as grants to exhibitions in each Province of the Dominion, in proportion to the number of registrations made by the Province during the year, to encourage the breeding of a better class of sheep. It follows, then, that the more sheep there are recorded here, the greater will be the grants to our shows. This should more than counterbalance the argument put forth for the American registration.

We believe our Canadian Record Office is run on as strictly straight lines as any other record office. Every pedigree put through is done so only after the applications have been accurately and definitely made. Transfer certi-

ates must be filled in when sales are made. All this is as it should be. If records are worth keeping at all, they are surely worth keeping right.

Here is the present condition: A large number of yearlings and lambs will be registered this fall. Where will the recording be done, in our own Canadian records, or in the various American associations? Breeders know their own conditions best, but it does seem as though, in view of the fact that all profits on Canadian registrations are to be divided Provincially, according to the number of registrations made, and likewise among the different breeds for the encouragement of sheep-breeding, it would be wise to have such registration recorded on the National record books at Ottawa. We do not wish to dogmatize. The subject is left open for discussion, and breeders are invited to use these columns to bring forth their arguments. Every sheep-breeder should have confidence in our own records. Registration is simply a matter of keeping the sheep recorded, and a record, to be a true record, must be accurate. If our own are equally as accurate as others, and they are, why not patronize them? The bulk of the trade is now not with other countries, but largely within our own, owing to the stimulus which is being given to the industry in this country. Weigh the matter carefully, and decide to record at home.

Why not grow a plant that will help itself to moisture and fertility despite dry weather and the adverse conditions of the hillside? Alfalfa will do the business.

HORSES.

The English Derby was this year won by a gray mare. It is 91 years since a gray horse has won this classical event at Epsom, Gustavus being the name of the gray winner in 1821.

Fit the harness to the horse as carefully as you would have your tailor fit your best suit of clothes. The horse's comfort and appearance are worthy of this amount of interest.

Do not trust the horse too far. It is always better to be on the safe side and tie the animal securely, rather than leave him standing loose. The quiet horse is often the one which does the damage, and a good horseman will not run avoidable risks.

Horse-breeding is not so easily carried on as the breeding of other kinds of farm stock. The pitfalls are more numerous, misfits come frequently, and the word "luck" is used more often among horsemen than it is by cattle, sheep or pig breeders. Some of the bad luck in horse-breeding may, however, be put down to carelessness or mismanagement, rather than to misfortune; therefore, those who wish to succeed should "start right and keep going." Of course, the start must be with good parents on both sides. And the mated mare should not be allowed to lie with the geldings, or in the fields adjoining them, as they are apt to tease and cause mares to break service—a fact not always realized.—(Live-stock Journal.)

The Stallion Enrollment Board.

At the last session of the Ontario Legislature, a Stallion Enrollment Act was passed, and, in pursuance of this Act, an Enrolment Board to take charge has been appointed, consisting of John Bright, Myrtle Station; Peter White, Pembroke; Col. Robt. McEwen, Byron; F. C. Grenside, V. S., Guelph, and A. P. Westervelt, Toronto. The Government are to be commended upon their choice of men for this Board, they being a very representative selection, and the entire Province is well covered, taking in Ontario County in the centre, Renfrew in the east, Middlesex in the south-west, and Wellington in the north and west center, with Toronto also represented. Each and every one of the men named are worthy of the position, being directly interested or engaged in live-stock breeding in the Province.

Mr. Bright is a former president of the Guelph Winter Fair and of the Clydesdale Association of Canada. Both institutions progressed well under his guidance. He is also a noted breeder of Clydesdales and Shorthorns, and is a practical, up-to-date farmer whose influence will be felt.

Mr. White is at present president of the East-

ern Ontario Live-stock Association and of the Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association. He is a well-known breeder of high-class Shorthorn cattle and a noted lawyer, and will prove a valuable man on the Board.

Col. McEwen has for several years been actively connected with the Ontario Provincial Winter Fair, is president of the Ontario Sheep-breeders' Association, and is at present working for sheep interests in the Eastern Provinces. He is one of the best-known breeders of Southdown sheep and Aberdeen-Angus cattle in Ontario, is a good judge of stock and a shrewd business man.

Dr. Grenside is best known to light-horse men throughout the country and the United States. He is recognized as one of the best light-horse judges in America, officiating in this capacity at many of the largest exhibitions. Some years ago he was connected with the Ontario Agricultural College as veterinary instructor, but he left Canada and resided some years in the United States. Returning a few years ago, he took up practice in Guelph, where he is head of the Cartage Co., and has direct supervision over a large number of horses. A horseman through and through, he cannot be other than a valuable man on the Board.

Mr. Westervelt, director of the Live-stock Branch for Ontario, is too well known to stockmen to need introduction. His work in the live-stock interests of our Province has been above reproach. He is untiring in his efforts, and much of the success of the Winter Fair at Guelph is due to him. His is a fitting name with which to round off the Board, in the selection of which the Government could not have done better.

The Board will meet in the near future to organize and proceed to carry out the Act, which comes in force on August 1st.

For administrative purposes, the Province will be divided into districts, and inspectors appointed where inspection is desired. Hereafter, no one shall stand, travel or offer for use any stallion until he has been enrolled and a certificate procured. As outlined in the May 30th issue of "The Farmer's Advocate," the regulations will be clearly defined, and the penalties for violation are severe.

Not all Scrubs are Grades.

We hear much, in this progressive age of horse-breeding, about the grade and the scrub stallion, and rightly we should. The kind of stallion which stands for service in a district is a fair indication of the class of horses which in a few years will dominate that district, and surely this is enough to make mare-owners use the utmost precaution in selecting sires. The grade stallion does not stand in favor with the best breeders, because they all understand the value of pedigree. There are those, however, who place too much confidence in pedigree, and are not exacting enough in the individual requirements of the horse. The scrub which does most damage in horse-breeding is not always the grade scrub, but often the pedigreed stallion, whose pedigree is used as a blind to cover the eyes of the somewhat lax breeder, and also as a blanket to hide all the deficiencies of individual conformation and quality. A purebred horse gets no inconsiderable amount of patronage by reason of his breeding. If he is a representative of a distinguished line of blood, and is himself a nondescript type, he may do a great amount of harm, because people rely upon the blood of his ancestors to more than counteract what he lacks in conformation. Here is where the pedigreed scrub gets the opportunity to do more damage than the non-pedigreed inferior animal. His influence is greater because he gets more mares.

Now, what are the chances of pedigree overcoming, or making up for, lack of quality or individual conformation? Considering laws of breeding from a theoretical, as well as a practical viewpoint, the most direct influence upon offspring is that of its parents, and declining proportionately and regularly as generations recede one after another. Thus it was believed by Galton, and his theory seems plausible, that a colt would contain 25 per cent. of the characteristics of each of its parents, 12½ per cent. of each of its grandparents, 6¼ per cent. of each of its great-grandparents, 3¼ per cent. of each of its great-great-grandparents, and so on infinitely. It is clearly seen that the blood of the horse a few generations back has very little effect upon the offspring. Pedigrees are mighty valuable in their place, but they can never take the place of conformation, can never be satisfactorily used as a substitute for a scrappy, flat-ribbed, light-middled, coarse-haired, meaty-legged, faulty-going horse. If every animal which appears in the pedigree were noted, and the individual below per in type and conformation, he should not be used. His is the influence which most directly governs the destiny of his colts. Beware of the scrub travelling on pedigree alone. Get the horse with the good pedigree attached to faultless conformation.