

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

THE LEADING AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL IN THE
DOMINION.

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JOHN WELD, MANAGER.

AGENTS FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL,
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is published every Thursday.

It is impartial and independent of all cliques or parties, handsomely
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FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE, Descriptions of
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Address—THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE, or
THE WILLIAM WELD COMPANY (LIMITED),
LONDON, CANADA.

the laborer grounds for demanding, and brains to
organize and obtain, a constantly-increasing re-
muneration for his toil. Capital, which controlled,
manipulated and applied the inventions, has natu-
rally wanted to reap the full advantage thereof.
Labor disputes its right to do so. Capital, by
virtue of its position, has held the long end of
the lever, but labor is steadily gaining ground.
What the end will be, no man can now foresee,
but this much is certain: The fight for demo-
cratic principles and the rights of the masses will
go on till conditions are brought about as differ-
ent from those of to-day as present conditions are
superior to those of slavery and serfdom. A
state in which the masses dwell in poverty and
hardship, while the few, dominant by accident of
birth or by mental superiority due to the favor of
nature, revel in wasteful luxury—such a state be-
comes increasingly painful the more it is contem-
plated. That is why high-minded men, though
ofttimes grieved by the laborer's failings and
shortsightedness, and by the violent methods to
which he occasionally resorts, are, nevertheless,
bound to sympathize with his cause.

How, then, can the laborer's position be im-
proved? By doubling his wages? No; wealth
suddenly acquired, is not used wisely. Emancipa-
tion was of little or no immediate benefit to the
American slaves, because they knew not how to
use their new-found freedom. Moreover, com-
merce and industry, as at present organized, could
probably not afford to double wages all round.
The result of such a step would very likely be
bankruptcy or anarchy, with grave attendant
evils to all classes. Commerce, manufacturing,
farming and society cannot be advantageously
revolutionized in a day. The change is a matter
of growth; it is being evolved. Change in any
established order of things has never been brought
about without hardship and opposition, very often
opposition from the class it was destined to help. In
order that the present and impending improvements
in the situation between labor and capital may be

accomplished as speedily as possible, with a mini-
mum of hardship and a maximum of net advantage
to both sides—for it will be genuine advantage to
all men in the long run—it is necessary that each
party take a broad, tolerant and progressive
view. The laborer must be active, but patient;
the employer firm, but progressive. He must
look ahead and plan his work with a view to
making his business as profitable and congenial
as possible for those he employs. He must en-
deavor to see, not how cheaply he can hire, but
how much he can safely manage to pay, and how
far he can raise the condition of those he em-
ploys. This ideal may not appeal to the avari-
cious man, but it will find a response in every
Christian heart. Incidentally, it is the best way
to build up a permanent business success—a suc-
cess that will stand when the ill-gotten gains of
the selfish employer are crumbling into dust. That
stage is coming. It is on the way. The signs
of the times are unmistakable. Civilization is
beginning a war on extortion, monopoly and
sweat-shop methods. The day of humanitarian-
ism is dawning. It is time for employers to
look ahead.

Phases of this question bearing more specific-
ally upon the farm-labor problem, may be profit-
ably left for later discussion.

KING'S GOOD-ROADS AXIOMS.

I pin my faith in the future betterment of
Missouri highways to these foundation truths,
says D. Ward King:

1. Six or seven feet width of stone is sufficient
for the average rural traffic.

2. Any community where rock is available is
behind the times if it does not each year build a
mile or more of stone road.

3. Rock within two and one-half miles is
available where land is worth \$30 per acre.

4. Where stone roads are out of question, and
where, if they can be built, they are not yet an
accomplished improvement, a dragged road is the
best substitute.

Dragging is cheap, simple, effective, and is
the best method known for arousing public senti-
ment on the good-roads question.

HORSES.



Mr. Frank F. Euren.

Secretary of the Hackney Horse Society and Manager
of the International Horse Show, London, Eng.

CRUSHED VERSUS WHOLE OATS.

In Australia, the critics who pose as authori-
ties on horse rations are divided in their opinions
as to whether crushed oats are not better than
whole oats as horse food. The reason advanced
in supporting crushed oats is that they are more
thoroughly digested than whole oats. That, how-
ever, is not the reason which mainly influences
the farmer. He finds that when his horse-feed is
crushed the germinating power of the wild oats
which may be mixed with it is destroyed, and
thus his paddocks are kept clean longer than
would be the case if the oats were not crushed.
As a matter of fact, the crushing of oats does
not increase or promote their digestibility. The
molar teeth of horses possess great grinding or
crushing powers, and a horse whose teeth are in
a normal condition is perfectly well able to chew
or masticate whole oats in a thorough and com-

plete manner. Crushed oats require less grind-
ing on the part of the horse than whole oats, and
the former are therefore more suitable than the
latter for feeding to animals that are troubled
with their teeth. Men with long experience of
horses generally hold the faith that crushed oats
are not so suitable as whole oats for horses that
are required to be in a hard condition and to do
work at a fast pace.—[Horse World.]

DAY TO RETURN MARES.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

We have been breeding horses for many years.
The oestral period with mares recurs quite regular-
ly every three weeks, the first one after foaling
being manifest about the ninth day. This period
with most mares is brief, seldom ever being mani-
fest over three days, and usually only one, the
ninth. The subsequent periods are longer, vary-
ing with different mares from three to ten days.

Our instructions are always to return in just
three weeks. I should never allow a horse to
serve a mare at intervals of nine days. If she
were in heat at that time, it would only be evi-
dence that she had not gone out since the previous
service, and would not be evidence that she had
not conceived. If a mare should be bred toward
the close of an oestral period and did not con-
ceive, she would probably be in heat again in
eighteen days; but if she had been bred toward
the first of the period she would not be, so we
think it safer to make the return the twenty-first
day. We have been reasonably successful in
breeding mares on the thirtieth day after foaling.

P. MILLS.

THE PROBLEM OF THE HORSE INDUSTRY.

I.

One of Canada's great needs to hasten its de-
velopment is better means of transportation.
Every year brings more thousands of people than
the preceding one, to start new homes, cultivate
more land, grow more wheat and other products
required to feed the human family. Each year
sees hundreds of miles of new track laid by the
different railway companies. But, for steady and
lasting growth, it is necessary that every link in
the great chain of the whole system that con-
tributes to the successful building of our country
must be strong and able to bear its due propor-
tion of weight, of whatever kind it may be. This
brings before us one of the great problems, viz.,
the supply and distribution of the initial energy—
the horse-power. It is a serious question at this
period of the country's history, for horse-power is
the initial power, whatever may take its place in
whole or in part in after years. To-day lands
are lying uncultivated or only half worked, miles
of railways are not commenced or not finished,
lumbering and mining operations curtailed in many
cases because of "no horses suitable to be had."
These industries make for a nation's wealth,
and if hampered or closed out, must needs
react on the nation's prosperity. This
is our century if every citizen does his
duty, and the duty of the breeder of each Prov-
ince at this time is to raise more horses, and of
better quality than we have to-day, for the home-
land first, where the need is greatest. "The
horses are not in the country," is the cry of every
man who is in any way connected with the busi-
ness. In past years, many of the horses used in
our Western Provinces came from Montana, Idaho
and Wyoming, where they were bred on large
ranches and in large numbers. Now, the incom-
ing settler has closed out most of these large
ranchmen. Good horses are very scarce, and are
worth as much at home, while the unbroken cay-
uses—never useful nor valuable—are not allowed
into this country since last March. In fact, in
these States, as in our own country, the traffic is
chiefly in second-raters, horses that could not be
sold during the years of depression, and conse-
quently had to be kept. Now this sort finds a
ready market, if they are able to chew and look
as if likely to stand a few months' work. It is
usually a case of "buy them quick," before the
price advances a fifty. Generally speaking, it is
the middleman who knows the scarcity and makes
the money—another case of the few non-producers
profiting at the expense of the many real pro-
ducers of wealth.

Going from effect to cause, takes us back to
the depression of the nineties, when the pinch of
hard times found the stables of the average On-
tario breeder full of horses—a few good ones, some
fair, but most poor; careless methods of breed-
ing, the use of cheap, inferior sires of all kinds
and classes, sound and unsound; the mixing of
the heavy and light breeds, without method or
object other than the production of "just a
horse." Hard times should have taught a lesson;
it did in many cases, for the good horses found a
market at remunerative prices, even during the
period of greatest depression; but the scrubs,
which cost outside of the stud fees, the same to
raise, were traded, raffled, given away or shot
and got rid of them. The African war and the great