

THE THOROUGHBRED CROSS.

It is admitted by experts in breeding, that while character may come from the dam, strength and endurance must be inherited from the sire, and it is on this basis that many governments have placed selected stallions for service with cold blooded mares.

When one comes to think it over, it is strange that Canada, with its thousands of square miles of pasture land, has not yet developed any national type of horse. There is nothing in this country to compare with the Orloff of Russia, the Hackney of England, or the superb type of draught of Belgium, which Frank Carpenter aptly described as "an elephant in horse hide." The breeding industry in this country is a veritable pot pourri.

The horse has degenerated, and this is because thoroughbred blood, which is a practical necessity, is wanting. Being the pure parent blood, it inevitably betters all and any with which it may be infused. The result is good bone, perfect conformation, open gait, courage of highest character and early maturity.

The thoroughbred when first imported into America represented two hundred years of the most careful thought and work on the part of the English people. He was a type developed to suit the needs of man from a pony fourteen hands high. The thoroughbred as he stands to-day is the product of three hundred years of well directed effort; of effort that has required the expenditure of multiplied millions of dollars.

Count Lehndorff, the famous German Master of the Horse, and one of the closest students of breeding in the world, says that as a business proposition it pays the German Government to send to England and invest as much as \$100,000 in the best race horse that England can produce; a horse able to take up weight and carry it over a distance of ground, simply to bring that horse to Germany to be mated with common farm mares. This will be conceded a most potent argument in favour of thoroughbred blood in the improvement of the general type of horse.

The farmers of Canada will perhaps be surprised to know that in France, the Breeding Bureau plan has reached its greatest perfection. According to the 1907 Budget of the French Minister of Agriculture, \$3,667,000 were paid for cavalry remounts in that year, and for this year the Chamber of Deputies has voted \$3,475,000; nearly all of this vast sum goes into the pockets of French breeders and farmers.