

Quite true, it is a bold step; yet it is a most important one. From Eastern Ontario comes the intelligence that such a scheme is impracticable, mainly because it might discourage patrons and drive them to other creameries, and thus bring failure to the deserted ones. No doubt such arguments should have some audience, but the conclusion is wrongly brought. Farmers who aim to produce a high grade cream are going to patronize the factory where they receive the highest price.

The husbandmen of Western Canada are men with ideals, and it is not complimentary to them in this instance to say that they will not aim at the best product and the highest price. Alberta's products are finding a high-class market in British Columbia, and it is a most important step that the co-operative creameries of the province have taken with the endeavor to place a uniform as well as a high grade butter on the market. If the quality basis as payment for cream has no other effect than to corral the poor product it is worthy of support and commendation.

Western Cattle \$7.60

The highest price paid for cattle at Toronto last week, \$7.60 per hundred, was paid for a bunch of stall-fed Manitoba steers. These cattle averaged 1,350 pounds each, were three years of age and had been fed since last fall on straw, hay and chopped grains. After the long haul to Toronto they sold better than any Eastern cattle on the market, proving again that Western cattle and Western feeds will produce the highest quality of beef that can be made.

Proof is sufficient that we can raise and feed the best beef that can be produced, but some of us need to believe it more thoroughly. For every carlot of Western cattle that top Eastern markets several hundred carlots are sold in local markets at the bottom, or so near the bottom that it doesn't make much difference. A part of the high price made for the carlot in question was brought about by the keen competition existing at present in Toronto, due to the presence of American buyers, but if the facts were sifted to the bottom it would be found first of all that they were high quality cattle, well-fattened and properly sold. That is the point that is of largest importance in the making of livestock prices. Markets, transportation facilities and feeding privileges in the stock yards count in determining returns to the producer of cattle, but the thing that counts most is the kind and quality of the stock.

Fresh Meat by Beef-ring

No man deserves a regular supply of fresh meat more than the farmer—and no man is in position to have a superior supply at low cost. Beef-rings have provided fancy cuts every week in many localities in other parts of America and in a few districts in Western Canada. Enquiries sent to THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE recently indicate that several new beef-rings are being organized this spring. Every farmer should avail himself of this desirable source of supply. All are not in position to buy from a local butcher—and besides the purchaser seldom knows what he is getting. In many instances he regrets the purchase before he has had a taste of it.

Our issue of April 27, gives particulars about

managing a ring and cutting the carcass. Organization can be effected with little effort on the part of a few enthusiasts. Rules easily can be formulated to cover details and ensure a wholesome supply of beef for sixteen or twenty weeks.

HORSE

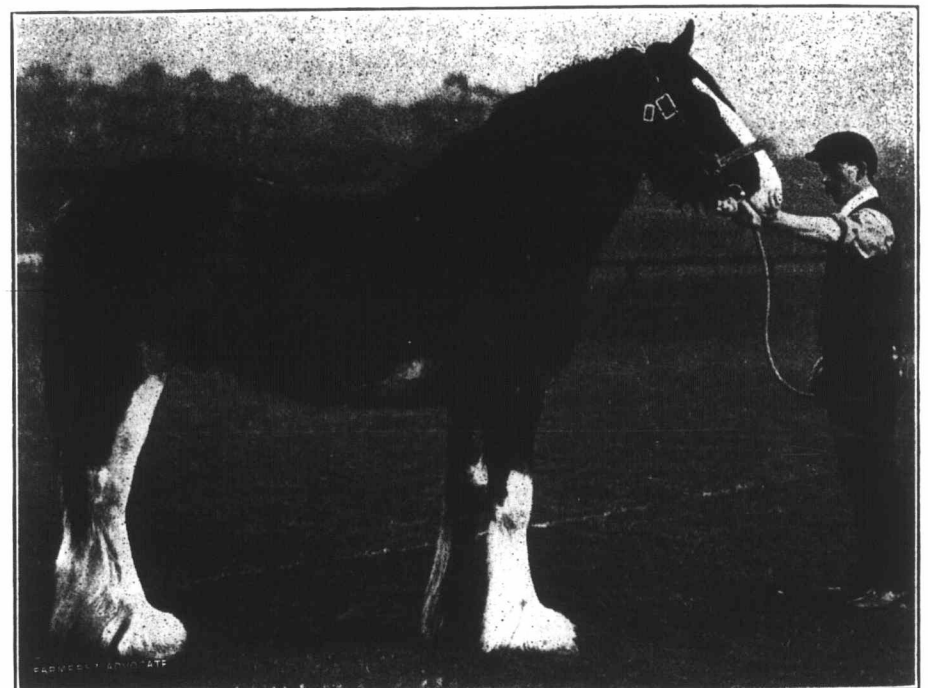
Observations on Horse Subjects

We noticed the other day in the catalog of an automobile concern some interesting comparisons of the cost of owning an auto and a horse. The writer of the catalog figured, of course, that it would be cheaper to buy the brand of runabout he was booming than it would be to invest in a horse and rig. Then followed a convincing array of figures, in which it was shown that the cost of keeping a horse runs into quite a sum in the course of a year, but that this particular car could be run 100 miles a week at a cost of \$2.05, or a year for \$106.40, which expense included everything likely to be needed the first season. The automobile manufacturer figured

breed be advanced than it can by keeping in mind the main question, the question of ultimate result, the promotion of soundness in breeding horses. Nothing can be of greater importance to the owners of mares than the knowledge that the stallion they are using is attested sound by an official veterinarian of the association in whose stud book he is registered. Examining stallions for unsoundness and in some way denoting those that did not come up to requirements might work some little hardship on horse owners, but it would offer security to the public and beget public confidence in the horse, the society and the breed.

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We have just been perusing the finely illustrated report of the Ontario Veterinary College for 1909, and the question has occurred to us: Why is it that more young men who leave the farm to enter other lines of business and professional work do not go in for veterinary surgery? In the average Western district it is a pleasant and remunerative line of professional employment. Your veterinarian, if he attends to business, earns more per annum, as a rule, than the lawyer, the banker, the dentist, the preacher, and sometimes even the medical practitioner in the town in which he is located. And there are any number of towns, the centres of thriving



DUNURE FOOTPRINT, BY BARON O' BUCHLYVIE, TWO-YEAR-OLD CHAMPION AT GLASGOW.

that the buyer of his car would run the machine an average of 100 miles a week, in which estimate he was about 75 per cent. too low, since anybody who has observed the habits of automobile owners knows they are more likely to run their machines an average of 100 miles a day or more.

In figuring the cost of running an automobile, more expense is to be reckoned than the mere cost of gasoline, oil and a new set of tires every so often, and it is unfair to the horse to assume that comparing the cost of automobile and horse fuel will give one an idea of the comparative cost of keeping a car and a horse.

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The Shire Horse Society of England rejected a proposal made at a recent meeting that after a certain date no animal would be eligible for registration in the stud books of the breed "unless its sire is certified free from hereditary disease by a veterinary surgeon duly appointed by the society." The Shire breeders of England might have done worse than to have taken the suggestion under consideration. The step would have been along the line of modern thought in regard to draft horse breeding, and could in no way have been regarded as indicating that the Shire is more subject to hereditary disease or unsoundness than any other breed.

It is time this question of hereditary unsoundness in sires of the draft breeds was more seriously regarded by breed societies and associations. These organizations exist primarily for the advancement of the interests of the various breeds, and in no way can the interests of any particular

districts in the West, where a veterinary surgeon could locate. The writer was in one of these a few weeks ago. There was no veterinary surgeon in the place. Ten miles to the West was one who "boozed," and twenty miles to the east a reliable one who was running the legs off his horses trying to keep up to his practice. The district could have kept four going as easily as it was keeping one, for a majority of the farmers "doped" up their animals themselves whenever anything went wrong, for one veterinarian for one reason would be unable to respond promptly if called and might not be much use when he did arrive, and the other would be unable to get onto the scene promptly because of the frequent calls for his services. Consequently we wonder that more young men don't make veterinary medicine their profession. The course of study leading to the degree that qualifies one for practice is difficult enough, as it necessarily must be—and this, by the way, is the triumph of our Canadian veterinary colleges, the thing that for years has distinguished them from the "horse doctor schools" on the other side of the line—they offer courses that are broad and thorough enough to qualify one for treating domestic animals and curing their diseases, not merely for experimenting with them before death and finding out what really ailed them by post-mortem examination.

The Ontario Veterinary College is a widely known educational institution along this line, and since it was taken over by the department of agriculture and handled similarly to the