

Nor Suffolks

TE:
 a good deal of interest
 your paper re Suffolk
 and I beg a little of
 ch to express my opin-
 fear that both Messrs.
 er, in setting forth the
 n their favorite breeds,
 important feature in a
 s, hence, in the follow-
 on the horse entirely
 ew.
 ve that the ideal draft
 sdale, the Suffolk nor
 on.
 e the greatest users of
 orses in the world, and
 ns and in their cities
 greys than of all other
 tural for the Scotch-
 Englishman the Shire
 the Norman or Perche-
 the Belgian, but the
 ct breed of his own,
 d settled as a natural
 best filled the bill,

nd Shire will immedi-
 too short, his hips too
 feathered.
 k or Belgian will say,
 big in hock, and too
 matters any of these
 e of doing more draft
 breeds, which distinc-
 umbers in use on this
 ng.
 e Suffolk or Belgian
 e of bone, sinews and
 certainly adds nothing

the Clyde and Shire
 ving just as heavy a
 in move it faster and
 In fact, he is just as
 in every particular,
 , more ambition, and

sloping hips add to
 his beauty. In the
 community, I have
 ms put on the horse
 invariably the Clydes
 ercherons were still

e crosses on western
 of the Suffolk crosses,
 ht of bone and small
 horse of the Suffolk
 n mares nothing but

ds away the slender
 d produces a neat-
 bed horse, which is
 ven in the city.
 and features of the
 bone; round, smooth
 hips rather inclined
 head carried high,
 e eyes, and very
 od action.
 C. W. SHIPLEY.

Horses

ains than oats be fed
 rt of oats this season,
 y, also some frozen

J. L. G.

grain for horse feed-
 first choice. Oats,
 considered the most
 s, either draft horses
 re rapid pace. Not
 the western states, in
 tent, in the Orient,
 xperiments indicate
 ut 6 pounds of oats.
 ie grain ration, but
 ed before being fed.
 ue about equal to
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 ter of the grain feed-
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 of wheat, grinding
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 to feed of oats.

Suffolk Punches for Army Horses or Hunters

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The Suffolk is a capital horse on the farm, but save me from him as a saddle horse.

I once had a little active Suffolk mare to keep for a man. She had been running a milk van, for which she was well suited. I worked her often beside my big Shires on the land, and she did her share well, in fact was the strongest little animal for her size I ever saw.

She was bred to a thoroughbred, a first-class horse (Hunter's Improvement Society horse) and had a fine colt. This was shown as a foal in a hunter's class, but his mother's appearance put him out of the running, as hunting men were the judges, and they were right.

The owner of the horses got me to break the colt to saddle for his own riding, but I did not ride him further than necessary. He was a good harness horse, though without much knee action. Her next colt by a different Thoroughbred was just the same class, a very good looking foal, pretty fair also as a yearling, but at three, a useful slave for light work.

If a man wants to breed hunters, he must use a Thoroughbred, or quality Hackney for sire. The Thoroughbred will be the best horse for the man who gets him to ride, but the Hackney will probably sell the best as he develops earlier. His knee action sells him, but I think a man must be very patriotic to try and breed army horses, and from a life-long experience, I know how hard it is to breed hunters, and what a lot of time it takes to educate them.

I have done quite a bit of riding in a cavalry saddle, once a thousand miles straight ahead, and I think our western ponies would be about the best mount a man could have, but one would hardly keep him in line with the heavy shouldered brutes poor Tommy generally has to ride.

Alta. M. M.

In order to determine a point conclusively, one has to make several trials and it is just possible that the little mare referred to was the worst individual as a saddle horse that could well be imagined in the breed—or out of it. We have seen some easy riding grade Clydes and hard riding Thoroughbreds, but a saddle horse of whatever breed, and the breed itself matters very little when utility is required, must have a long, free stride to be an easy rider, and have close, hard muscles to stand the work. In the one respect, the typical Thoroughbred is unequalled, while in the other, the typical Suffolk has a great deal to commend him, but it does not follow that a cross would give both or either.—Ed.

Millet Injurious to Horses

Will you please let me know how millet should be fed? I am feeding to a mare, but I am not giving any grain with it, just the millet alone, still she does not put on much flesh. I feed a little potatoes, say three times a week. Should I feed any grain, or is there enough substance in the millet?
 E. J.

Though, from a chemical point of view, millet hay should be superior to timothy for horses, being considerably richer in albuminoids, the experience of horsemen does not seem to bear this out. Experiments at the North Dakota Experiment Station seemed to demonstrate quite thoroughly that millet when used entirely as a coarse feed was injurious to horses: "First, in producing an increased action of the kidneys; second, in causing lameness and swelling of the joints; third, in producing infusion of blood into the joints; fourth, in destroying the texture of the bone, rendering it less tenacious, so that traction causes the ligaments and muscles to be torn loose." Johnstone, in "The Horse Book," is still more emphatic, declaring that millet and Hungarian hay "is an abomination." Henry says it is remarkable that millet, a feed used so extensively in various countries, should fall under this serious charge, and suggests that possibly hay from this plant is injurious in some districts while harmless elsewhere, though advising horsemen to use it with caution. It should be noted, he points out, that in the cases where the trouble arose, millet hay was used exclusively for roughage. In small quantities and intermittently, it might, perhaps, be employed safely. In fact, we have used it thus apparently without bad results. Nothing unfavorable to the use of millet hay for cattle and sheep feeding has been reported. The experience of readers might throw light on this subject.

STOCK

The Agricultural Society's Interest in Improving Live Stock

While it may not yet be claimed that Manitoba is anything but a wheat-growing province, it is an interesting fact that our live stock interests are, in spite of the market handicaps, steadily growing, and already amount to quite an important factor in our annual wealth production.

To show the growth of the industry, I quote the following figures:

Year	Horses	Cattle	Sheep	Swine
1881.....	16739	60281	6073	17358
1891.....	86735	230696	35838	54177
1901.....	163867	349886	29464	126459
1907.....	215819	521112	28975	200509
1908.....	230926	531544	29265	192489

The value of the live stock for the province, for the year 1908, I have summed up as follows:

	Number	Per head	Value
Horses.....	230,926	\$125.00	\$28,865,750.00
Cattle, milk cows	173,546	32.00	5,553,472.00
Cattle other than milk cows....	357,988	20.00	7,159,760.00
Sheep.....	29,265	5.83	170,814.95
Swine.....	192,489	9.00	1,732,401.00
			\$43,481,997.95

This total of \$43,481,997.95 is quite a respectable item and yet it does not begin to represent the value of the industry to the province. Right at the outset I want to make this statement:—Agriculture cannot be placed on a permanently successful footing in this province without the general introduction of live stock on the farms.

Live stock will convert a vast amount of the by-products of the farm, which would otherwise be wasted, into cash-producing commodities, and leave a residue in the shape of manure, which makes possible the preservation of the soil's fertility. There should follow, as a natural consequence to the introduction of live stock system in farming; including crop rotation, the growing of grasses, clovers and corn, the application of manure and the fencing of the farms.

Large sections of this province are being overrun (almost ruined for wheat production) with the most noxious of weeds, with which legislation seems powerless to cope. Live stock husbandry, under systematized methods, will overcome this threatened calamity. The proper use of manure will hasten the maturing of crops, thus eliminating to a very great extent, the danger of frost. I would like to have time to discuss more in detail:

The lessening of the cost of handling cattle by the use of loose boxes for breeding stock, and open feed lots for steer feeding.

The eradication of weeds by keeping sheep.

Reducing the cost of hog raising.

And the effects of manure, rightly applied, on the maturing of crops.

Apart from the very important bearing the live stock industry has upon the material prosperity of the country, it has other and perhaps more important effects. The farm, without live stock will be the farm without boys and girls. For after all, it is the live stock that is the main attraction about the farm for the young people, and undoubtedly the well equipped stock farm provides conditions for an ideal home, and I hope we have all come to realize that we are not here to make money alone but to make homes.

Now, is such an industry worthy of our best efforts to encourage it? If so, can the Agricultural Society do anything for it? I believe they can. From what opportunity I have had for observation, I believe that the majority of agricultural societies would accomplish greater good, if they would abandon the summer fair altogether and concentrate their efforts on the more definitely educational Spring Stock Shows and Fall Seed Fairs. The former to include classes for stallions, bulls, fat stock of all classes, and schools for stock-judging. The latter—seed grain, vegetables and roots, dairy and poultry products and ladies work.

Generally speaking, the Agricultural Society's aim should be not so much the encouragement of the breeder of pure-bred stock as to encourage the average farmer to use pure-bred sires. The available prize money is not sufficient to induce the breeder to fit his breeding and young stock for the local fair (and a breeder who will drive a herd of wild, unaltered, unfitted animals from the pasture field into the show grounds, simply to scoop up a few dollars in prizes, is not worthy of the name). Male animals are, or should always be, in good respectable condition, and accustomed to being handled. Therefore liberal prizes should be offered for the pure-bred males of the breeds most popular in the district. It is not, of course, necessary to even mention to a body of representatives of our agricultural societies the utter folly of offering prizes for any but pure-bred sires. It would be a step in the right direction to require the name and registered number of the sire to be furnished with the entry of animals in all live stock classes.

Make the judging of live stock as much a feature as possible; advertise the time at which the judging will begin and begin at the time advertised. Provide as much accommodation for the spectators and as much information regarding the animals being judged, as your finances will allow, and then when the Department supplies you with a good judge make good use of him by having him give explanations regarding the work he is doing. Be particular about details, when, for instance, general purpose horses are being judged, have them hitched single, double, and put under saddle. If pigs are under scrutiny, don't leave them in a wagon box or in a small dark pen, but have them walked out so they can be seen. Agricultural Societies could encourage beef and bacon production by offering substantial prizes for, say, the best half dozen grain fed steers, or the best wagon load of 6 or 8 bacon hogs, marketed in the district, by any single farmer during the year.

Boys could be encouraged by offering prizes for the handling of cattle, horses, sheep and hogs in the show-ring to the best advantage, and stock-judging competitions might easily be worked up among the young fellows.

The societies of this province might well discuss the premium system of hiring stallions, in order to encourage this most important breeding industry. The Horse Breeders' Act is good as far as it goes, but it does not go far enough, and the time will come soon when it should be made more comprehensive. The soundness of the stallion should be passed upon by qualified veterinarians, thus assuring a strict compliance with this most important feature of the Act. Societies wishing to encourage the horse industry of the district, could offer premiums for certain breeds of stallions travelling the district, under careful regulations including the strictest compliance with the Horse Breeders' Act.—Address delivered by Mr. G. H. Grieg, Dominion Live Stock Department, before the Convention of Manitoba Agricultural Societies.

On Live Stock Markets

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

I have been reading with a good deal of interest the discussions in your valuable paper on the meat question. As no remedy for existing evils has been suggested, I will give my idea of what I think would be a great improvement. That is to have one day each week fixed for market day, an arrangement which would concentrate the buyers where the seller has stock to sell. As cattle are sold now in Winnipeg, it is impossible for butchers to attend every day in the week. The result is that wholesale handlers, like Gordon and Ironsides, buy for them and make a good profit by so doing. This, I believe, would be a good move to make, especially now, since public abattoirs are to be established. Then an inspector could be put on to watch for diseased or half fed stuff, and turn the latter of these back to the farmer to feed. Farmers, too, if there were one market day each week would be sure always of picking up a car-load of feeders, or half fed stuff, and would be there to buy them.

These half fat kind are the ones that pull down the prices. They are called butcher cattle in the market reports, though why I cannot understand. Another thing about the Winnipeg market is that cows and heifers are quoted at the same price. Now in the old country, heifers are regularly quoted 6d. to 9d., per stone of 14 pounds more than steers and why not here?

Now as to transportation: I will begin right at home. It generally takes two days from Reston to Winnipeg, a distance of 180 miles, which should be done in 5 or 6 hours. If there were a one day market, it would bring the railways to time better. Make the market day, say, Wednesday, and have a condition that if the railways did not get the stock in on time they would have to keep them until next market.

Man.

J. MILLIKEN.

Profitable Hog Raising

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

In reply to your request for my experience and ideas with regard to the hog business, and whether I consider it sufficiently profitable, to advise a more general adoption of this branch of farming, I may say, I consider the swine industry a very important one, and have found it very remunerative. Unless the present signs are very misleading, it does not require a prophet, nor the son of a prophet, to predict, that in the near future, this will form one of the leading lines of animal husbandry in Alberta.

Although I commenced breeding and handling hogs more than twenty-five years ago, my experience in this country covers only a period of seven years. During this period I have raised cross-breeds and pure stock of the leading breeds, settling down to the "Yorks" as being the most suitable to my conditions. In England, I handled the "Large Black," so had to select (to me) a new breed. Whether the "York" were really better than the other breeds, or that I happened to get better specimens of this breed, I do not know, but they gave me better results, and I like them, which I think is most important, as no man will make a success of any breed he does not like. I would, however, strongly advise anyone taking up swine