

AUCTION SALE OF HORSES

150 Head Mares and Geldings

on
Thursday, April 9th

At Two p.m.

At Our **SALES STABLES**

Cor. Arlington and Alexander

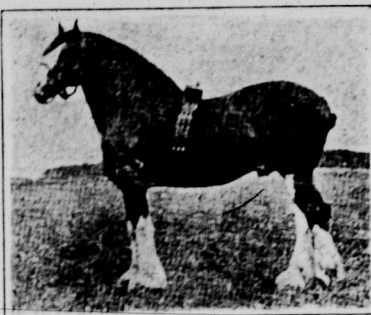
(FIRST CORNER SOUTH OF STOCK EXCHANGE HOTEL)

Take a Logan Ave. Car at Main Street to Stock Exchange Hotel, or Arlington Car at Union Bank to Arlington Street and walk a short distance north

A GOOD SELECTION OF HEAVY DRAFT, FARM AND DELIVERY HORSES, ALSO A CAR OF CHEAP FARM CHUNKS

**Sales Every
Thursday**

E. W. McLEAN, Corner Arlington and Alexander
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MAPLE VIEW IMPORTING COMPANY



Owing to my rapidly increasing business in the West, I have opened a branch barn in **SWIFT CURRENT**, and will have there a new importation, about April 10, consisting of the same high-class draft quality horses which have been kept at Maple View. For the benefit of the new districts which are in need of pure-bred sires, I will sell on three year terms. All horses are sold under a breeding warranty.

MAPLE VIEW FARM

Half a mile from Station. Phone 104, Ring 3-2

R. P. STANLEY, Moosomin, Sask.

SALE STABLE IN TOWN Phone 160

Branch Barn - SWIFT CURRENT - Phone 393

FOR SALE—Large English Berkshires

Three first prize Boars at Toronto used on breeding herd last fall, mated with Toronto and Guelph prize-winning Sows. Am booking orders for spring pigs out of this stock. Pairs furnished, not akin, with pedigrees.

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Champion Producing Holstein Blood

A few choicely bred bull calves sired by prize-winning bulls and dams who are from the best blood to be found. Also a number of young cows, good milkers and in calf to our herd bull, who won first at the Dominion Fair, and who headed the dairy herd which won the cup at Dominion Fair this year.

GLENLEA STOCK FARM, Office: 702 Grain Exchange, Winnipeg

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After making a special study of the Navel and Joint Disease in Foals for thirty years, and having a successful remedy, I am mailing it upon receipt of price, \$3.00 per box, and **GUARANTEE SATISFACTION** or refund the money. Circulars and testimonials free upon request.

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Methods of Preparing Soil

Practical Advice by Experts—Applicable to every part of the West

By Angus Mackay

In view of the fact that every year brings to the Northwest many new settlers who are unacquainted with the methods of breaking up and preparing new land for crop, a few suggestions with regard to this important work may not be amiss.

In all sections where the sod is thick and tough, breaking and backsetting should be done; while in the districts where bluffs abound and the sod is thin, deep breaking is all that is necessary.

The former is generally applicable to the southern and western portions, and the latter to the northeastern part of Saskatchewan, where the land is more or less covered with bluffs.

Breaking and Backsetting

The sod should be turned over as thin as possible, and for this purpose a walking plow with a 12- or 14-inch share, is the best. When the breaking is completed (which should not be later than the second week in July), rolling will hasten the rotting process and permit backsetting to commence early in August.

Backsetting is merely turning the sod back to its original place, and at the same time bringing up two or three inches of fresh soil to cover it. The plowing should be done in the same direction as the breaking and the same width of furrow turned. Two inches below the breaking is considered deep enough.

After backsetting, the soil cannot be made too fine, and the use of the disc harrow to cut up the unrotted sod, will complete the work.

Deep Breaking

Deep breaking, which in some sections of the country is the only practicable way of preparing new land, and which is, unfortunately, done in many instances where breaking and backsetting would give much more satisfactory results, consists in turning over of the sod as deeply as possible, usually from four to five inches. When the sod has rotted, the top soil should be worked and made as fine as possible. The use of harrow or disc will fill up all irregularities on the surface, and make a fine, even seed bed.

Whether the land is broken shallow or deep, it is necessary to have the work completed early, so as to take advantage of the rains which usually come in June and early July. These rains cause the sod to rot, and without them, or if the plowing is done after they are over, the sod remains in the same condition as when turned, and no amount of work will make up for the loss.

Summer Fallows

The true worth of properly prepared fallows has been clearly demonstrated in past years in every district of Saskatchewan.

The work of preparing land for crop by fallowing is carried on in so many ways in different parts of the country that perhaps a few words on some of the methods employed may be of use.

It has been observed in some parts of Saskatchewan that the land to be fallowed is not, as a rule, touched until the weeds are full grown and in many cases, bearing fully matured seed. It is then plowed.

By this method, which, no doubt, saves work at the time, the very object of a summer-fallow is defeated. In the first place, moisture is not conserved because the land has been pumped dry by the heavy growth of weeds; and, secondly, instead of using the summer-fallow as a means of eradicating weeds, a foundation is laid for years of labor and expense by the myriad of foul seeds turned under.

The endless fields of yellow-flowered weeds, generally Ball Mustard (*Neslia paniculata*) testify to the indifferent work done in many districts, and, while no weed is more easily eradicated by a good system of fallows, there is no weed that is more easily propagated or

takes greater advantage of poor work on fallows or in fall or spring cultivation.

As has been pointed out in my previous reports, early and thorough work on fallows is absolutely necessary to success, and I here repeat the methods and results of tests carried on for some years past.

First Method.—Plowed deep (6 to 8 inches) before last of June; surface cultivated during the growing season, and just before or immediately after harvest plowed 5 or 6 inches deep.

Result.—Too much late growth if season was at all wet; grain late in ripening, and a large crop of weeds if the grain was in any way injured by winds or spring frosts.

Second Method.—Plowed shallow (3 inches deep) before the last of June; surface cultivated during the growing season, and plowed shallow (3 to 4 inches deep) in the autumn.

Result.—Poor crop in a dry year; medium or good crop in a wet year. Not sufficiently deep to enable soil to retain the moisture.

Third Method.—Plowed shallow (3 inches) before the last of June; surface cultivated during the growing season, and plowed deep (7 to 8 inches) in the autumn.

Result.—Soil too loose and does not retain moisture. Crop light and weedy in a dry year. Packing after plowing greatly improves the crop.

Fourth Method.—Plowed deep (7 to 8 inches) before the last of June; surface cultivated during the growing season.

Result.—Sufficient moisture conserved for a dry year, and not too much for a wet one. Few or no weeds, as all seeds near the surface have germinated and been killed. Surface soil apt to blow more readily than when either of the other methods is followed. For the past fourteen years, the best, safest and cleanest grain has been grown on fallow worked in this way, and the method is therefore recommended.

Fallows that have been plowed for the first time after the first of July, and especially after July 15, have never given good results; and the plan too frequently followed of waiting till weeds are full grown, and often ripe, and plowing under with the idea of enriching the soil, is a method that cannot be too earnestly advised against.

In the first place, after the rains are over in June or early in July, as they usually are, no amount of work, whether deep or shallow plowing, or surface cultivation, can put moisture in the soil. The rain must fall on the first plowing and be conserved by surface cultivation. Weeds, when allowed to attain their full growth, take from the soil all the moisture put there by the June rains, and plowing under weeds with their seeds ripe or nearly so, is adding a thousand-fold to the myriads already in the soil, and does not materially enrich the land.

During the past few years the term "dry farming" has been applied to what was formerly known in the West as "summer-fallowing."

With the exception of the addition of the use of a soil packer, there is no change in the methods formerly employed, when the spring rains and frequent cultivation were depended upon for the packing of the soil.

Packers are without doubt, most useful implements on the farm, and where from any cause, the soil is loose, they should be used. They are, however, expensive implements and within the means of comparatively few of the new settlers. Fortunately, early plowing and frequent shallow cultivation may be depended upon to produce equally satisfactory results.

Cultivation of Stubble

When farmers summer-fallow one-third of their cultivated land each year, as they should, one-half of each year's crop will be on stubble. For wheat, the best preparation of this land is to burn

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