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may be of interest to your correspondent. What you give as your opinion as to how the floor should be laid, etc., parts of sand and cement, is exactly in accord with the way we did ours, only we gave a slope of two inches from front to back of stalls and one inch to eight feet in the shallow runway between stalls and passages. As you say there is no need for providing any outlet to drain the liquid out of the stable. (I was convinced about this myself when the work was being done.) There is no trouble with this either in summer or winter; especially in horse stables as the dust of the gangway swept in to the gutter keeps it well dried up. There might be trouble with cows if they were much in during summer, but seeing they are mostly out then there is therefore no difficulty in absorbing all their liquid with the bedding used during winter. There is one thing which may be mentioned; in laying the two coats just lay as much of the floor with the first coat as can be finished with the second coat the same day. By doing this they blend and dry together and become solid; otherwise if the first coat is dry before the second is put on there is a possibility of it cracking and scaling off. We have our stalls grooved to run liquid to the back and middle, which helps to run it off quicker, especially if there are geldings in the stalls. Another way, and some prefer it, is to put one layer of concrete in the stalls and floor them with planks with a one or two inch slope. Then of course just finish off the gangway and loose boxes with the two layers as aforementioned. Still straw for bedding is cheap on the farm as there is no need for planks if a liberal supply of straw is used to add to the comfort of the horses.

Sask.

JOHN TURNBULL.

Objects to Concrete Floors

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

I noticed an enquiry in your May 1st number, page 644, re cement floors for horse stables and also noticed your opinion on the matter. Now as a horseshoer I would like to give my opinion.

I think your plan of putting down a cement floor could not be improved upon, but I do not approve of cement floors for horses for the following reasons:—

1st. I do not believe in putting a horse to stand on a floor that a man could not stand on for a time without causing him to become footsore. Nearly everyone knows how hard a cement floor is to walk or stand upon, so why make man's noblest friend do so for from 12 to 15 hours out of 24?

2nd. From a horseshoer's point of view, I think most horse shoers will agree with me when I say that nothing will cause corns and contraction as quickly as standing on a hard, dry floor or working on a hard road, and who gets the blame? Does not the shoer?—and very often unjustly too.

Will not the Veterinarian tell you that standing on a hard floor is often the cause of shoulder lameness? So why make the horse to stiffen? "But," say some, "if a horse has plenty of bedding it would cause no harm. That is all very well if the horse does not paw the bedding all back behind it, which it is very apt to do, and leave his front feet on the bare floor."

To sum up. A cement floor is hard and will therefore cause injury to the horse's feet, legs, and shoulders. Now I would suggest that if cement be used let it be plank covered, and the plank be laid on inch strips to allow it a light spring. What would be still better (if cost were not prohibitive) would be asphalt, which is firm yet springy and would not cause the injury that cement would. Perhaps the editor could give a better estimate of cost of asphalt floor than I could.

Hoping to see the opinions of others on this subject.

Sask.

A HORSESHOER.

[After all there is no floor that is more natural and does so little harm to a horse standing in a stable as a firm earth bottom and if it can be kept in good condition we would not advise a concrete nor yet planks. The trouble with most floors is that they become dry and then absorb moisture from the horse's feet, which causes brittle hoofs, feverish feet and contraction. When horses are stood on dry floors, oil should be used quite frequently on the hoofs.—Ed.]

Stallion Show at Russell.

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

Through sloughs, mud holes, ice and snow, I made my way to the Russell Stallion Show, held on May 1st.

Getting to Russell, after a twenty mile drive, just in time for dinner, we made sure that important matter was not neglected. After dinner, we started for the show grounds, which are, perhaps, one of Russell's best features. In the heavy draft class, three horses faced the judge (Professor Rutherford), all Clydesdales. A black, owned by a Russell syndicate, proved the winner. The call for the agricultural class was responded to by still three other Clydesdales. This time a "brown" owned by a private man, took the coveted Red Card.

The light classes were represented, by two Standard breds, Gritwoods, father and son. Old Gritwood, although about eighteen years old, managed to beat his three-year-old son rather easily.

The crowd then adjourned to Clarke's livery stable, where Prof. Rutherford explained the use of the score card in judging live stock. The prof. selected, first, as an example, the winner in the heavy draft class, and went over him point by point, explaining to the assembled farmers the type of horse which fetched the highest price in the world's great markets, pointing out that individual likings should not be considered, and that if this high type is kept in mind and continually aimed at, there will still be enough misfits to amply provide for the agricultural demand. The second prize horse was then brought out, and his good and bad points reviewed, the judge stating his reasons for having placed him in second position. The winner of third prize in turn was brought out for criticism, flattering and otherwise. Here a remark from a bystander caused the lecturer to point out that farmers as a class were not noted for any extreme or profound knowledge of what constitutes the difference between a good and a bad horse, driving home his point by telling of a dealer who consulted him about a stallion which he had for sale; the dealer mentioned the price he wanted for his horse, the doctor thought this price much too high, in fact double what the horse was worth, and told the dealer so. Quoth the dealer, "Oh, I know that, but if I asked only what the horse is worth, I could not sell him at all!"

The lecture closed with a vote of thanks to Prof. Rutherford, for having come so far to act as judge, and also for his very interesting and instructive remarks.

It is to be regretted that there was not a larger turnout of horses; several other breeds, besides those exhibited, are well represented in the neighborhood, a Hackney, a Thoroughbred, a Suffolk Punch, and last but not least, old Golden Hero, of past Winnipeg and Brandon exhibition fame, and all doing business in the Russell district. However, considering the state of the roads and weather, it is no wonder that so many horsemen preferred to leave their horses in the stable and attend the show, merely as spectators.

As a judge Prof. Rutherford gave entire satisfaction, his only fault being (as he says himself) a lack of bad habits; which makes him a hard man, on whom to practice small hospitalities, larger ones being out of the question to a non-resident of Russell.

G. H. BRADSHAW.

Horse Show Trade.

In connection with the preparations for the Winnipeg horse show in June, an American dealer has already sold eighteen high-classed carriage and saddle horses to city fanciers and has returned to Iowa to secure another consignment as he believes the market in Western Canada is ready to absorb that number. It is a matter of regret that so much of this trade is slipping to American dealers and the next thing we may expect to hear will be a demand from some quarter to raise the duty on such stock. The horse show, although a young institution in Western cities, surely holds the plum for accomplishing the objects for which it was organized, namely, to popularize the horse with city people, and the results of the efforts of the show associations should commend them to the consideration of the provincial Governments when requests are made for financial assistance. Calgary has plans under way for a show and in conjunction with Winnipeg's should foster the trade in show horses.

To-morrow, May 23rd, the executive of the Canadian Clydesdale Horse Association will discuss the motion brought up at previous meetings to bar from registration animals whose sire and dams, grand sires and grandams are not recorded in the Clydesdale studbook of Great Britain. If this measure comes it will mean that a lot of the mares purchased lately will have to be registered at once or their progeny will not be eligible. A purebred mare or one that is eligible for registration is surely worth the trouble of recording her pedigree.

STOCK

The Western Stock Growers at Calgary

The eleventh annual meeting of this powerful association of Alberta and Saskatchewan ranchmen, the Western Stock Growers' Association, held its annual convention at Calgary, on May 9th, under the guidance of the president, W. Huckvale, Medicine Hat. The several reports of the secretary, board of management and the minutes of the last annual meeting at McLeod were read and adopted, following which the men mentioned were elected as officers of the association for 1907:

Walter Huckvale, president, Medicine Hat; Geo. Lane, 1st vice pres.; A. R. Springett, 2nd vice pres., Crane Lake.

Representatives by districts:

Bow River, W. R. Hull and P. Burns; Maple Creek, A. J. Day, D. J. Wiley; Lethbridge, A. J. McLean, Howell Harris; Sheep Creek, Jno. Lineham; High River, J. H. Brown, A. E. Cross; Pincher Creek, E. H. Maunsell, H. M. Hatfield; Willow Creek, A. B. McDonald, D. McEachren; Medicine Hat, A. P. Day, R. E. Margesson.

After the election Dr. J. G. Rutherford, Vety.-Director-General and Live Stock Commissioner, was called upon for his views on dipping and matters connected with it. After referring to the compulsory orders of 1904 and 1905, and the opposition evinced the first year, which decreased, he pointed out the serious mistake made in failing to have a compulsory order in 1906. He, however, had not wished to be arbitrary and considered it essential to have the support of the Western Stock Growers' Association if the dipping order was to be made effective. As the meeting was to adjourn for lunch, the Veterinary Director General submitted some questions for them to deliberate on during the recess, the time for dipping being a leading one. The Department, he stated, was ready to put the order in force at a date suitable to the ranchers. In 1904, it was too late and in 1905 although 15 days earlier, it was even then too late. It had been left late for two reasons advanced by the cattlemen; viz.: first, cows and calves are weak in the spring and the mortality was likely to be large; second, by putting off the dipping until late they avoided dipping the beef. It was laid down very clearly, calmly and courteously that the rancher must clean up; the few cannot be allowed to spoil the export trade cattle of Manitoba and Eastern Canada. Some have dipped properly, others half did it, and others not at all, and, if the cleaning were not done, it might be necessary to put a cordon round the mange district, and thereby prevent a hoof going out unless dipped. Some Old Country agricultural papers have tried to make capital out of the presence of mange in Alberta cattle. On the resumption of the discussion after recess, several opinions were heard re dipping, as follows: "Dip as soon as possible after the spring round-up." "W. R. Hall." "Earlier we dip the better; should dip the whole head; we take big chances of getting quarantined if we ship beef without being dipped." A. J. Day. "Easier to dip early, hair shorter in June." Geo. Lane. "Early dipping will suit the small men, for the earlier done the better the beef will be made. It also gives the little man a free space to do his haying." A. J. Day.

After considerable discussion a vote was taken on the motion to have the compulsory dipping order made effective June 1st to Aug. 15th, and it carried sixteen to five. Under the arrangement beef will be able to go out before Aug. 15th undipped, but under rigid inspection by an inspector of the Health of Animals Branch. A few ranchers seem to fear the effect of dipping on the beef. Geo. Lane would rather dip the beef than cut it out to avoid dipping, in which opinion Pat Burns coincided. Ample time is given (two months and a half) to do the dipping, the defect of long periods being the opportunity it affords of reinfection. All dipping will have to be done under Government inspection and uniformity in the methods followed must obtain. The work is a heavy tax on the Government, costing \$22,000 in 1905.

Queried by the Live Stock Commissioner as to the Association's preference for inspection at Winnipeg or point of shipment, all declared themselves well satisfied with the former. Burns stated that a shipper only risked sending a wrong one once to Winnipeg, as at that point a