

AMERICAN HORSES IN GERMANY.

The United States Consul for Germany writes the following encouraging letter regarding the improving demand for American horses in that country:

"For about two years, efforts have been made to introduce American horses into Germany. At first, great difficulties had to be overcome. The accommodations on the ships were not good; a large percentage died during the voyage, and the rest arrived in such bad condition that the whole lot had to remain in quarantine for several weeks. The freight and other expenses of transportation were high, and last, but not least, the horses were not the kind needed in Germany and hence were not sold at profitable prices. Now, however, some ships of the Hamburg and Bremen lines are fitted out expressly for this service. The freight is lower—\$25 per horse, I am told—and the man attending the horses is taken over and returned free of charge. The accommodations are so perfect that the horses arrive here in good condition. The loss on the voyage is reduced to from 2 to 4 per cent. The result is they are permitted to be landed without quarantine.

The American horses which sell most readily in the German market are thickset animals of the percheron breed, with short, specially heavy legs. Until lately, this variety was mostly imported from Belgium. The home demand there, however, has become so great that horses of full growth are at once bought, leaving only young colts to be exported. Danish horses, large numbers of which are imported into Germany, are used for tramways and stages; they are not so heavy as the percheron breed.

The hoofs of the American horses lately imported are pronounced better than those of the Belgian horses.

Buyers of American horses have made two complaints: They say that the animals, not being accustomed to the food generally given to horses in this country (oats and wheat bran), lose flesh, and that it is several months before they are again in good condition. If American breeders, who intend to export horses to Germany, should feed the animals some months before they are shipped, as well as on the passage, with oats instead of corn, the animals would remain in good condition. Buyers further complain that the majority of the horses are not broken to harness.

American horses have been sold here lately at prices ranging from \$225 to \$300 a head.

The demand in Germany is, next after the class above mentioned, greatest for showy, high-stepping horses, in contrast to the American fast trotter; the supply has of late come from Hungary.

Of the 2,000 or more horses that have been taken up to Alaska this season to help carry supplies across the Skaguay and Dyea trails, but few will see the winter through. Possibly those that are near the water front will be fed and sheltered, but for all those that have been taken well into the divide, starvation is sure unless their masters mercifully end their sufferings by putting them out of the way. It is said that it is a pitiful sight to note the hundreds of animals that have so faithfully given up all their strength to further the gold hunters on their journey, turned out to die, miserable, lingering, agonizing death. There is no grass along the way in the winter, and winter has already commenced. Five hundred head are already dead, and the stench from the putrifying bodies is said to be unbearable.

A veterinary surgeon of Chehalis, Dr. T. B. Short, contracted glanders from a mule that he was attending and died last week. W. W. Jordan, who assisted in the care of the animal, also became afflicted, but is now recovering.

Dr. T. J. Lee has been reappointed veterinarian of Washington by Gov. Rogers.

After the harvest it will be a fitting time for breeders of cattle, hogs and sheep to give prompt attention to the selection of the foundations for the coming year. They who are first to view a new crop of young things will of course have the best choice. Out of 100 youngsters the first ten selected should represent the cream. This is not necessarily true, however. Occasionally a poor judge will make poor selections, and first-class judgment may later on produce the best of all. They who are ambitious for securing the tops should not delay and take the chances that they may not suffer by this policy.

Home Business College

The Best
Bookkeeping

...The Swiftest Shorthand...

We cannot supply the demand for our graduates.
Specimen of beautiful pen work free.
Write us about it.

McLAREN & THOMSON, Mgrs.

Seattle National Bank Bldg., Seattle, Wash.

In a neighborhood where there are numerous high-class herds opportunity is afforded for procuring one's choice with comparatively little trouble. Where one is ambitious to obtain specially good foundations, it is well at times to order early if at a long distance, and allow a breeder of exceptional high standing to make selections on description, with the distinct understanding that the animals selected are among the tops of the herd. Such orders will apply where less than a half dozen pigs or lambs should be ordered. For a large number of animals, one with confidence in his own judgment should make his own selection. It should be remembered that if one desires the best attainable results delays are always dangerous.

THE COUNTY FAIR.

The county fair should be a permanent institution. It is conducive to stimulating enterprise, and a progressive spirit among all classes of people. It is a week when town and county are brought together in competitive, yet harmonious union, and it is an enterprise that everybody should take a profound interest in from the merchant or business man to the farmer; for all are equally benefitted. Well do I remember when as a girl I used to reside in Ohio, with what eagerness we always looked forward to "Fair Week;" and no sooner was one fair ended than we began planning for the ensuing one. The brisk spirit of competition was over everything pertaining to it. And what a feast for the eyes when the exhibits were all in place! What a happy, good-natured crowd it was that pushed and jostled around! The inauguration of the annual Pierce county fair was a grand success, barring the mismanagement of the financial part. But that should be no reason why the present and succeeding managers should bear the odium that rested on the first.

There is no success where there is not hearty, and spontaneous co-operation. A few people can not accomplish everything. I consider that our fair this year is a marvel, considering how we were handicapped, and the management and the exhibitors are to be highly congratulated on the splendid showing. It goes to prove what a united effort would do. I have faith in the perpetuity of our county fair; and sincerely believe that another year will see it riding on the topmost wave of prosperity and success. And I hope that the spirit of indifference that has been shown by many this year will give place to the energy and progressiveness that is necessary for the building up and making known to the world in general the resources of the grand and beautiful state of Washington. MRS. G. HARRY WRIGHT,
Supt. Woman's Dept. Pierce County Fair.

The site for the Northern Pacific's experimental seed farm has been selected near North Yakima to be conducted by A. B. Leckenby.

One must keep on the watch for disease of the sheep's eyes at this time of the year. The alkaline dust of some localities and the dust everywhere, as well as the seeds of some of the grasses, are apt to cause this trouble unless strict watch is kept on the sheep. With regard to the flock, eternal vigilance is the price of safety in this and all other respects.

In looking over some newspaper clippings, I find that once upon a time, some of the good people of this county met together, and, after due deliberation, formed what was known as the Yakima County Beekeepers' Association. It flourished for a short time, then died for want of a little perseverance. Washington's honey will never make its mark until its beekeepers wake up.

E. J. Hancock has a prune orchard of 1,000 4-year-old trees.