

STANDARD-BRED MARE, CASCADA.

Bred by Gray Bros., Rochester, Minn. Sire Hamdella (2917); dam Star of the West 656. With foal by Bay Nelson (2.23).

PROPERTY OF GEO. McNULTY, STRATHCONA, ALTA.

weakness, a moderate purgative, say six to eight drams of aloes, according to the size of the animal, and two drams ginger, should be given. It is well to prepare the horse by feeding bran only for about twelve hours before administering the purgative, which can be given either in the form of a bolus, by moistening the drugs with treacle or soft soap, shaping it like a cylinder and wrapping in tissue paper, or by mixing with about half a pint cold water and given as a drench. Feed nothing but bran, and give water often and a little at a time (in cold weather it is wise to add sufficient warm water to remove the chill), until purgation commences, which is usually in about 24 hours; then feed lightly until purgation ceases. Follow up with one dram each, bicarbonate of soda, sulphate of iron, gentian and nux vomica, twice daily, given either in damp food or as a drench, mixed with a pint of cold water. If this treatment fail, give two drams muriatic acid twice daily, in half pint cold water, as a drench. "WHIP."

(To be continued.)

Stock.

Special and General Purpose Stock.

BY J. M'CAIG.

A good deal of discussion has been provoked at different times by the very positive attitude taken by individuals as to the merits of special purpose stock on one hand, and of dual or general purpose stock on the other. Judged from the standpoint of national gain, or from the standpoint of the breeder's skill, special-purpose stock represents higher gain and higher attainment than general-purpose stock. It must be admitted that in relation to each other the special-purpose stock is the more highly-developed or evolved, and that it is the product of breeding skill beginning at the commonplace starting point of the dual or general purpose stock and working on this raw or partially non-descript and featureless material. The existence of special-purpose stock is the evidence of the existence or operation of the same law in animal breeding as operates in other arts as they progress, viz., the law of differentiation. It is another illustration of the law that is displayed in the evolution of the animal organism itself, viz., that of specialization of function. Assuming that the common ancestry of our horse is no myth, it must be evident that the differences between the draft horse and the trotter are not the result of accident, but of a conscious moulding by breeding and selection of the animals to a special purpose and use. The milking and beef families of cattle illustrate the same kind of contrast, and the Spanish and English breeds of sheep. It may be said that of the two classes of horses both possess draft and speed properties, also that all cattle are dual purpose to some extent, and that the same is true of sheep. The contrast, however, between the different families is so great that it very decidedly illustrates what is meant by differentiation and by specialization of function. It would provoke a man to have to make a quick jaunt to town and back with a fifteen hundred, feather-legged draft, and it would be foolishness to put a pair of thoroughbreds breaking the virgin prairie.

Jersey steers make very poor beef, and a beefy Shorthorn or Polled Angus would not make an ideal village milk-cow. Pure Merino mutton tastes too sheepy, and the fleece of the greedy English mutton sheep would not bring the wealth of the Merino where mutton was nothing and fine wool everything.

By these examples the induction is easy that specialization is a very prominent feature in live-stock classes, and that this specialization means special utility. It must follow infallibly that this condition is an economy. It corresponds exactly with the division of labor among men in the mechanical arts, and is the corresponding sign of efficiency for the ends in view. Given two men and two tasks,

the total result will be better if each is assigned the duty he can do best by reason of his experience and tastes than it will be if there is no division of labor. The existence of special classes must be regarded as a good, and the recognition and utilizing of these differences ordinary wisdom. This is the theoretical side. We have them, and having them is a good, for the measure of their fitness to survive, and the reason of their survival is their utility.

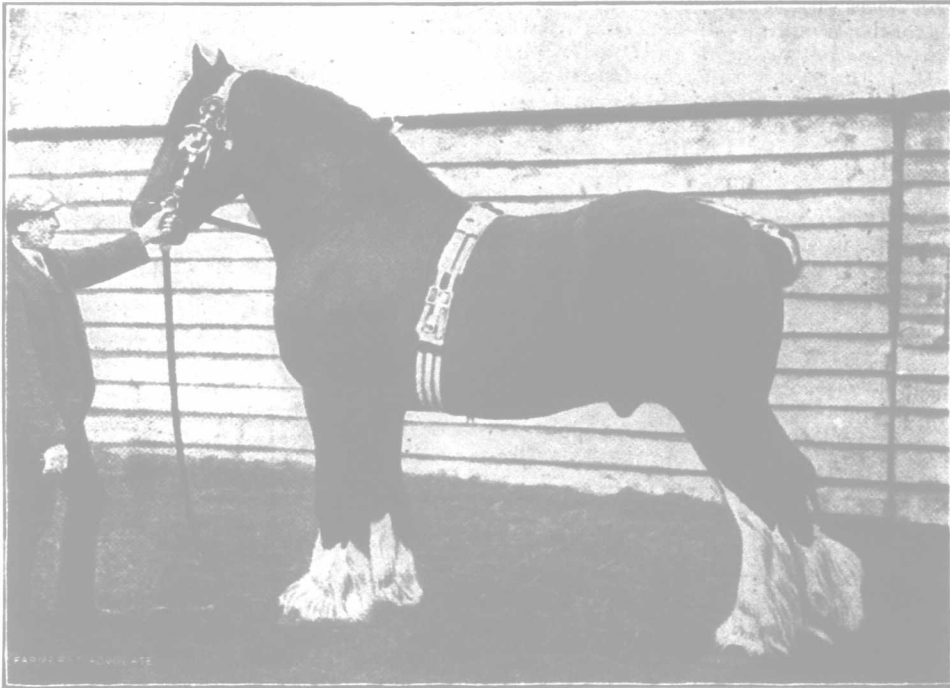
As in many other matters, practice and theory do not here universally agree. It must always be conceded that the economy of producing a particular commodity rests with a particular class of animal: of beef, with the beef classes of cattle; of milk, with the milkers; and so on. There is always another factor that cannot be eliminated with the producer, and that is the factor of demand. The condition of the farmer too, is unlike that of most producers or manufacturers. He is a jack-of-all-trades in many ways. His business is not capable of the same organization and division of labor, even on a large scale, that most industries are subject to. He is teamster and horse-breeder, dairyman and cattle-breeder, shepherd and agriculturist combined. His horses are generally not sufficient in number to make it possible to keep both drafts and drivers, and a general-purpose horse may fill the bill better for him. He may find it profitable to breed more horses than he uses, and put in spare time shaping up an occasional one for sale. He may not be near enough to a city to enjoy a steady demand for milk all the year round at a good price, but he may enjoy a fair general demand for milk products, such as but-

ter, and likewise for the ends in view. Given two men and two tasks, towns of the ranching district it just happens that the beef business is so fashionable that dairying is left to the few, and is highly profitable near the cities; likewise, the convenience of the beef that is grown near the city gives it an enhanced value to local butchers, which all goes to show that profit is a matter of opportunity. The neighborhood of cities is usually highly cultivated, and is adapted to the concentrated feeding that is necessary for making pork. Pork-making, likewise, fits in well with certain phases of dairying, particularly cheesemaking, but there is the best possible market for pork in all our Western ranch towns. The advantage arises from demand rather than facilities for its production. The ordinary farmer seems to be in a middle position, enjoying ordinary facilities and ordinary demand.

It is this condition that has given rise to the talk about the dual purpose cow. The advocates of the dual purpose cow seem at times to imply the existence of a cow as good in two respects as the special purpose cows are in only one. This, of course, is a mistake. The flesh-making and the milk-secreting processes must obviously be opposed to each other as simultaneous processes, and the development of one has universally been accompanied by the suppression of the other as a constitutional tendency. This does not mean that a given grade of stock could not be simultaneously improved by selection and breeding as to both fleshing and milking qualities above the condition they were in when improvement began, but simply that you cannot carry two features to the same perfection in a single animal as you can one. It must be said, however, that it is possible to select from existing stock families that will suit the species of commonplace dual demand of the farmer better than others will. The Shorthorn is essentially a beef animal, but there are certain strains with good milking qualities among them. Such animals as belong to this class will do fair work as dairy animals, will fatten up after their usefulness is over, and will produce steers that will make good beef and will not have to be knocked on the head like the Jersey male calves of a pure dairy herd.

The question of equipment is an important one likewise. A dairy plant is more or less elaborate and special, and its management a matter of some skill. It is not always possible, either, to reconcile ordinary farm needs with the demands of the dairy in the matter of labor and attention.

Probably the consideration of the dual-purpose animal is more important in the case of cattle than it is in the case of sheep or horses for the farmer, but there is something to be said with respect to each. Our dairy and beef products are much more important than our wool and mutton products, but there is the same gain in being susceptible to general demand and general conditions. In Canada our sheep are practically all English sheep, and so we feature the mutton side of the business. Most of our mutton is sold as lamb; that is, of our farm mutton, but there is early lamb and late lamb. We have a special-purpose sheep for the early lamb business, which will doubtless receive better recognition with the growth of our cities. This is the Dorset. It is like the special dairy cow in being a good sheep for good lands near the good markets for tender cuts in the large cities. Outside of this there is not any special-purpose sheep



HENDRE ROYAL ALBERT 19686.

Shire stallion. Winner of first and champion prizes at the Royal Agricultural Society's Show, London, England, 1903.

THE PROPERTY OF LORD LLANGATTOCK.