

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE

AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE DOMINION.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED).

JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL,
WINNIPEG, MAN.

LONDON (ENGLAND) OFFICE:

W. W. CHAPMAN, Agent, Mowbray House, Norfolk Street,
London, W. C., England.

- 1. THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE** is published every Thursday. (52 issues per year.) 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, United States, England, Ireland and Scotland, \$1.50 per year, in advance; \$2.00 when not paid in advance. All other countries, 12s.
- 3. ADVERTISING RATES.**—Single insertion, 20 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 arrears must be made as required by law.
- 5. THE LAW IS,** that all subscribers to newspapers are held responsible until all arrears are paid and their paper ordered to be discontinued.
- 6. REMITTANCES** should be made direct to this office, either by Money Order or Registered Letter, which will be at our risk. When made otherwise we will not be responsible.
- 7. THE DATE ON YOUR LABEL** shows to what time your subscription is paid.
- 8. ANONYMOUS** communications and questions 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.

animal is shipped he carries with him to the best market hide and offal. Furthermore, to ship meat to England in the best condition, the trade would have to be confined to the late summer and early fall, and the extensive abattoir and cold-storage appliances on railway and steamer would be idle most of the year, while the sudden importation of large quantities of Canadian meat into the British market would seriously lower prices there.

On the other hand, one or two ranchers met would gladly see a meat trade built up, and believed it would be practicable. One of the largest ranchers pointed out that against the disadvantage of the hide and offal being left in the poorer market, there was the substantial difference of \$14 for meat, as compared with \$30 per head on the hoof for shipment to Liverpool, these figures having been quoted by the C. P. R. when the railroad authorities had gone into the matter. The difficulty entailed by the short season might be largely overcome by detaining some of the meat for a time in cold storage on this side. To us it seems possible that too much may be made of this danger of deluging the British market with Canadian beef. As it is now, the range cattle all land within a few months, and we fail to see why the congestion should be so very much more disastrous in the case of meat than in the case of beef that has to be slaughtered promptly on arrival. The British market is big, and Canada's whole export of range beef is swallowed up without depressing values disastrously. As the West gets settled, and the beef is produced on farms rather than ranches, there would seem to be no good reason why its marketing should not be spread more evenly over the year, a development that would seem decidedly beneficial, whether the product is marketed on the hoof or in refrigerators and cans.

Many boys fancy that fluent cursing, whiskey drinking and smoking are short cuts to manhood. Would that they might see themselves as others see them.

Bring Royal Mail Service Up-to-date.

"The country moves faster than the Dominion Post Office Department," is the title of an editorial in "The Farmer's Advocate," Winnipeg, criticising the tardiness of this branch of the public service in placing its facilities within the reach of new settlers. Among the defects pointed out are insufficient accommodation at the general-delivery wickets in rapidly-growing cities; slowness in supplying post offices in newly-settled districts, and the making of long contracts for stage mail service in sections where impending construction of railways renders such long contracts unwise. The people tributary to many branch lines in the West have had to put up with a long wait for a decent mail service after the road has been giving a passenger service for months. There is need for more elasticity in the Post Office Department, and if it be short-handed, the Minister should take steps to remedy that lack. In these days settlements such as those between the main lines of the Canadian Pacific and the Canadian Northern should not have to drive twenty, thirty or more miles for mail, which, even then, can be had only weekly; nor should inhabitants of old and thickly-settled districts in Eastern Canada be limited to a semi-weekly or thrice-a-week service. Far be it from us to counsel extravagance in the Post Office or any other Department of the Government service. We commend the thrift and enterprise with which it has been operated for the past decade, but economy may be carried too far. The mails are one of the great modern conveniences, not to say luxuries, of life, and provision of the best possible service in country districts is not only a measure of justice to the nation's greatest class of wealth-producers and taxpayers, but is a highly necessary means of improving country conditions, and thus retaining on the soil a satisfied class of husbandmen. We can get along, if need be, without a postal department surplus, but an improved service in rural districts is urgently needed, and we trust the new Postmaster-General, Hon. Mr. Lemieux, will perceive and take advantage of this opportunity for a stroke of progressive statesmanship.

that the many thousands of visitors who frequent that popular agricultural gathering may have an opportunity of comparing the points of the Shire horse that have made the breed so valuable and popular with those of other breeds of heavy horses that will be present upon that occasion.

A general desire was expressed that Canadian and United States farmers should have an opportunity of inspecting high-class specimens of the breed. It has already been announced that as an incentive to agriculturists at home and abroad, and more especially to those interested as breeders or users of heavy draft horses, His Majesty the King has decided to send some typical Shires from Sandringham, and has asked Lord Rothschild to send several of his representative horses from the Tring stud. These will appear for exhibition only, and not to compete for prizes, at the following places on dates mentioned: The Canadian National Show, at Toronto, August 27th to September 6th; Canadian Central Show, at Ottawa, September 7th to 15th; Western Fair, London, Ontario, September 7th to 15th; and the United States Royal, at Kansas City.

Accompanying the breeding animals are two geldings, five and six years old, respectively, the former a dark brown, winner of first prize in his class at Peterborough the other day; the other a bay, of proportionate shape and good quality, that has not been exhibited. These horses are more representative of the propelling powers of the Shire than as show geldings for a city team, being very powerfully built and standing upon short and wearing legs.

The breeding section must be looked upon as a fairly representative collection of the improved Shire, displaying especially the desired quality of hair and bone, and with generally good pasterns and feet. They do not present any excesses, either in the way of size or weight, neither have they been forced in condition beyond the ordinary course, the brood mare having nursed her foal and the adult stallions having just concluded a very heavy service season, so that breeders on the other side will, in this importation, see the Shire as it should be.

It is to be hoped that many Canadian and United States agriculturists will visit the various exhibitions and examine for themselves the specimens of the Shire breed that will be placed before them. These notes may be helpful in calling attention to the breeding and characteristics of the animals that have been sent to represent the breed. —[Live-stock Journal.]

HORSES.

Shire Horses for Canadian Shows.

THE PROPERTY OF THE KING AND LORD ROTHSCHILD.

During the period of more than twenty years that has elapsed since the foundation of the Shire Horse Society, the breed has made more rapid strides in public favor, both at home and abroad. This is doubtless attributable to the great improvement that has taken place in the cardinal points of the breed, as well as to the fact that by greater attention devoted to it at home, higher prices have resulted, and these, coupled with the greatly-increased practical value of Shire geldings, have also attracted the foreigner from all parts of the world. Indeed, the Shire gelding has arrived at the very highest standard of excellence, both as regards his ability to propel loads and to stand the wear of the streets, and also as regards the prices paid for the animals when ready for town work. Ample evidence of these facts is found in the fact that not only are Shire geldings in the greatest demand and at the highest level of prices in our own great horse-using cities of London, Liverpool, Manchester, Leeds, and other places, but also in Dublin and Belfast, and elsewhere throughout the United Kingdom, while recently there has been a demand for these horses from several populous centers on the continent of Europe and America. Breeders there of late have become much more anxious to avail themselves of breeding Shires to give weight and value to their heavy horses. For some years the trade in Shires for breeding purposes for the western continent has been somewhat languid, but few animals of the highest improved Shire type have found their way thither up to the present. The reason for this probably is to be found in the very high prices that have prevailed for this kind of horses at home. The desire of Canadian and American breeders to become possessed of the better or improved type of Shire has now become so keen that recently a number of very useful horses have been exported to those destinations. A letter from Dr. Orr, of the Canadian National Exhibition, to Mr. Sloughgrove, the Secretary of the Shire Horse Society, expressed the desirability of Shire breeders forwarding a representative exhibit of horses of the breed for exhibition at the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto this autumn, so

Draft-horse Registration.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

With your permission I will encroach on your valuable space, with a view to catching the attention of the directors of the Clydesdale Horse Society. Some years ago I bought a filly, her dam being a registered Clyde, but having been bred to an imported Shire horse, hence I have a grand individual, that has gained a reputation for herself, both as a breeder and in the show-ring. Now, what I would like to claim, is that the dam's breeding should count for something, and I don't think the society would be making a very grievous mistake if, after a slight deviation of this sort, they would admit their progeny to registry with two or three crosses instead of four and five. Hoping this may draw attention to the matter, and lead to its discussion in your columns, I remain an interested
Bruce Co., Ont.
OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Judging Horses.

No man is more adversely criticised than the average horse-show judge. Every exhibitor thinks he owns the only "good" horse in the ring, and prejudice so blinds him that he cannot, or will not, see the better points of those owned by his competitors, and if the judge does not agree with him, he either does not know his business, or has been unduly influenced, or even "bought." He forgets that there are not enough ribbons to go around, and that it is the nicest thing in the world to accept defeat with a good grace, and also that a judge probably does not, in a majority of cases, know any of the exhibitors, and would not favor one of them if he did. "A fair field and no favor" has always been my motto, and always will be as long as I judge horses.

Do I prefer one or more judges? In answer to this, would say I prefer the single-judge system myself; then there is no other person on whom to put the responsibility, and you simply have to "face the music"; and, again, I can devote my whole attention to the matter and concentrate my mind on what is before me, with no one to "butt in" and say, "What are you going to do?" I would, however, always prefer having a referee near by, so that in case of a disputed point, or urgent necessity, he could be called in and consulted.

Very often men who have the reputation of being good judges do not merit the title, and are totally at sea when they get into a ring. To me the first two of these classes at a show are the