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Information Concerning the Colorado Carriage Horse Breeding Station

BY

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The Agricultural Experiment Station

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Information Concerning the Colorado Carriage Horse Breeding Station

By JOHN O. WILLIAMS

This circular is not intended as a publication of any results attained in the carriage horse breeding experiment, but is intended as a *circular of information* so that interested persons may acquaint themselves with the object of the experiment conducted at the Colorado Breeding Station and the conditions by which they may avail themselves of the services of the various stallions in use at the station.

HISTORY AND OBJECT OF EXPERIMENT.

On July 1, 1904 an appropriation of \$25,000 by Congress became available to the U. S. Bureau of Animal Industry for experiments in animal breeding and feeding in cooperation with the State Experiment Stations. Under this Act, carriage horse breeding was inaugurated in cooperation with the Colorado Experiment Station.

The first purchase of foundation stock was made in December, 1904 from George D. Rainsford, Diamond, Wyoming, and comprised six mares of excellent breeding and good carriage conformation. The next purchase was made in February, 1905 and included the standard-bred stallion "Carmon" 32917 (formerly shown as Glorious Thundercloud) and twelve trotting-bred mares of superior merit as show animals. These mares were bred in the various middle-western states and in Kentucky. The next purchase was made in June, 1906 and included the two saddle-bred mares Beatrice 2079 (S) and Mambrina 2400 (S). The last purchase was made in March, 1908 and comprised four mares from various breeders in Kentucky. These mares were Golden Picture 2788 (S); Bethel Princess 4796 (S); Barthenia McCord 4223 (S), and Elvira Lindsey 3083 (S).

The above named animals constitute the foundation animals of the experiment. The progeny of the foundation mares are carefully selected, and those adhering closely to the desired type are retained for breeding purposes. New blood will also be introduced from time to time through mating the offspring of the foundation mares to stallions other than those in use at the station, as well as through the purchase of additional animals.

The object of the work is to study the possibilities of evolving an American carriage horse from the American trotter, Morgan, and American saddle horse. The trotter is being used as the basis of the work and the two other native-blood lines are being used to supply the desired qualities they are known to possess. Through judicious blending of these blood lines, the ultimate American

carriage horse will be realized. This does not mean that animals which will fill the requirements are not already available as many specimens of "native" breeding have demonstrated their high carriage qualities by defeating the best imported animals in competition in the show ring. The encouragement for the retention of these outstanding individuals for breeding purposes is one of the admirable objects of the work by the department.

The qualities desired in a high class carriage horse are substance, quality, stamina or endurance, high-balanced action, good temperament and speed. The latter qualification is very desirable in most cases, but not in itself essential in the production of either a marketable or high-class carriage individual.

In order to present the desired qualifications of a carriage horse to the breeders, and also to encourage the production of a uniform type of carriage horse, the U. S. Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the American Association of Trotting Horse Breeders, has formulated a classification for American carriage horses which has been adopted by the various State Fairs throughout the United States.*

The classification is as follows:

TYPE.

The type desired for the American carriage horse is as follows: Not under 15 hands for mature horses; smooth, compact, and symmetrical conformation; neck of good length, inclined naturally to arch; sloping shoulders; well-set legs of medium length; sloping pasterns and good feet; short, strong back; well sprung ribs well ribbed up to coupling; smooth loins; full flanks; straight croup, with well-set tail; full round quarters.

CONDITIONS GOVERNING ENTRIES.

Classes open only to horses of American blood.

Stallions in classes I to 5, inclusive, must be registered either in the American Trotting Register as standard, in the American Morgan Register, or in the American Saddle Horse Register, and certificate of such registry must be shown in the ring if required.

Entries in all classes for mares must be registered either in the American Trotting Register as standard or non-standard, in the American Morgan Register, or in the American Saddle Horse Register, and certificate of such registry must be shown in the ring if required.

Entries as get of sire in class 5 and produce of mare in class 10, and entries in class 11 must be sired by a stallion registered as above, out of mares registered as above.

No mare having any draft cross will be eligible.

*From Twenty-Fourth Annual Report, B. A. I., U. S. Department of Agriculture.

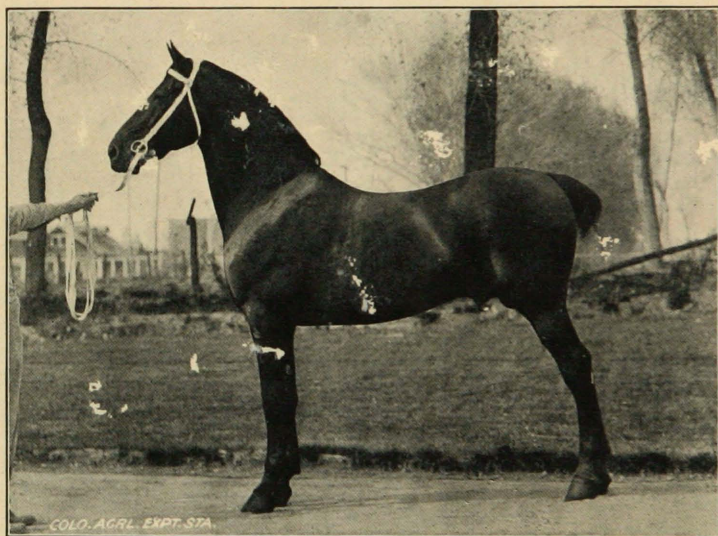
Any exhibitor falsifying the breeding of entries will be barred.

Entries in all classes must be practically sound.

JUDGING.

Entries in all classes to be judged on conformation, style, action, and manners as a suitable type of carriage horse. Special attention will be given to trueness of action. Good knee and hock action are essential. Entries in all classes should trot and walk straight and true, and judges will especially avoid horses showing a tendency to pace, mix gaits, paddle in front or sprawl behind.

The following percentages will govern judges in classes 1, 2,



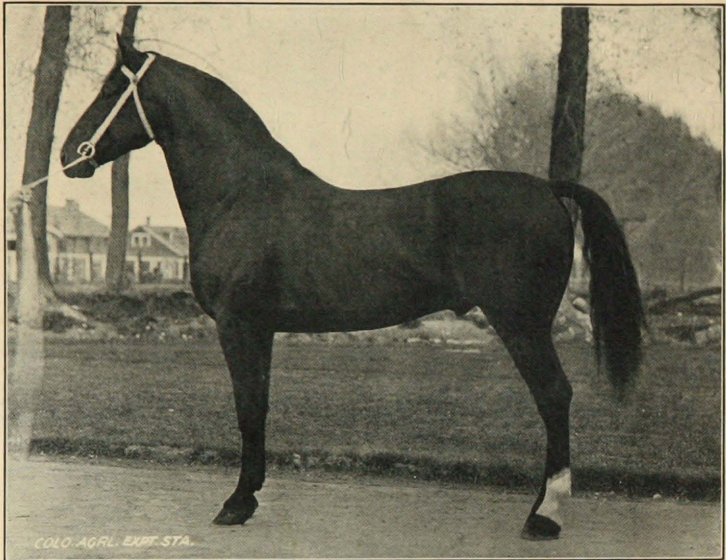
STUD NO. 1. CARMON 32917, AT 15 YEARS OF AGE.

Standard bred carriage stallion, shown as "Glorious Thundercloud." At the head of the Government stud at the Colorado Experiment Station.

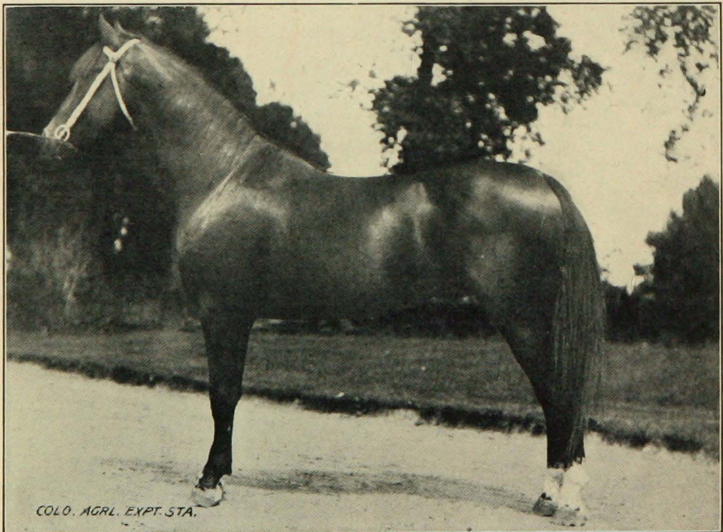
3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9: General conformation and all-round suitability as a carriage type, 60 per cent; style, action, and manners, 40 per cent.

The following percentages will govern in class 5: General conformation and all-round suitability of sire as a carriage type, 30 per cent; style, action, and manners of sire, 20 per cent; general conformation and all-round suitability of get as a carriage type, taken as a whole, 30 per cent; style, action, manners, and uniformity of type in get, 20 per cent.

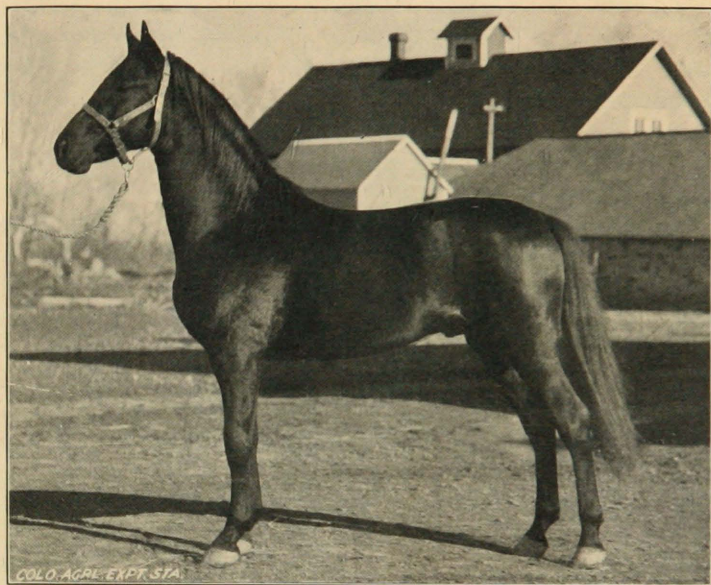
The following percentages will govern in class 10: General conformation of dam as a brood mare of the carriage type, 50 per



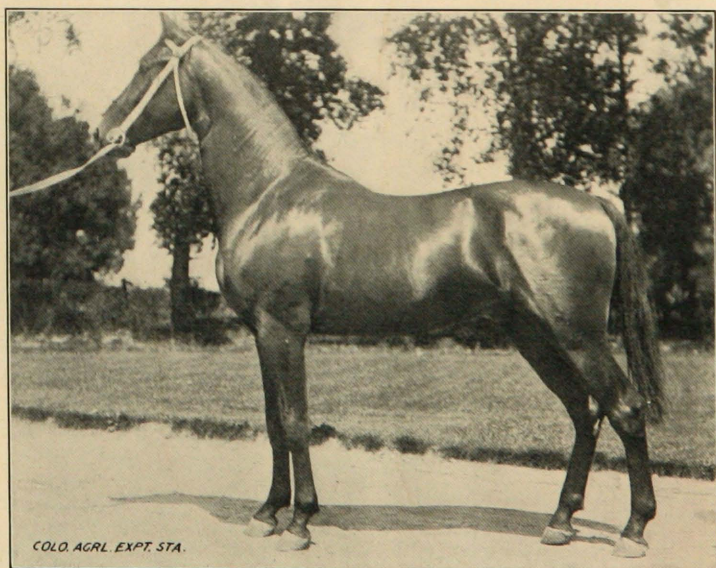
STUD NO. 37, ALBION, AT 4 YEARS OF AGE.



STUD NO. 39, ALVA, AT 4 YEARS OF AGE.



STUD NO. 40, BALFOUR, AT 3 YEARS OF AGE.



STUD NO. 46, CHESTER BOURBON 3577 (S), AT 2 YEARS OF AGE.

cent; general conformation, style, action, and manners of the foal, 50 per cent.

The following percentages will govern in class 11: General conformation of entry as a carriage type, 70 per cent; style, action, and manners, 30 per cent.

MANNER OF SHOWING.

Entries in classes 1, 2, 6, and 7 to be shown in harness, hitched to any suitable vehicle. Entries in all other classes to be shown in hand to bridle or halter. Excessive weight in shoeing in any class is forbidden.

CLASSES.

- Class 1. Stallion 4 years old or over.
- Class 2. Stallion 3 years old and under 4.
- Class 3. Stallion 2 years old and under 3.
- Class 4. Stallion 1 year old and under 2.
- Class 5. Stallion with three of his get of either sex; get need not be owned by exhibitor.
- Class 6. Mare 4 years old or over.
- Class 7. Mare 3 years old and under 4.
- Class 8. Mare 2 years old and under 3.
- Class 9. Mare 1 year old and under 2.
- Class 10. Mare and foal of either sex.
- Class 11. Foal under 1 year old, either sex.

The above classification, if carefully studied, will give the breeder a definite idea of what is desirable in an American carriage horse. The classification is not intended to antagonize or conflict in any way with the classifications offered for individuals possessing the blood lines mentioned therein. The type desired is distinct from either those required in the American Trotter, American Saddle or Morgan classification.

SALE OF SURPLUS ANIMALS.

The animals used in connection with the breeding operations at the station, along with their offspring, are inspected annually by a Board of Survey consisting of Mr. Geo. M. Rommel, Chief of Animal Husbandry Division, U. S. Department of Agriculture; Professor C. F. Curtiss, Director of Iowa Experiment Station, and the officer in charge of the breeding establishment, with a view of determining the producing qualities of the various animals in the stud and the progress made during the preceding year. In the past the inspection has resulted in the elimination of some of the original herd of mares and many of the offspring produced at the station and placing them on sale to the public at auction. The animals eliminated from the stud in this manner are sold without reserve and also without obligation on the part of the station to the buyer after the animal is sold.

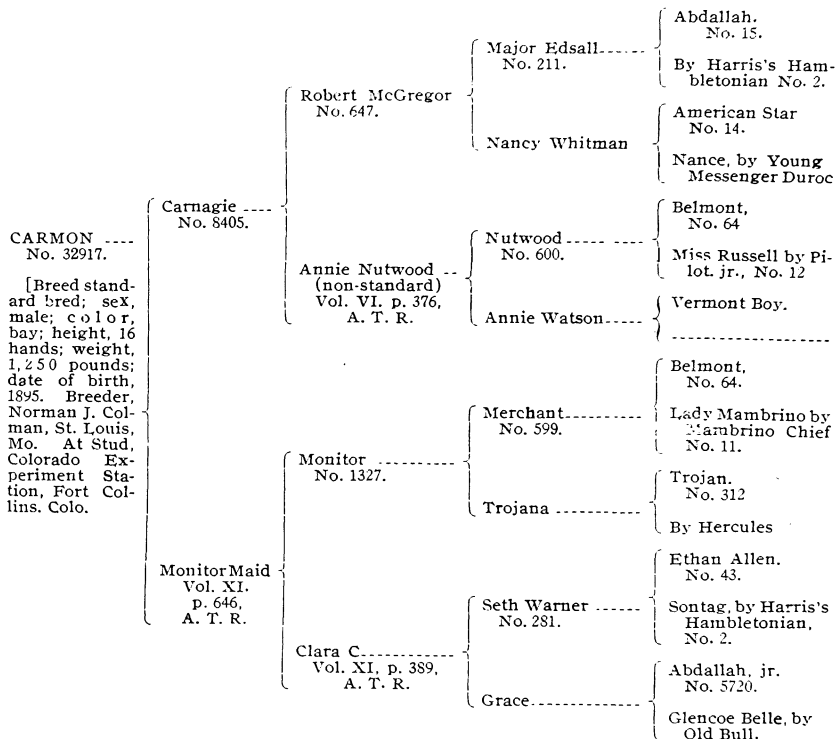
STALLIONS IN SERVICE.

The stallions described herein will be allowed to stand for public service to a limited number of approved mares.

CARMON—32917, Stud No. 1. *

The stallion Carmon is the foundation sire in service at the breeding station. He is a bright bay, standing 16 hands in height and weighs 1250 pounds. Carmon is a standard bred stallion of carriage type.

PEDIGREE OF CARMON

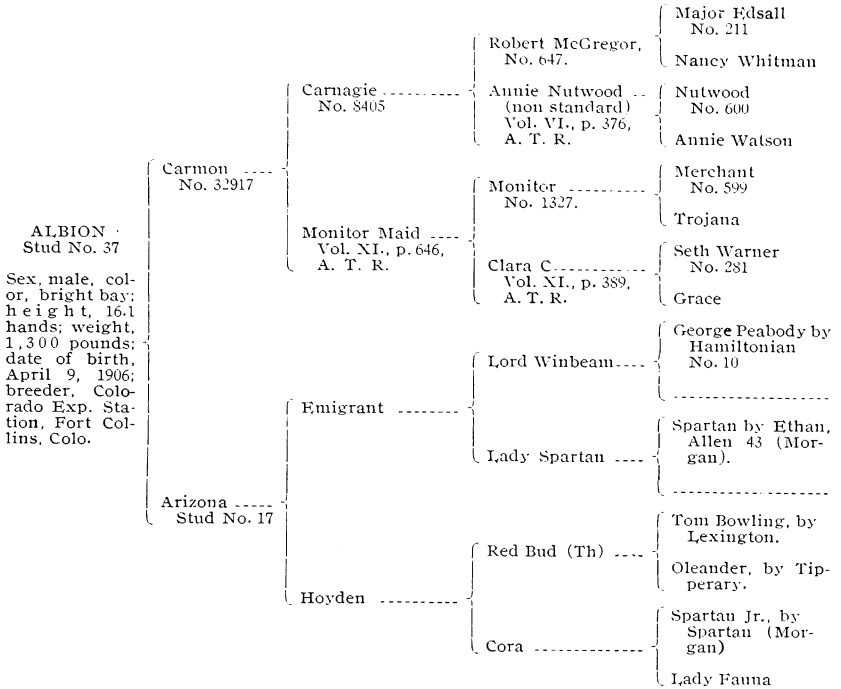


* In giving registry numbers the following system is used to indicate the register in which any given number appears: Those in the American Trotting Register are printed open, thus: Carmon 32917. Those in the American Saddle Horse Register are followed by a capital S in parenthesis, thus: Chester Bourbon 3577 (S). Thoroughbred horses are designated thus: (TH).

ALBION—Stud No. 37.

Albion is a bright bay stallion, standing 16:1 hands in height and weighing 1300 pounds. He was sired by Carmon and his dam, Arizona, was sired by Emigrant. His pedigree is as follows:

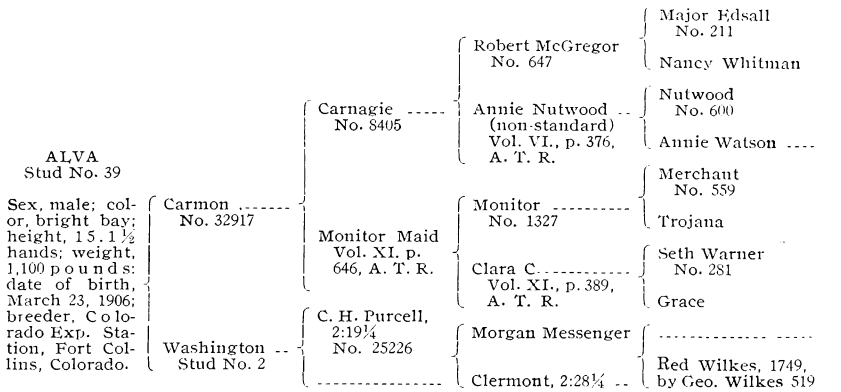
PEDIGREE OF ALBION



ALVA—Stud No. 39.

The stallion Alva is a bright bay in color, standing 15:1½ hands in height and weighing 1100 pounds. His pedigree is as follows:

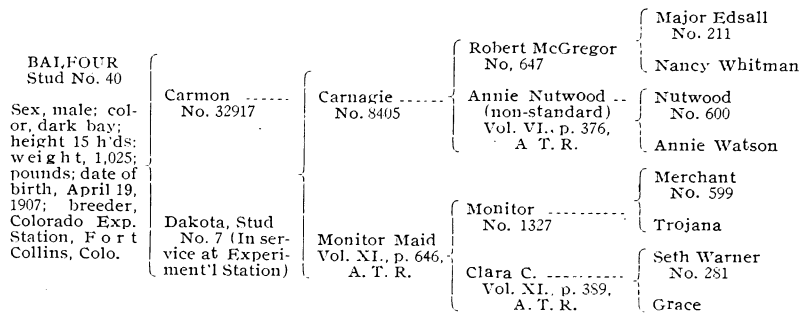
PEDIGREE OF ALVA



BALFOUR—Stud No. 40.

Balfour is a dark bay stallion, standing about 15 hands in height and weighing 1025 pounds. He is a stallion of exceptional quality and action. His pedigree is as follows:

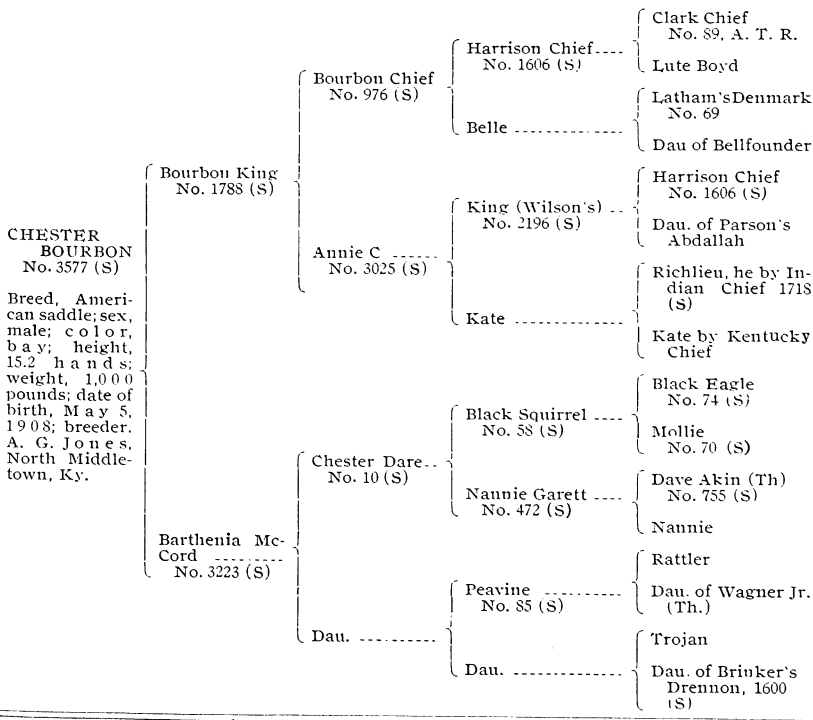
PEDIGREE OF BALFOUR



CHESTER BOURBON—3577 (S).

This stallion is a registered American Saddle stallion which will be placed in the stud during the season 1911 to a limited number of approved mares. This horse stands 15:2 hands, and weighs 1000 pounds as a two year old. His description and pedigree follows:

PEDIGREE OF CHESTER BOURBON



The stallions herein named are in service at the station during the season of 1910. Other stallions will mature and be placed in service during each succeeding year, thereby adding to the number now in service.

TERMS OF SERVICE.

Private individuals can avail themselves of the services of the above named stallions under the following conditions:

1. The mares to be bred must be approved by the officer in charge.

2. Service fee must be paid at the time of first service, the amount for each stallion being given below. The groom is instructed not to furnish service unless authorized by the officer in charge.

3. Owners of mares will be allowed return privileges at any time during the breeding season of the same year in which the first service is given. The following fees will prevail until further notice:

Carmon	\$25.00
Albion	15.00
Alva	10.00
Balfour	10.00
Chester Bourbon (will be placed in stud, 1911).	

4. The utmost care will be exercised to prevent any accidents while mares are in the custody of the Colorado Experiment Station, but neither the Station nor the Department will be responsible should any occur.

FACILITIES FOR KEEPING OUTSIDE MARES.

The Station is equipped to keep a limited number of mares belonging to private individuals. This arrangement is provided for those who send mares from a distance. Owners of mares living within a convenient distance of the Station cannot be provided with accommodations for their mares.

The following fees will be charged for mares kept at the Station:

For pasturage alone, 50 cents per week for each animal.

For paddock at Station (with hay and pasturage), \$1.00 per week for each animal.

For box stall and stable accommodations, \$1.50 per week for each animal.

If grain ration is desired, and additional charge of \$1.00 per week for each animal will be charged.