

stopping to consider whether he had at hand the requisite materials or not, he proceeded to make an abortive attempt with what he had. If, on the other hand, he had coupled his little mare suitably, she would have produced a cob that would have sold for enough to have paid for two excellent farm horses. Farmers often complain that it does not pay to breed horses, but if they would only go about the work intelligently and use some judgment, as they do in breeding cattle and sheep, we should hear less about their want of success in the profitable production of horses. Let the Clydesdale mare be bred to the Clydesdale horse, let the lighter breeds be coupled according to the purpose for which the colts are designed, but let some design, whatever it may be, be present to the mind of the breeder when he selects a stallion with which to couple his mare.

OUR FUTURE MEAT SUPPLY.

When capitalists are told of the wonderful capabilities of the grazing regions of the Canadian North-West they are apt to jump at the conclusion the world's meat markets are destined to be glutted with beef which can be produced at such an astonishingly small cost and that there will be next to no demand for the product of the ranch. To a casual observer there is certainly a good deal in this view of the case. As everybody knows who has watched the progress of the grazing industry, those who have come to grief financially in the business are the exceptions, while a degree of success that to outsiders would seem phenomenal has been the rule. Men who have a little money to invest are generally anxious to begin to realize the day after the investment is made, and this is why the men who are willing to wait a few years for their returns have had the cattle-grazing business all to themselves, and their returns have been such as they could well afford to wait for. In 1883 one of the solid men of Helena Mountain said to the writer of these lines, "If you want to help our Territory, write about the mines but not about the cattle business. When a Montana mine earns \$100,000 for its owner, \$90,000 of that sum is expended in the Territory, and that helps us. I do not mean to say that successful strikes make better returns than ten per cent., but I mean my figures to apply to mining enterprises, good and bad, successful and unsuccessful. Now, on the other hand, for every \$100,000 that is made on beef grown and fattened on Montana grass not \$20,000 is expended in the Territory, the other \$90,000 going as clear profit into the pocket of the ranchman." My friend then went on to say that the grazing lands of Montana were already fully occupied, while the mining resources of the Territory were not yet half developed and not likely to be as long as capitalists had a chance to invest their dollars in stock ranches.

Of course a business such as that just described might reasonably appear to be in danger of being over-done, but statistics point in the opposite direction.

In his address before the third National Convention of Stockmen, held at Chicago, Nov. 17 and 18, Hon. Norman J. Coleman, United States Commis-

sioner of Agriculture, placed the number of cattle within the Republic at 45,000,000, and he estimates their value at \$1,200,000,000. This is a vast aggregate of wealth locked up in one industry alone. Add to this sum the money represented by 13,000,000 of horses and mules, 50,000,000 of sheep, and 45,000,000 of swine, and we have a grand aggregate of \$2,500,000,000.

In alluding to the extent of the cattle business, Mr. Coleman said:—

"There is an impression throughout the country that the cattle business has been developed far beyond what is necessary or even prudent. Our people have seen the cattlemen go out over the plains, on the Great American desert, over the foothills of the Rockies, and in the valleys of that great range of mountains and beyond, and possess the country. And now in all that immense region, comprising millions and indeed hundreds of millions of acres, wherever water exists there has been established a breeding ground for cattle. To-day the Eastern capitalist goes to the far West, and animated with the spirit of the pioneer, pushes hundreds of miles from the railroad to find an unoccupied portion of Uncle Sam's domain suited to a ranch enterprise. Just as he reaches a section supplied with water, where he thinks the white man's foot has never trod before, he stumbles upon a cattle ranch. And not only does he find that the country is already occupied, but that different companies are already crowding each other, and that there is no room for the new comer."

But notwithstanding the wonderful increase in cattle, the growth of the population of the United States has fully kept pace with it. The cattle business is of slow development, because the cow drops but one calf at a time and produces but once a year. The Commissioner of Agriculture estimates that they double their population every fifty years, and that in 1905 they should have 100,000,000 mouths to feed, and in 1980 should have 800,000,000 of inhabitants. Then he asks:—

"Where are these teeming millions to live? On what are they to subsist? Where and how are the cattle to be bred and reared that must be relied upon to furnish beef? To keep up our present beef supply we must increase our stock of cattle to 70,000,000 within twenty years and to 140,000,000 within forty-five years. Is it possible for us to accomplish this under the most favorable conditions? In the States east of the Mississippi in 1850 we had 15,300,000 cattle; in thirty years, from 1850 to 1880, the cattle in these States were only 5,000,000 head, 33 1/3 per cent. Taking the country as we find it to-day, is there any reason to suppose that the percentage of increase will be any greater in the next thirty years than it has been in these States during the last thirty?"

From this it would seem that in the near future the meat supply on this continent will not be equal to the demand, at least on the present system of production. When the pressure does come, ranch lands will assuredly be at a premium and the cattlemen will occupy an even stronger position than they do now. Again and again have we pointed out that Canadians who have money are throwing away golden opportunities in neglecting the mag-

nificent ranges of our North West Territory and allowing English and other outside capitalists to secure the best locations and take precedence in establishing themselves in the business. Our own people will in time find out that they have made a grievous mistake in thus neglecting the grand chances of *founding for themselves and their families colossal fortunes*, and we can only hope that they will find it out before it is too late for the knowledge to do them any good.

BREED MORE HORSES.

F. K. Moreland, in *Breeders' Gazette*

There is one thing that farmers should devote more attention to, and that is the breeding and rearing of horses. There are but few farmers who are so situated that it would be inconvenient for them to raise a colt or two, or three, every year. They have the horses, or should have, for it is just as convenient to keep mares as geldings for work horses. I know good, careful farmers who work their brood-mares up to within a few days of the time of foaling, with no injurious effects resulting to colt or dam. A few days' rest before and after foaling, good care while heavy with colt, and generous feeding while suckling the colt, and a brood-mare is just as serviceable a work horse as if she were not kept for breeding purposes. And again, a little good judgment is exercised in regard to the time the mare should drop her colt, very little inconvenience will be experienced if one or both of the work horses are used as brood-mares. If the mare should be covered at such a time that she will drop her colt before spring work commences, then no apprehension will be felt that the mare is liable to injury from overworking while heavy with foal. A mare with a colt at foot may be worked from morning to noon, and from noon until night, and the colt kept closed up, except at feeding time and at night, and mare and colt do very well indeed. Of course, I offer this suggestion to farmers who have no team work during the winter months. On most farms the team work performed during the winter months is of the lightest possible character, confined for the most part to hauling the year's supply of wood, drawing manure, and perhaps marketing produce. It is hardly possible that a brood-mare, even if quite heavy, could be injured while performing these tasks.

ENGLISH THOROUGHBREDS IN AMERICA.

The London *Live Stock Journal* of Nov. 14th says:—"The export of thoroughbred stock goes on apace, and at the sale of Lord Lovelace's stud last Saturday, nearly a third of the 18 mares were purchased, either directly or on commission, for the Continent. It was only the other day, too, that St. Blaise, the well-known son of Hermit and Fusee, who won the Derby in 1883, was shipped for the United States, and in this connection it may be of interest to point out that no fewer than 11 of the other 105 winners of the Epsom race were sent over to America. Colonel Hoopes, a celebrated breeder in Kentucky, was the first to import thoroughbreds from England, having purchased Diomed, who won the first Derby ever run for Colonel Hoopes purchased two other Derby winners from Sir F. Standish, viz., Spread Eagle (1795) and Archduke (1799), while Saltram, son of the famous Eclipse, John Bull, and Sir Harry were imported by other breeders. After some years had elapsed, the Americans purchased three other Derby winners in Lord Egremont's *Lapdog* (1825), Mr. Chifney's *Priam* (1830), and Mr. Redsdale's *St. Giles* (1832). The last-named did not live many