

## First Lessons for the Colt

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has got into the rig, adjusted his robe, taken up his reins and whip, and given the word to go on.

Take pains to accustom the colt to all the fearsome sights of the road. A horse cannot be said to be perfectly broken nowadays until he will stand still and untrifled with a trolley car in front of him, a freight train on a steam road passing close behind him, and an automobile panting and snorting beside him. A horse is not worth a dollar note if he shies at automobiles and traction engines moving or at rest. Times have changed in this regard. Nowadays much more is required of the driver or family horse than was formerly the case when "devil-wagons" and tractors were practically unknown.

## Teach the Lessons Thoroughly

Remember that a horse is a creature of habit. It takes repetition to impress his lessons upon his brain. He is not a very intelligent beast at the best and requires both patience and firmness to get his best out of him. Always be decisive. Use the whip only when required and then sharply, so that it makes a lasting impression. Speak seldom to the colt.

Habits contracted early in life will stick to a horse indefinitely. Hence the necessity of starting him properly. Lessons learned at two years of age will never be forgotten. Colts broken at that period of their existence may be turned out for a year and when taken up again will be found to remember all that was taught them, the good as well as the bad. Go easy always and persevere. Never leave a lesson half learned. Make the colt understand from the first that his use in harness is strictly a business proposition, that he must have no will of his own and that he must obey promptly. Cheerful, prompt acquiescence in the driver's commands, whether conveyed by word or rein, is an asset of merchantable value.

Personally I prefer to use a blind bridle when giving a colt his first lessons in harness, so that he may contract the habit of looking straight ahead and going on about his business, unknowing that which is coming behind. This gives him, in my experience, greater confidence in his driver. When he is thoroughly broken an open bridle may be substituted for the blind one, if the owner so desires, but under all circumstances I have found that for horses young or old the blind bridle is the better. I am convinced also that a horse works more easily in harness with a moderately tight check-rein, but the use of that part of the harness is optional with the owner, once the colt is broken.

## Lumber for the Farm

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distance, they should be bought locally. When ordering, one firm suggests that the farmer should try and learn the grades and different kinds of lumber when possible as a good many times when erecting a building No. 2 material would answer just as well as No. 1. They say that nine times out of ten the farmer will specify a certain kind of siding when a different kind would be just as good or possibly better and sometimes on the same grade having a little different shape he could save several dollars per thousand.

It is wasteful also to order definite lengths for any lumber other than straight dimension timbers. Most of the British Columbia mills conform to certain recognised regulations and all quotations are based upon a standard list. Dimension timbers are quoted in specified lengths in even feet such as 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 feet, etc. Boards, shiplap, siding, flooring, ceiling and finish are quoted in random lengths running from 8 to 16 feet. Boards, shiplap and siding are finished in even lengths, which permits the breaking of joints on studs or joists placed two feet apart. A board which measures anything short of 14 feet is measured as a 12 foot board. Flooring, ceiling and finish are furnished in straight foot lengths such as 10, 11, 12, etc. All random lengths call for a proportion of each length and will run largely to 12, 14 or 16 feet. The general rule followed is to make an extra charge of \$2 per thousand on shiplap and boards and \$4 per thousand flooring, siding, ceiling and finish if specified lengths are ordered. Thus since there is nothing to be gained by specifying certain lengths

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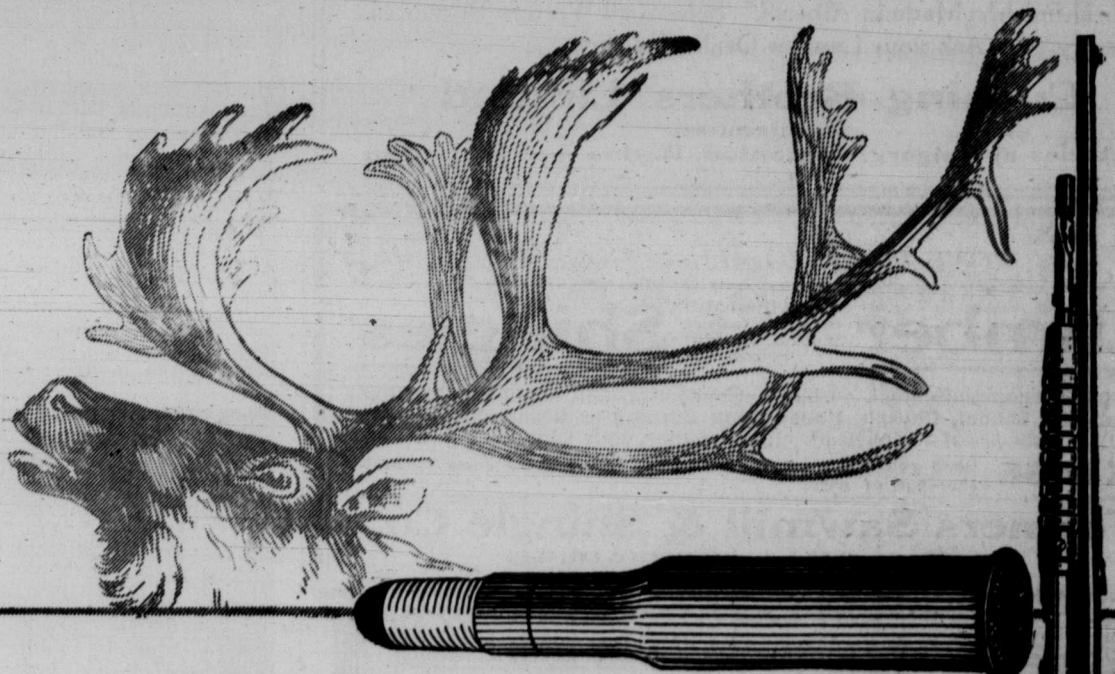


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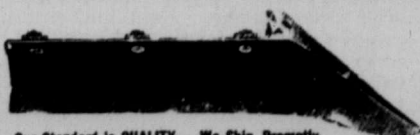
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