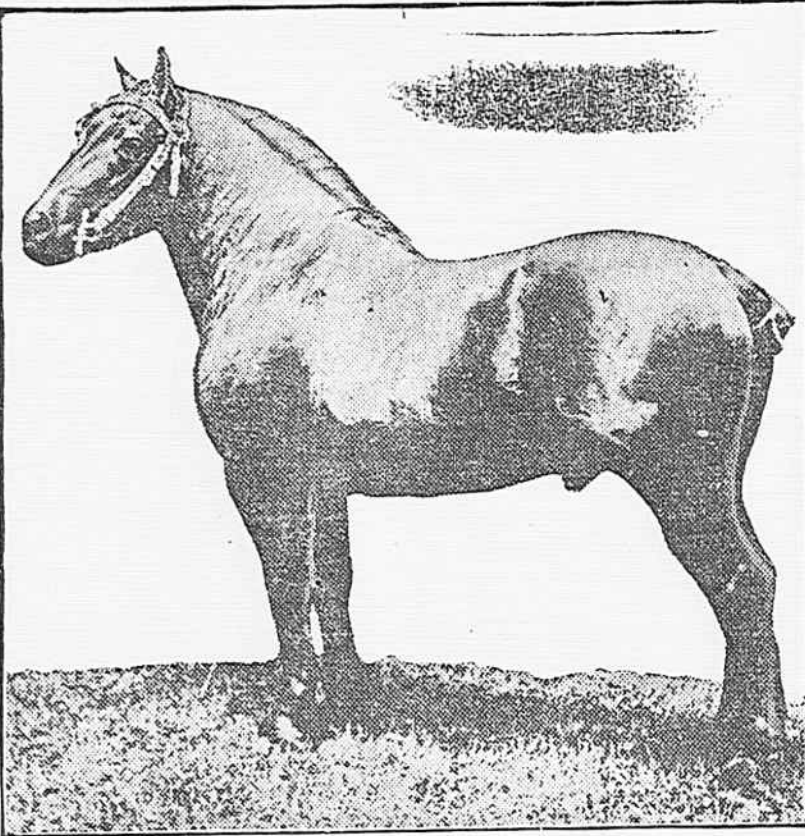


PUREBRED STALLION IS MOST PROFITABLE



CHARACTER, SOUNDNESS AND GOOD CONFORMATION.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

• If there is any place where theory and practice "link together" it is in the value of the purebred sire in live stock improvement. Theory says "blood will tell," and practice proves it.

There is abundant testimony to show that a grade or mongrel sire will "backfire" and the offspring prove a degraded or nondescript animal. On the other hand, evidence is not lacking that the offspring resulting from the service of the sound purebred sire will not only be a valuable addition to any stud, herd or flock and a credit to the judgment and intelligence of the breeder, but will bring a higher price on the market.

Many concrete instances can be given illustrating the benefits and profits resulting from the use of purebred sires. Two or three cases from widely separated districts will show the greater advantages resulting from wise and careful selection. There is the case of a man out West who began farming with a small number of scrub mares which he always bred to purebred stallions. The mares averaged about 1,200 pounds and at prices prevailing today would barely bring \$125 apiece. Some of the first colts sold at maturity at prices as high as \$175, while fillies that were retained and in turn later bred to purebred draft stallions produced male and female colts none of which sold for less than \$160. Three mares sold at \$235 each and \$450 was offered for one team. When it is remembered that this man started with scrub mares it can readily be seen what the next crop

of colts from purebred stallions will bring. In other words, this man is grading up by using good sires. His profits would have been still larger had he started with grade mares instead of scrubs. The results, however, show the value of the purebred male and his influence for improved live stock.

Another instance is that of an Ohio farmer who several years ago purchased a purebred mare of one of the popular draft breeds, which has in eleven years produced ten colts, nine of which were raised. These colts increased this man's bank account to the extent of \$4,030. The highest price received was \$850 for a four-year-old mare, and the lowest \$325 for an eleven-month-old colt. Included in the total given is \$300 which this man estimates as the value of a weanling filly which he is keeping.

In a Northern state a good purebred stallion and a grade were standing in the same community, the owner of the purebred charging a fee of \$15 while the grade stallion stood at a fee of \$10. A wise farmer bred his mares to the higher-priced purebred, while a neighbor, feeling that the cheapest was the best, patronized the grade. This is what happened: Two fillies sired by the purebred stallion could have been sold for \$750, but the owner would not let them go at that price, claiming they were worth more. The other farmer sold two mares by the grade stallion for \$200. One striking thing about this instance is that the mares owned by both of these farmers were of practically the same type and breeding.

plung only uniformly high-grade products.

An effort is being made in many states to standardize the varieties grown. This movement aims to confine the planting in each section to a very few varieties which have been proven the best for that locality. An endeavor is then made to plant only seed true to name and of the best selection. The result of such methods is to standardize these few varieties of pure strains and eventually make the section widely known as producing certain varieties to a high degree of perfection and in large quantities.

Advocate National Standards.

Organizations of growers and shippers have advocated national standards and grades for potatoes, which the various states might also establish, in order to obtain fixed uniform standards. The states could compel the use of such grades whenever any grades were used, thus forcing growers, buyers and dealers on the market to use and respect those grades. All rejections and disputes will be much easier to adjust when such a basis is established.

LARGE VARIATION IN YIELDS

Calculations on Drought-Resistant Crops Must Be Based on Average Years, Not on Best.

In estimating the number of hogs that a farm will carry, it must be remembered that even with the most careful farming of drought-resisting crops, there is still a big variation in yields from year to year. Calculations must be based on the poor not on the best years. The hog business can, to a certain extent, be expanded or contracted to match the supply of grain by marketing hogs at different weights. A nice fat hog weighing 175 pounds will usually bring close to the top of the market. If there is a surplus of grain, the same hog can be made to weigh 300 pounds or more.

KEEP YOUNG PIGS GROWING

Business of Little Porkers to Develop Good Frame, Grow Muscle and Lay on Fat.

Keep the young pigs growing from the start. It is the pig's business to develop a good frame, to grow bone, muscle, and vital organs, and to lay on fat. Plenty of pasture, some grain, exercise and good, sanitary quarters are all very necessary if the pig is to be both thrifty and profitable.

DEAL AND IDEAL

By RUDOLPH TRESSINGHAM.

(Copyright, 1917, Western Newspaper Union.)

Clancy Wyeth had a deal in mind and process. Joseph Trull an ideal. The former was popularly designated as a keen, practical business man, the latter as a visionary and dreamer. Nature had formed both with strong individual intellectuality.

Clancy Wyeth was floor broker for a big firm on the grain exchange. Its offices were a rare glitter of gilt and plate glass. Joseph Trull had a desk and narrow office in an obsolete business block, where he did translation work for the foreign departments of local banks.

"I have a pretty idea in mind," he told a friend one day. "You know our old family homestead, fifteen miles from the city of Pendale, is mine. It has not been occupied for two years. They have built up some palatial homes near to it, and I have been waiting, expecting to get a good offer for it. Well, the house is old, but it can be made habitable. There are fifteen bearing cherry trees in the orchard. I'm going to have a crowd of these little ones out for a week, soon as the cherries are ripe."

"Excellent! grand!" commented his friend.

"I shall pick out fifteen of the most deserving children," continued Trull, "and apportion to each a tree. It will be their tree to dream over, to long for, weeks before the visit. I will keep the fifteen for a week, hire a cook and a nurse. One week end the mother of each little one will come out and pick one tree, and I will see that the cherries are delivered by wagon at the city home."

Just this plan Jasper Trull put into operation. The mothers who came out with the little ones, were provided with ladders and baskets, and went home happy and content. There was one little tot, the youngest of the group, a girl not yet three years of age. She and the others were allowed to roam freely about the place.

"I cannot find little Dora," the nurse informed Trull one afternoon near dusk, and he started off in search of her. Nearing a high hedge that separated the grounds from those of a fine mansion occupied by a family named Crosby, he caught the echo of voices, and paused. He noticed a hole in the hedge, and peering over its top his eye took in a lovely picture.

Upon the grass was seated a beautiful young woman, whom he doubted not was Miss Eunice Colby. She had little Dora in her lap, and had woven a garland of flowers for her. The prattling tot was beaming with delight.

"Please excuse me," spoke Joseph, "but the nurse is anxious about this wandering little charge of hers, and I promised to find her."

"Oh, you are Mr. Trull," spoke the young lady, arising and kissing little Dora and then handing her through the hedge. "I have heard so much of your noble work. Will you not allow this sweet little mite to come over again tomorrow? The rest of the family are away, and she is rare company."

Joseph promised. The nurse herself the next morning took Dora to the hedge and consented that she should remain all day in Miss Colby's charge, as the latter wished.

Now, by a strange freak of fate, Clancy Wyeth visited the Colby home that day. He had only a casual acquaintance with Miss Colby, but he had her in view as a prospective heiress, and hoped to make an impression. For his "deal" looked fine.

"The little brat!" he fairly hissed, after devoting an hour to Miss Colby, he found her devotedly engrossed in entertaining her little visitor and acting rather bored at his presence. He went away disgruntled.

"She won't be so indifferent, when I make my pile on the deal," he muttered.

"Please keep a little back from the hedge, Miss Colby," Trull said one evening. "Little Dora is down with fever. The doctor says it is infectious, and that we must quarantine the house. Do not run any risk. I will have the nurse keep you informed as to how Dora gets along."

But there was no nurse the next day. They had taken the alarm, as well as the cook. Both had departed. Trull had cooked the breakfast himself, and was attending as best he might to the three who had come down with the fever, when a knock at the door sent him thither. He opened it to confront Miss Colby. She had a suitcase in her hand and started to come in.

"You must not," he told her. "It would be only to expose yourself to the contagion."

"But I have come to stay," persisted the determined little lady. "Please don't scold or deter me, Mr. Trull," she pleaded. "I have sent for two nurses in the village, and, if you will isolate and care for the well ones, we will attend to the sick little charges."

One month after that, Clancy Wyeth, the man of the deal, found that the information he had paid for as to the potato crop was a fraud. The market broke, his firm failed, and his dream of opulence ended.

About that same time there was a grand jubilation at the Trull homestead, for Eunice Colby and her aids had brought the invalids safely through their ordeal.

"You have wrought a blessing," Jasper told Eunice, and love as well as gratitude impelled the sentiment, and in the depths of those beautiful eyes he read a mystic response that thrilled his soul to hope and happiness.



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TO SELL PRODUCTS

There Is Special Need of Standardization for Crops.

TUBERS IN IMPORTANT PLACE

Wholesalers and Retailers Aim to Handle Potatoes On as Narrow Margin of Profit and Expense as Is Possible.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Standardization is generally taken to mean the establishment of suitable standards of quality which will include such regulations concerning the harvesting, handling, sorting, sizing, and packing as will insure a uniform standard product of high quality. It should also be extended to include the shipping containers used. Standards for fruits and vegetables are difficult to establish because of their perishable nature, the wide difference in varieties, and the varying conditions under which they are grown.

Need of Standardization.

There is a special need of standardization of potatoes, because they occupy such an important place on the tables of most families. Wholesalers and retailers usually aim to handle potatoes on as narrow a margin of profit and expense as possible because they are such a bulky and widely used commodity, but in order to be handled on the narrowest margins the product must be standardized so that expense and risk in handling, waste, and loss, are reduced to a minimum. The demand at this time is for the establishment of uniform grades for potatoes which shall be accepted as the basis for all trading in this crop throughout the country. Such nationally accepted grades would give buyer and seller a foundation on which to deal with a better understanding and mutual confidence.

Grade According to Custom.

Today each grower or community usually grades according to local custom, if at all, and, as a result, wholesale dealers have very little confidence in the quality of their purchases until they are carefully inspected. For this reason these firms prefer to buy from large shippers, or farmers' co-operative marketing agencies, that have built up a reputation for ship-

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