

BREEDING AMERICAN THOROUGHBREDS



ALTHOUGH horse racing on many of the most prominent tracks in America has in recent years gone into eclipse and the huge purses of days gone by are, to a great extent, a thing of the past, the breeding of thoroughbreds continues and thrives. The market nowadays is not found so much among the owners of racing stables as among the large and increasing percentage of the public that has means and inclination to keep fine riding horses. Not even the vogue of the automobile seems to have dampened the enthusiasm of these cross-country riders and hunters and polo players who demand and are willing to pay for special qualifications in horse-flesh.

The reader will, of course, understand that the term thoroughbred, as here used, refers to running horses. There are persons who are under the impression that the high-class American trotter has as much right as the running horse to designation as a thoroughbred, but in strictly correct usage horsemen refer to the fine trotters as "standard bred" and reserve the first-mentioned term for the runners and the hunters and



stock farm begins very early in life and is very thorough. However, careful handling is requisite, for a majority of the foals are decidedly shy. When the age of seven or eight months is attained the average young thoroughbred is sufficiently broken to undergo a preliminary trial. As a yearling he is subjected to further tests, but it is not until the animal is well into the second year that the breeder determines whether the youngster gives promise of a turf career or is better adapted to service as a roadster or a mount for the huntsman. Sales of yearlings are usually held in midsummer and there is seldom any dearth of bidders for the equines from breeding farms which have been awarded blue ribbons in the past.

At all times it is essential for the breeder or owner to keep a sharp watch regarding the health of his blooded equines. Particularly close watch must be kept as to the condition of the mouth, legs and feet of each animal. It is obvious that a horse cannot eat properly and be adequately nourished if he has a sore mouth, just as he cannot run satisfactorily if his feet are in bad condition or the shins are "bugged"—the bugbear of racing novices. Of course, special instruction quite aside from anything included in the animal's education at the breeding farm, but for that matter every step in the life of a young thoroughbred taxes the temper of the nervous, high-strung animal. And the men in charge of one of these equines must show judgment and patience in introducing a four-footed charge to each new experience even though it be something so simple as initiation into the mysteries of a box-stall or the donning of a blanket for the first time.

Since the decadence of racing in the United States a number of American millionaires who breed thoroughbreds primarily in order to supply their own racing stables have transferred the scene of their activities to the Old World. There are several in England; quite a few in France and a number in Ireland, where Richard Croker, former Tammany leader, is among those who have established important breeding farms. With most of these wealthy men, however, breeding is a livelihood continue to do business at the old stand in America and most of them obtain satisfactory profits for their efforts.

The education of a thoroughbred at a modern horse sales. Under the manager are a number of skilled trainers, each of whom is responsible for the education of a certain number of horses, and has the assistance of several helpers in his work. In addition to this staff there is a boss or foreman for each barn and under each barn boss is enrolled a number of grooms, exercise boys, etc. At some of the costly farms in Virginia and Kentucky we find every modern facility from a private electric light and power plant to feed cutters that not only take the grain from the private elevator and crush it, but mix the feed in any desired proportions.

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Man Arises With Protest

Unfortunate Individual Thinks He Has a Grievance Against Society as at Present Organized.

The following incident may be commended to the attention of the society for the promotion of equal rights for men. If there is no such society there ought to be and shall be. A dejected looking man carrying in his arms a young baby applied in an earnest manner to the husband of a woman who had been so ill-served as to select the male sex at birth must take the consequences, and it was to be hoped that the applicant had now learned a lesson that would stand him in good stead next time. For this occasion only he might consider that he left the court without a stain upon his character, but upon his next appearance the court would deal less mercifully with him. Just at this moment the infant awoke and demanded nourishment. Finding that nature was unaware of the new order of things and that its father was but ill-equipped for purposes of provender, it raised its voice in sturdy remonstrance and the applicant was hustled into the street by the indignant usher and was last seen making his way disconsolately to the river.—Exchange.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSON

By Rev. William Evans, D. D., Director Bible Course, Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.

LESSON FOR JANUARY 21

THE BIRTH OF CHRIST.

LESSON TEXT.—Luke 2:1-20.
MEMORY VERSE.—"For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord."—Luke 2:11.

Almost twenty centuries ago, in an obscure village in Palestine, an event occurred which has had more influence upon the history of the human race than any other event since time began. A child was born—not an unusual event surely. He was no child of distinguished parents, nor a prospective ruler of a world's empire. He was born in a stable, and cradled in a manger. And yet around that lowly crib and humble birth, the life, thoughts, and love of millions have from that day to this been centered. During these two thousand years many noble births have been registered, but none so great as this. Emperors, monarchs, and mighty men have lived and died, and are forgotten; nations have risen and waned; but the birth of the Christ child is more influential in this day than on the first birthday of our age twenty centuries ago.

The announcement of Christ's birth was made by angels. What more fitting accompaniment could there be to such an august event! How interested angels are in the welfare of mankind! How gladly they told the Christmas story to a handful of poor shepherds! How free from pride they were! They were not content that one of their number should tell the story—they all broke out in that great Christmas anthem.

Do we believe in angels any more? We used to. We used to sing "there are angels hovering round." If we believe the Bible, we still believe in the ministry of angels.

Onward we go for still we hear them singing;
Angels sing on, your faithful watches keeping.
Sing us sweet fragments of the song above.

The announcement was made to a small band of shepherds. No angelic host went to the Sanhedrin, or to the palace of Herod and broke the news of the birth of the Christ child. Is there not a lesson here? Does not God have special regard for the lowly and the humble? Hath not God chosen the weak things to confound the mighty? If angels were willing to preach to a few farmers, should the preacher be ashamed of ministering to a small and humble people, or the Sunday school teacher to a small class?

The scholars of the land were also notified of Christ's birth. The Scripture does not say—"not any wise men are called," but "not many." It is a mistake to say that religion is good enough for women, and children, but not for strong, brainy men. The brainiest men of the ages have been Christian men: Gladstone, the great statesman; Blackstone, the great lawyer; Herschel, the great scientist—these and many others, too numerous to name, have been Christians. So it has come to pass that the wise men of the east have been followed by the wise men of the west, and they all have bowed at this manger. The reason why every university must have its chapel is because brainy men must have a place to worship.

That the birth of Christ was mysterious and miraculous need not disturb us. How Christ's body was prepared, how the divine and human could become one—who can tell? We do not even understand our own birth, let alone His. If ever anything of miraculous nature should take place, when should it be if not now when the King of all laws is coming into the world? Let us be careful lest in denying the virgin birth, we challenge the purity of the Virgin's life.

The birth of Christ was the coming of God to and in man, not that God had never come to man before, for he had. But he had come only as a sojourner. In Christ he came to abide. His name is "Immanuel"—God with us." Whatever else the incarnation may mean, it certainly means that God took our nature and became as one of us—he came into our world.

The birth of Christ brings to us good tidings of great joy. If the angels sang, should not we? He came to save not angels, but men. The first note of this angelic song is a note of gladness, and a song has characterized Christianity.

This birth in Bethlehem shows God's attitude toward men. God has good will toward men. He is not the hard, severe judge that men so often wrongly picture him to be. Sinners, you have cursed God, but he has not cursed you back; you have lifted your hands against him, but he has not destroyed you. He has thoughts of kindness, and of love toward you. If you have wrong thoughts of God, let them die away in the music of that first Christmas anthem, "good will toward men."

The Christian story brings to us also a Savior. Jesus Christ was born with reference to sin. He was the only man that ever was born with reference to that great fact. Other great men were teachers and reformers—they alone could save men from their sins. His name shall be called Jesus and he shall save his people from their sins. This is good tidings of great joy to a sin-stricken world. If Christ the Lord cannot save you from your sins, no one else can.

He is a personal Savior—unto you he was born; he is the mighty Savior—he is Christ, the Anointed.

The man who believed what God says can roll the mountains out of the water wherever he goes.

The KITCHEN CABINET



HOUSEHOLD SANITATION.

We hear much of the dust enemy and we should heed and heed the repeated warnings given us in regard to the evils of dust. The children in our schools today will know much better how to keep clean, sanitary houses than did our grandmothers, providing they follow the teaching. A grain of dust too small to be noticed by the unaided eye may be the abode of hundreds of microbes which can cause us trouble. The vacuum cleaner is doing good work to wipe out dust and keep us free from such exposure to disease, but where one may have the advantage of a cleaner hundreds of thousands are obliged to wield the broom and dustcloth.

When sweeping, it is best to have a damp broom and something like dampened paper or tea leaves to keep the dust from flying. One can by a little planning keep and dry the tea leaves, moistening them as needed.

In sweeping a carpet, a good plan is to sweep and take up the dust from each breadth or two, instead of spreading it all over the room.

It is much more sanitary, besides much easier, to have rugs on bare floors. The rugs can be taken outside and cleaned and the floors wiped, so that the room is free from dust.

The dust cloth is another useful article to consider; those patented affairs that have some kind of oil in the weave are good because they hold the dust and keep it from scattering back to the floor. When using an ordinary cloth, it may be dampened slightly with furniture polish and it will hold the dust much better.

Ventilation of the home is another important matter. Cold air is not necessarily pure, and our lungs need fresh, pure oxygen in order to make and keep pure, good blood. Those who sleep in unaired, unventilated bedrooms to save the fuel bill are piling up a good fat bank account for the family doctor as well as making future suffering for themselves. No body unfed by fresh air can withstand disease, and the little busy microbes get in good work on such a host.

Everyone ought to be an enthusiast in his calling.
—W. Gladden.

CAKE MAKING.

The making of cakes as well as the making of bread has passed through a period of evolution. For the busy housewife who finds it necessary to do the bulk of the work and in most cases all of the household work, besides sewing, it seems expedient that she use the utmost economy of effort in accomplishing her duties. The process of cake making has always been one of much time. During recent years of experiment in our cooking school laboratories, we find that good cake, as good as the old method, may be made with much less expense of time, and materials. When butter is 40 cents a pound it is some comfort to know by actual test that we may have cake on our tables without mortgaging the farm. Except when used warm, cakes that are shortened with lard, snowdrift or other pure and odorless fats cannot be told from those made with butter. It is always necessary to remember that the required amount of salt should be used, otherwise the taste of the cake will be flat, stale and unprofitable.

The amount of shortening to be used depends upon the cake, a half to three-quarters of a cup is sufficient. When using butter the old method was first to give the butter a good creaming until soft and waxy then add the sugar gradually, a process exceedingly slow. Now the up-to-date cook when she is extravagant enough to use butter warms it by gentle heat, until it is melted, then adds powdered sugar which costs just a cent more for a cake, and she has a cake which can be compared favorably with any creamed butter cake. The fact that the butter can be melted and the sugar added saves much time in the making.

A portion of cake in a serving is equal to a glass and a half of milk or three eggs in food value, so that cake is not entirely a food accessory, but a real food in the menu.

In melting butter for cake care should be taken that it does not get too hot as butter fat decomposes when heated and is thus less digestible.

When He Suits.

"Somebody really ought to get on the society vote." "I once tried it campaign among the Four Hundred, but I heard one woman talk her maid not to let any strange politicians kiss Fido, and then I quit."

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ble. All housekeepers who have to count the pennies in their household expenses have to use up the remnants, and the manner of so doing marks them as artists or otherwise. Often a dish may be made over and be more tasty and attractive than it was on its first appearance.

A few tablespoonsful of canned or preserved fruit, too little to be used on the table, may be combined with orange or lemon, molded by adding gelatin and served as a dessert or a salad. Such a dish may be made especially dainty with a little care, and the expense is scarcely nothing.

A pit of boiled custard left over from yesterday's dinner, a saucersful of canned pears, an equal quantity of other fruit and a half cup of cream, sweetened and flavored, more if necessary, may be frozen into a delicious dessert.

Many such combination will suggest themselves to the thinking, saving woman: Scraps left from frying out fat, if put through the meat grinder, may be added to cornmeal mush, and when cold cut in slices and fried. This is scrappily and makes a highly nutritious dish.

Mince meat is a splendid receptacle for saving little bits of preserves, orange marmalade and such fruits, added to the mince meat, they make a vast improvement.

Oatmeal, rice and farina when added to griddle cakes and gems or muffins are always an improvement on the plain dish.

Pieces of beef steak cut in small pieces and onion added, with water, make an acceptable stew, which may be pieced out with dumplings and be sufficient for the main dish of a meal.

It is the wise housewife who watches for the little wastes, and is able to make good things out of food that others throw away.

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