

How does the Clydesdale measure up?

Clydesdale horses have for many decades been bred with the object of filling all these requirements. Quality has always been an outstanding feature in the results which have come from the breeders' efforts. Few horsemen dispute the fact that for clean limbs, obliquity of pasterns and big, strong feet the Clydesdale compares favorably with any other draft breed. Possibly size has been sacrificed a little to quality. One thing is certain, too much size cannot be obtained in the present-day draft horse, and Clydesdale breeders, with quality well established, would do well to pay particular attention to size in their breeding stock. There are heavier horses than the Clydesdale but there is no breed that will move heavier loads according to weight with greater ease. Quality and spirit have made the breed of outstanding excellence in endurance—the power to get work done. In clean-cut character, trimness and beauty no breed, as a breed, excels the Clydesdale, but more attention might well be paid to strength of top, to middle and to muscling. If selecting breeding stock the breeder who is looking to the future should pay attention to weight, coupling, middle, muscling and capacity as well as to quality of underpinning and action. Get the Clydesdale that is good at the ground, but also see that it is a fair distance from the ground to the top of his withers and that a goodly part of the space is filled with a great, deep, heavy body. See that he moves boldly and straight and that he shows the soles of his feet well when trotting. Taking it all in all there is no draft breed which shows more of the desirable characteristics than does the Clydesdale. Other breeds are good and all have a place to fill and most fill their places well. All have their faults. Breeders must recognize the weak points of their breeds and must breed to overcome such weakness. There is no better draft horse than the top-notch Clyde. There will always be a keen demand for the toppers. Canada has too many little, misfit horses. All should help make the Clydesdales of Canada better special-purpose draft horses. The greatest need of the present is the careful use of more weighty, high quality sires. The little sire and the scrub must be discarded by breeders who should use nothing but the best.

## FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO HORSE BREEDING

By C. M. MacRae, Chief, Horse Division.

The farmers of any district, wishing to work for the betterment of horse breeding by encouraging the use of sound, individually excellent, pure bred sires, may form a breeders' club for the purpose of hiring a pure bred stallion to travel their district for the benefit of the members. This club, by organizing under and adopting the constitution and by-laws, and conforming to the various rules and regulations governing this grant, may participate in the federal assistance given to such clubs as hereinafter set forth:

1. The club shall guarantee the stallion owner a definite number of mares at a certain service fee per mare, said mares to be in good breeding con-