

assured of this beforehand they would not have appointed them to officiate, and therefore why deny them information which they might, in the exercise of their judgment, consider necessary? Besides, is all this semi-secrecy anything better than a farce, at best? If the judge and an exhibitor mean to do that which is wrong, the withholding of a catalogue will not prevent them, and, therefore, as a preventive against collusion, the prevailing practice is absurd.—[Showgoer, in Live-stock Journal.]

Stumbling Horses.

Some horses are so sure-footed in their action that they never stumble under any circumstances—or practically never. But the majority of horses are liable to stumble on occasion, through some cause or other, while in some cases horses are, to a greater or less extent, in the habit of stumbling. When a horse is habitually apt or inclined to stumble, the stumbling constitutes a fault of action, and a bad fault, too, as there is always connected with it the possibility, if not the probability, of its entailing serious consequences, sooner or later, through the animal coming down.

The action of some horses is so low at the walk and trot that they are prone to stumble whenever the ground is at all rough or uneven. In some cases horses are by nature very slipshod in their action, failing to lift their feet sufficiently high off the ground, and this may give rise to stumbling, whilst sometimes sheer laziness, which causes the horse to move in a slovenly manner, is the cause of this evil. A propensity to stumble is pretty commonly found in horses whose conformation makes them heavy in front, and in those that go much on their forehead, whilst the failing is also very liable to occur in the case of horses whose fore legs are weak or groggy, or actually unsound.

A line of distinction must be drawn between the special and habitual propensity to stumble, which is due to one of the causes mentioned above—and which, as has been said, constitutes a fault of action—and that liability to stumble owing to some accidental cause to which horses generally—barring the most sure-footed—are subject. Fatigue and weakness, or want of condition, are common causes of a horse accidentally stumbling, as, often when a horse is tired or not fit, it fails to lift its feet sufficiently clear of the ground. Very frequently the carelessness of the rider or driver is entirely to blame when the horse stumbles, owing to failure to keep the animal properly in hand and sufficiently collected. In some cases horses are caused to stumble easily on account of their feet growing unduly long at the toes, as usually occurs when the horse is allowed to go too long without being re-shod. Sometimes one finds that a horse is unusually liable to stumble for a short time after being provided with new shoes, the evil ceasing as soon as the shoes have become worn a bit. Young raw horses, which have not as yet learnt to move in a properly-balanced manner, being apt to sprawl, and lying heavy on the bit from sheer awkwardness and greenness, are frequently given to stumbling occasionally, but matters soon improve in this respect, as a rule, as their education becomes more complete. Finally, stumbling is often caused by a pure accident, the horse somehow or other missing his foothold.

The prevention of stumbling in all cases, of course, rests with the rider or driver, who, it need hardly be said, must always exercise the necessary care to avoid the risk of stumbling as far as possible by keeping his horse—or horses—well in hand and properly collected. The chances of a stumble occurring are reduced to a minimum when the horse is kept collected and is moving in a well-balanced manner. There are some horses that may safely be ridden with a slack rein, but, as a general rule, the rider or driver simply invites a stumble by a slack rein, and to ride or drive a horse without keeping a sufficient feeling on the bit, is a risk that a good horseman will not incur, excepting, perhaps, when he is quite sure of his horse, though even then it ought not to be done, and certainly is careless.

Seeing that fatigue often gives rise to stumbling, special care must be exercised to keep a horse well in hand and up to the bit when it is tired. The more liable a horse is to stumble, the more carefully should the animal be ridden or driven. As regards the curing of an habitual and special propensity to stumble, it depends much upon the cause of the evil whether or not it can be remedied. When it is due to low action, it may be possible to improve the latter by careful training. Thus, it is often found that horses whose action is of the "daisy-cutting" style, gradually learn to lift their feet up a bit higher when they are continually taken over rough and uneven ground. Similarly, when a horse's action is so slovenly as to cause frequent stumbling, it may, under favorable conditions, be improved by subjecting the horse to a course of training with this object in view. When the fault is due to the horse being heavy in front, or going too much on its forehead, it may be feasible to remedy this by teaching the animal to balance itself better, and to bring its hind legs more underneath the body when moving, thus lightening the forehead. In frequent cases an habitual tendency to stumble admits of no cure.—[H. F., in Live-stock Journal.]

Broken Wind or Heaves.

Broken-winded horses are becoming very numerous, chiefly from heredity and breeding so many unsound mares. The veterinary editor of London Farm and Home thus presents the conditions:

"Broken wind is not curable, or it would not be such a common thing to see a good class of horse sold at a ridiculously low price because of this infirmity; but it is quite possible, by judicious management, to keep the ordinary case going with tolerable comfort to the animal and a fair amount of satisfaction to the owner or driver who is not particularly horseproud. The first thing is to appreciate or take into consideration the nature and cause of what is popularly called 'broken wind.' It is not a respiratory disease, in the proper acceptance of the term, but is due, in the majority of cases, to bad feeding. Feeding an inordinate quantity of bulky, innutritious fodder, particularly badly-saved, moldy or dusty seed hay, is one of the most common causes of broken wind. The class of horses most frequently found to be broken-winded are farm horses and inferior ponies. Both are greedy feeders, and both belong to a class of owner notoriously niggardly in their provision of grain. Thus, the broken-winded horse should be fed on the best of food, and of a less bulky or more concentrated character than is generally supplied to horses of this class. More oats and less hay should be given, and all the food should be free from dust, and given slightly dampened, by sprinkling with salt and water. The broken-winded horse should be fed on the little-and-often principle, and the daily allowance of food divided into a large number of small feeds. The hours of feeding should be adapted to the hours of work, so that the horse is not called upon to labor on a distended stomach. The largest meal

never be allowed to become constipated, and when judicious feeding with linseed, carrots or green stuff does not suffice to keep them regular, a laxative should be given."

Registration of Standard-breds.

Will you publish in your paper as soon as possible the difference in detail, and your opinion along the lines of merit between:

1. The American Trotting Association Regulations, and
2. The American Trotting Association Progressive Standard, of Boston?

I do not wish you to implicate yourself in any way, but you will do a favor to small breeders throughout the Dominion by letting us see which may be the best, which we should look to for pure-bred sires, and which would be most beneficial to us when registering our young stock.

I have two yearlings to register, and I am undecided. I always thought the A. T. A. the best, but I find they have strains of blood infused in what they term Standard-bred progeny now, the originals of which, if they were alive to-day, could not be registered. We get horse and pedigree, but no speed; nevertheless, sire and dam are No. so-and-so in the A. T. R.

This is a practical question, and one on which farmers ought to be enlightened. For instance, I hear of No. so-and-so, Standard-bred, A. T. R., go and see him, nice horse and good pedigree, and when I go home and look up his ancestry, I find that neither they nor their get ever trotted in 2.30. Still, I am the one that has the dam, and I must breed to such a horse because he is A. T. R., No. so-and-so. Now what is your opinion? Are horses registered in either Chicago or Boston equally eligible to Standard-bred classes in the show-ring and on the Canadian and American race-tracks?

J. A. B.

We do not propose to discuss the merits or demerits of the two Associations mentioned, nor yet draw invidious comparisons. It is not our province to do so. In order to see the "difference in detail," all that is necessary for any person to do is to get a copy of the rules for registration in each and compare them. As a matter of fact, there is little if any material difference between them. I will take the liberty of analyzing a few of the remarks of the questioner. He asks, "which should we look to for pure-bred sires, and which would be most beneficial to us when registering our stock?" Now, whether or not a "Standard-bred" is a "pure-bred," is a question that will admit of considerable discussion. We know that the breed or class is of composite breeding, and that from the first, even to the present, a certain degree of speed at the trotting or pacing gait, combined with a certain degree of speed of two or more of his or her progeny, rendered an animal eligible for registration as a "Standard-bred." Now, when we analyze this, it must convince us that a "Standard-bred" is not necessarily a "pure-bred." Take instance of a male colt not eligible at birth for registration, hence not "pure-bred," although his sire was Standard-bred and his dam and grandam were both sired by Standard-breds. As this colt grows he develops speed, is raced, and gets a trotting record of 2.30 or better, is then put in the stud, and sires three colts (out of different mares) that take trotting records of 2.30 or better. The fact that he himself has speed and he has proved his ability to sire speed, makes him "Standard-bred," and he is registered as so-and-so, No. so-and-so, A. T. R. Can we now call him "pure-bred"? Does the fact that he has speed, etc., change in any way the purity of his breeding? Does the speed developed infuse into his veins purer blood than he had at birth? We say no; as regards purity of breeding, he is the same as when born. All horses that are eligible to registration, and are not the produce of a Standard-bred stallion out of a Standard-bred mare, have earned their eligibility to registration by the speed developed in them and in their progeny. An animal, either stallion or mare, that is registered under these conditions, has at least proved his individuality, while one that is Standard-bred at birth may not have individuality that would recommend him for any purposes, hence it is often claimed that the horse that is "Standard-bred" by performance



Roch's Madam.

Shire mare and foal. First at Shropshire & West Midland Show, 1906.

should be given at night, after the work is over, and this is the time when the largest part of the moderate quantity of hay allowed should be fed. Linseed and bran should be given occasionally in the form of mash. Carrots and green food are good for broken-winded horses, because they are digestible and slightly laxative, but too much green-meal is incompatible with condition, and the thing to be aimed at in the case of a broken-winded horse is the maintenance of the animal in hard condition. A cool, well-ventilated stable is a necessity. Water is best kept standing within reach of the animal, so that it can drink at will, or, where this is not possible, water should be offered before each feed. It should be soft water, and the trough should be kept clean and the supply frequently changed. Regular, moderate work, without which the maintenance of condition is impracticable, is better for the broken-winded horse than irregular labor or long spells of idleness. At the start go slowly, until the bowels have been emptied. The distended stomach and bowels, by pressing on the diaphragm, increase the distress in breathing, and this is another reason for the food being more concentrated, or why it should contain the elements of nutrition in as small bulk as possible. There is always a characteristic cough associated with broken wind, and on some occasions, where there has been some departure from the rules of feeding or good hygiene, or in certain states of the weather, there is an increase in the severity of the symptoms, which may call for medicine to relieve them, but drugs are not of much use in ordinary cases of broken wind, and should not be persisted in when the acute symptoms have yielded. When recourse is had to medicine from time to time, it seems more effective than when regularly given. The bowels of the broken-winded horse should

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