

main roads in approved locations and to an approved standard. This phase of the work will be continued as it is possible for the local municipalities to provide for it.

The Government also undertakes to disseminate information regarding methods to the municipalities, so as to bring the work they do to a higher and more satisfactory standard, both by the distribution of bulletins and by the construction of roads under direct supervision of the Government authorities, to serve as examples of how the work should be done.

A constant effort along this line has been made during the last six or seven years, with considerable success.

A. J. McPHERSON,
Chairman of the Board.

HORSES.

The stallion which stands for a low fee is, as a general thing, dear at any price.

The time to feed for weight is when the colt is young. Greater gains are always made while the animal is growing.

The model draft horse should show a vigorous, lively, energetic disposition, yet be docile, tractable and intelligent. He should be neither sluggish nor irritable, nor excessively nervous.

The drafter is called upon to do most of his work at the walk. It is most important, therefore, that he be able to walk fast. The time to begin such training is when the colt is young.

The cost of raising the right kind of colt, as compared with that required in producing the scrub, is the same, but selling time shows a vast difference in values in favor of the colt from the good sire and dam.

The foal from unsound sire or dam may be sound when foaled, but such animals very often inherit a predisposition to the disease or unsoundness with which the parents are affected, and if at any time the colt is subjected to unfavorable conditions or bad treatment, the unsoundness appears. Nothing but sound stock can be safely used for breeding purposes.

Feet and legs are perhaps the most important parts of the horse, and at the same time the most likely to be affected with unsoundness. In selecting a sire, brood mare, or work horse, look well to the underpinning. Clean, flat, flinty bone, with fine, silky feathering, strong, angular hocks and strong, straight knees, oblique pasterns, large hoof-heads and large, strong feet, are indications of a useful animal.

Feeding Grain to Horses.

If one were to ask what is the favorite grain for horse-feeding, there would be a unanimous "Oats!" in reply, but, further than that, unanimity would be a lost feature. Every one would have his way, his time, and his amount to feed, hardly two of which would agree, yet nearly all of which would be a success in the right hands. The two greatest controversies that come up in horse-feeding are the amounts to feed, and whether or not oats should be chopped. In the first case, the amount fed will depend entirely upon the amount of work done, but a safe average would be a gallon of oats three times a day for a 1,200-pound horse doing heavy work, and from this feed according to amount of work done and the corresponding weight of the horse.

Regarding the crushing of oats, this is entirely optional if the horse's teeth are good and he does not "bolt" his grain. However, for old horses and fast feeders, the oats are better crushed. Many crush all their oats for the purpose of destroying weed seeds that may be in the oats. If oats are crushed, they should be milled in small quantities that will be eaten within the week. If chopped oats are left longer they will become stale, and finally go musty.

This year, when there is so much feed wheat in the country, many will put this into their ration, and rightly so. However, wheat is one of the strongest grains, and must be fed with caution and close attention to horses. For this reason, it would be well to chop it and mix it in chopped oats in a ratio of about one to two.

Mares in foal should never be fed heavily with grain, as there is a tendency to constipation that will go seriously with the mare at foaling time and the foal immediately afterwards. If she is stabled, feed boiled feeds quite frequently in place of the raw grain.—*Farmer's Advocate and Home Journal*, Winnipeg, Man.

Hitching Teams Tandem.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The frequent reference in your paper to the various ways of hitching up more than two horses into a team has often prompted me to make the following inquiry, which I think may be of enough general interest to merit a little of your space.

Out West, where horses did some very long hauling, for a saving in wages, as many as sixteen or eighteen were sometimes hitched into one team, all under the care of one teamster and one roustabout. Putting them abreast was, of course, out of the question, so they were stretched out one span in front of the other. For a team like this, there would usually be four wagons, hitched one behind the other by a "bull" or short tongue, the heavier wagons being forward or nearest the team. The horses pulled on what is called stretchers—two whiffletrees spread apart by a four-foot stick or a piece of small gas-pipe, and connected by a piece of chain with a ring in the middle, into which the draw chain was hooked.

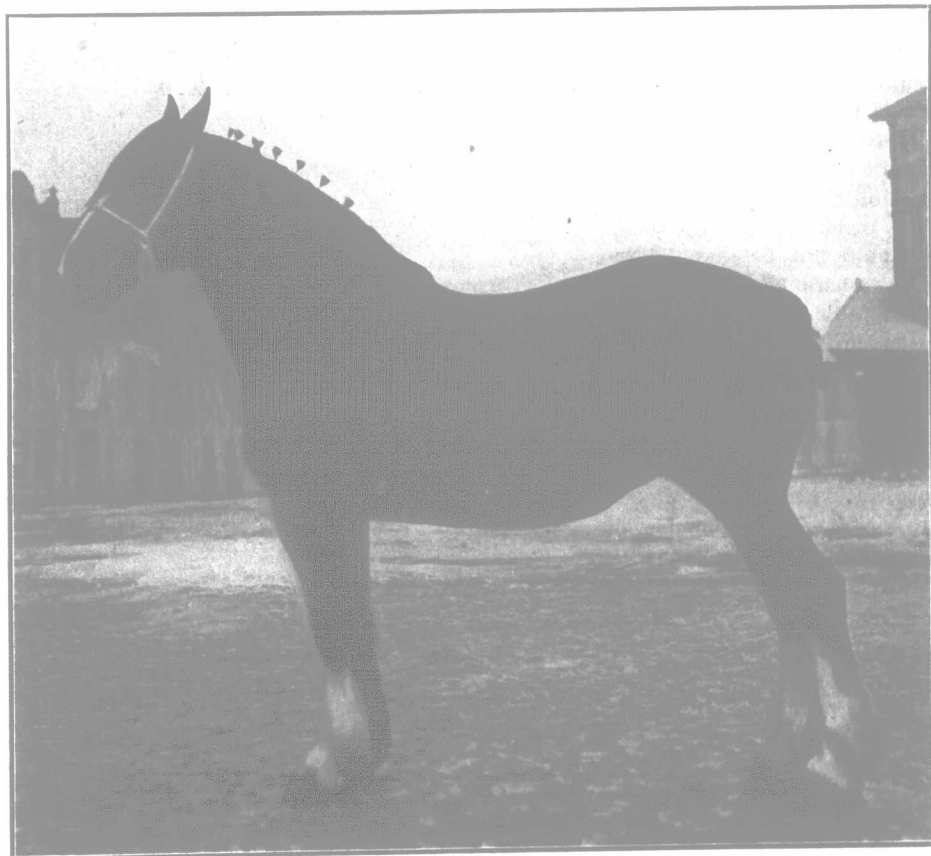
As many as six horses, and sometimes eight, can be fairly well managed by the "ribbons" or "checks"—i. e., a line for each horse, so long as the work is on the road; but when it comes to guiding the long teams, or even the shorter ones, in the fields, a very much simpler method must be used. This is called the "jerk" line, and consists of a single line stretching all along the high hames, and snapped to a chin-strap on

against it, but it can never be more clumsy on the turns, nor awkward to handle, than the beam-like evenness of a four-horse hitch. Neither can the loss of power due to the stretcher be any greater than having one or two horses walking on the plowed ground. And how simple is the hitch, compared with the multiplication of lines and forks we see in some of the illustrations in "The Farmer's Advocate." One can but conclude that at least some of them are designed by the hired man without a time-card, and not the boss.

The training is not a difficult task, and any young chap who has the confidence of his horses and a little patience may be sure of success. The line-leader must be intelligent and cool enough to be able to take an order, without dwelling on the punishment he deserves if he refuses. He should never, through fear, hesitate to push his mate promptly around. This is sometimes serious at heavy work on dangerous roads. Both leaders should be willing enough to keep out of their followers' way.

In the case of a green team, we used to use "ribbons" on the leaders, or more, if necessary, until all pulled up together when ordered. As soon as all are familiar with their places, the "jerk" line may be introduced. It will greatly concern any but the one leader after the first few manœuvres. Until he is perfectly easy, someone he is not afraid of should walk beside him and prompt him in obeying orders.

The "jerk" line—to begin with—is connected to a fork over the horse's neck. This fork is a little shorter on the high or left side than on the "off" or right, so that when the line is pulled steadily the leader will always "haw." From the right hames ring to the "gee" or right bit ring a line is fastened just loose enough that it will tighten only when the head is raised higher than usual, so that when a sudden jerk is given to the line, sufficiently hard to make the leader raise his head, the line from the hames will pull him "gee." After the leader has become quite reliable, the fork may be dispensed with, and the line snapped directly to a ring on a chin strap. The hitch



A Typical Clydesdale Mare.

is then reduced to the simplest I know anything about, except the single chain and yoke of the ox-team.

Prescott Co., Ont.
GORDON S. LAMB.

Co-operation in Horse Breeding.

Co-operation in its truest sense is being worked out by a Farmers' Club Horse Association, of L'Amable, Hastings County, Ontario. This Association, which is at present capitalized at \$1,200, was financed by a scheme whereby each and every member became financially responsible for the indebtedness of the Association, thus banding the members together in a sort of community interest that is solidified by the common responsibility felt and borne by all. The second annual meeting of the Association was recently held, and the finances were found to be in a flourishing condition, a dividend of 25 per cent. being paid. Stockholders are, as far as possible, allowed only one share of \$10. This makes the interest general.

The County of Hastings is to be congratulated upon the success of this movement, and every farmer in Canada can well afford to consider the advantages of "working together."

After seeding is over and the rush of spring's work past, give every horse a chance to clean out his system by a run on good pasture. Pasture grass is the very best spring medicine, acts as a laxative, cleansing and toning up the animal's system after a winter's dry feeding.