

Farmers Federation Buys Stallion and Three Jacks

ASHEVILLE, March 15.—With view to improving the work stock on Western North Carolina farms and reducing the outflow of money for mules and mares bred in other states, the Farmers Federation has obtained a purebred Percheron stallion of illustrious lineage and three of the best jacks it could find, all registered animals of outstanding breed, and placed them at public service on farms in this section.

The stallion and one of the jacks have been quartered with Buncombe county farmers, while the other two jacks have been placed in Cherokee and McDowell counties. Their care and management will be supervised by local committees.

The stallion, Middlemarch Macbeth (register No. 224597, Percheron Horse Association of America), weighs 1,860 pounds and became three years old on March 13. He is dapple gray, a well-mannered, modest fellow; but by the carriage of his head and the glint in his eyes he shows the spirit and pride of his line.

Middlemarch was bred from imported stock by a prominent Pennsylvania breeder. His sire was Middlemarch Montcalm; his dam Brigue. The latter was awarded grand championship at the International Livestock show in Chicago in 1930 and several years ago was voted by a group of horse authorities as the second best Percheron mare in the United States.

Dave Snelson is keeping Middlemarch for the federation on his farm on the Leicester road, Buncombe county.

A jack is not a beautiful thing to look at, like a fine stallion; but he is just as useful, even more important, on southern farms. So, while Middlemarch Macbeth is the cynosure of horse admirers for miles around, the federation's three jacks are not lacking for attention. Their origin might be quite different from that of the proud Percheron stud, but they yield not one whit in their pride of position in

their own respective family trees.

One of them, the Buncombe county jack, is a grandson of General Logan, Kentucky grand champion for six consecutive years. He was selected by a group of experienced scouts, among them C. Y. Tilson, Buncombe county farm agent. He weighs 1,000 pounds and is three years old. He was bred by Dr. R. B. Gaston, well known breeder of Lebanon, Tenn.

The Cherokee county jack is four years old and weighs 1,100 pounds. The McDowell county jack is three years old and weighs 1,000 pounds. Both are descendants of Dr. McChord, known among breeders as one of the finest jacks this country has ever known. They were bred by Ramsey Snell, of Murfreesboro, Tenn.

The Buncombe county jack is being kept by Ben L. Owenby in the Fairview section. Dillard McCombs, of Murphy, is keeper of the Cherokee jack and John A. Walker, of Old Fort, is quartering the McDowell county jack.

Supervising the Cherokee jack is a committee composed of Mr. McCombs, Bob Caldwell, federation representative; Lawson Lunsford, R. L. Anderson and Joe Myers, Cherokee farmers.

The committee for the McDowell jack is composed of Garvel English, W. R. Manney, W. S. Burgin, John A. Walker and a federation representative.

Committees are yet to be named for supervising the Percheron stallion and the Buncombe jack.

Purchase of this breeding stock was made possible by the cooperation of interested farmers with the federation through the purchase of stock shares.

"We are very much interested in this proposition of improving the work stock throughout this section," commented James G. K. McClure, federation president, "and we will be glad to work with farmers in other counties in our territory to provide them with good jacks and stallions. It has been convincingly demonstrated that horses and mules of fine quality can be bred and raised on our farms in the mountain section. Hitherto we have been buying our work stock, sending thousands and thousands of dollars out of the state. Instead, we should raise enough horses and mules for our own use and some for sale."

Electric Farm Water Systems Cost Little

A water system can be installed in the farm home for as little as \$100 with the advent of rural electrification in scores of rural communities in the state, says Russell G. Broadus, assistant agricultural engineer of the State college extension service.

"New opportunities for installing labor and time-saving equipment are offered farm people at a price they can afford to pay," Broadus said. "The first essential in a water system is a good, clean, wholesome water supply in a quantity sufficient for the farm and home needs. A well should be located at least 50 feet from any possible source of contamination."

"To keep a water supply clean and free from harmful bacteria, the well should have rock masonry, brick or terra cotta walls from bottom to top. In many cases driven or bored wells with iron castings are quite satisfactory. All wells should have tight, properly-made concrete platforms to keep out surface water."

The engineer says an electric water system will provide 1,000 gallons of water per hour for three cents when the electric rate is six cents a kilowatt hour. In many cases the small amount of electric current used to pump water will not increase the monthly bill above the minimum charge.

Broadus recommends that the farm family first install an outlet to the kitchen sink and another to the barn for watering livestock. He says this can be done for approximately \$1.00. The system can be enlarged as finances permit.

"The average farm laborer earns from 20 to 30 cents an hour for his work. Why then should the farmer's family work carrying water at the rate of one-half cent per hour?" the engineer queried.

Youthful Princess Visits Nursery



Princess Josephine Charlotte, 11, oldest daughter of the king of the Belgians, is already taking her place in public life. She is seen amid children and nurses during a recent visit to a public nursery in Brussels, Belgium. The little princess is one of the most popular members of Belgian nobility.

WPA Crew Finds Indian Skeleton

A WPA crew working under John Norton on the Gribble place at Prentiss Tuesday of last week uncovered an old skeleton which had been buried in a hole not more than 40 inches long.

The bones were brought to the Angel hospital where they were examined by Dr. Furman Angel, who stated that the skeleton was

probably that of an Indian.

There was an Indian camp ground near the place where the skeleton was found, and many Indian relics have been found in that locality.

ROTENONE

Rotenone-bearing roots, used for centuries in the tropics as a fish poison, are becoming increasingly important in this country for the manufacture of insect poisons.

LOSS

Wool producers of this country suffered a loss of almost \$46,000,000 in income in 1938, compared with 1937, despite increased production. Prices fell from 32 cents in 1937 to 19.1 cents in 1938.

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