

HORSES.

Montreal Horse Show.

The hearty support given by the wealthier citizens of Montreal to their annual horse show has had the effect of bringing this exhibition into the very front rank, and their loyalty appears specially commendable when it is considered that a large part of the prize-money is carried away each year by exhibitors from Ontario. There is no more popular function held in the arena during the year than the horse show, when all classes of society are represented.

There were two striking features of the show, held May 12th to 15th, the first being the invasion of crack horses from New York, while the other was the prominent part taken by Thoroughbreds, most of them recent importations from across the border. From Sandy Point Farm, Reginald Vanderbilt brought his famous pair of high-steppers, Lord Burleigh and Lord Brooke, as well as his single drivers, Phoebe Watton and Dr. Selwink. Seven firsts fell to his lot, the only defeat being in the tandem class, which was won by C. Ed. Gudevill, Montreal. Mr. Lonzo Sauvage, of Newark, N. J., captured several prizes, among them a first and second for single runabouts.

Thoroughbreds and Standard-breds made what was perhaps the best display of such horses ever seen in a show-ring in Canada. A new class was listed in the catalogue, in recognition of the work of the Canadian National Bureau of Breeding, the official description being stallions three years old and upwards, qualified to improve the breed of army remounts, saddle horses and hunters, and placed for service in Canada. Seven fine specimens came forward, including such noted animals as Masterman, Rosemount, Javlin, Ostrich and Sea Horse. Dr. J. G. Rutherford, Live-stock Commissioner, Ottawa, was assisted in the judging by Hon. Robt. Beith, Bowmanville, and Major Wm. Hendrie, Hamilton; and, after close inspection for unsoundness, placed Rosemount, a son of Hastings, at the head of the line. Rosemount is at present held by S. Nesbitt, Petite Cote, near Montreal. He has both quality and substance, and stand 15.3 hands. Second prize went to Ostrich, an eight-year-old, that has been placed by the Bureau at Outremont, Que. Javlin, entered by Dr. R. E. Webster, Ottawa, was third, and Masterman, who was not in show condition, brought fourth to the Montreal Fox-hunters' Association.

The open class for Thoroughbred stallions included five from the Bureau class, making a keen contest between Rosemount and Dublin, the son of the famous Irish sire, Atheling. Rosemount won again, leaving Dublin in second place, Javlin third, and Masterman fourth.

Thoroughbred mares were shown by local exhibitors, Dr. Charles McEachran obtaining first with Fair Havana. The Rapids Farm had second and fourth on their entries. None were of more than ordinary merit.

Hackneys were few in number, the open class for stallions any age including only four. These four were, however, the choicest of the breed in Canada, and, after awarding first to J. B. Hogate's Samuel Smiles, the judges had difficulty in deciding for second. Hon. Robt. Beith's Cedar Go-Bang was closely matched by Hogate's Chagelley Admiration. Beith's Cedar Go-Bang won the medal offered by the American Hackney Horse Society. Robert Ness, Howick, and T. B. Macaulay, Hudson Heights, were the only exhibitors in the Provincial class.

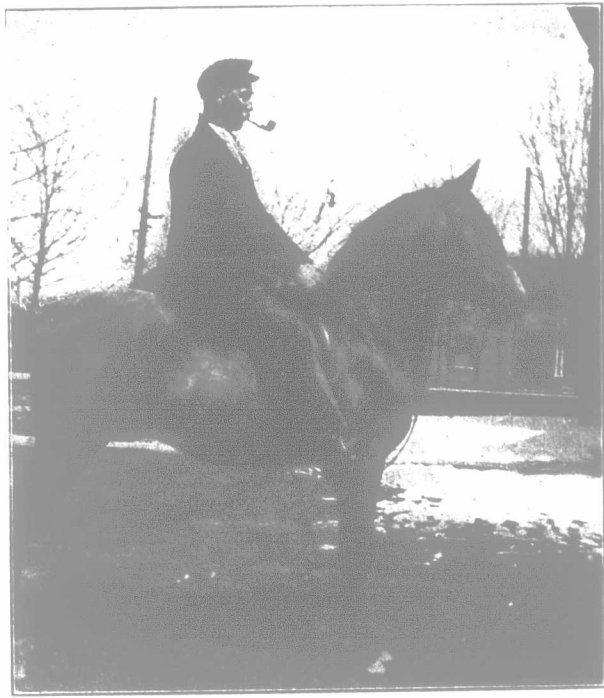
Despite the good prizes offered, the number of Clydesdales does not increase much at the Montreal show. Four competitors only lined up in the class for stallions four years old and upward, standing in the Province of Quebec. Two of these were of exceptional merit: Viscount Lothian, a recent importation by Robt. Ness, and Sagamore, a compactly-built animal, owned by George Stewart, Howick. Viscount Lothian is a horse of commanding appearance, though weighing little more than 1,800 pounds. His success in winning first is suggestive of further honors in Canadian show-rings. Mr. Ness secured third money with Acrobat, another importation; while G. & J. Itay, Lachute, had fourth place with Sir Oliver. There were seven entries of Clydesdales and Shires under four years. Dr. D. McEachran was awarded first for Selbourne, a magnificent stallion for his age, sired by Pride of Blacon. Second prize went to Lord Aberdeen, exhibited by T. B. Macaulay, Hudson Heights; and third to Robert Hunter's Koyama.

Heavy-draft teams made a good showing in competition for the Cassil's Cup, which was taken in 1908 by the Dominion Transport Co. The same company won again, and retain the trophy. Six of the animals that figured in the team class were out again in harness to two-wheeled carts. Here, also, a cup was competed for, and the Dominion Transport Co. was the winner. M.

The Arab Horse.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

It is generally admitted that the Thoroughbred horse of to-day owes much to the Arab, from whom most of its good qualities have been inherited, and that, less directly, but just as cer-



A Rough Kodak Picture of Joklan and His Trainer.

tainly, many of the best features of the Standard-bred, Hackney, Coach breeds, and others of the light horses, as well as of the Percherons, are due to Arab blood. Many contend, however, that the Thoroughbred is to-day in many ways superior to the Arab, and that nothing can now be gained by means of the Arab cross that cannot be better obtained through the Thoroughbred.

By others who know the Arab best, this is absolutely and stoutly denied. True it is that it would be unwise to use the Arab with a hope of obtaining winners upon either the running or trotting tracks of our day. But if one desires to breed for beauty of form and action, for intelli-

Thoroughbred. The gentleman afterwards admitted to me that he had little personal knowledge of the Arab, but had for some time superintended an extensive breeding and racing establishment of Thoroughbreds, and had himself owned Thoroughbred sires for service. He had thus naturally become prejudiced in favor of the Thoroughbred—a horse good enough, I readily acknowledge, for any man to love and admire, and, of course, for some purposes superior to the Arab.

Sir Wilfrid Scawen Blunt, of Sussex, England, is, I believe, the most experienced, most widely known, and most successful breeder of Arabs in the world to-day. He established his stud in 1878, the foundation stock having been purchased by him during a journey made by his wife, Lady Anne Blunt, and himself to Aleppo, Bagdad and Damascus. He had added many subsequent importations, and his name, as a breeder of Arabs, is now well and favorably known to many European governments who purchase from him, and from other sources, Arab sires for their government studs.

Lady Anne Blunt published a book entitled, "Bedouin Tribes of The Euphrates," in which she gave an interesting account of the Eastern trip of herself and her husband. Sir Wilfrid Blunt added a chapter on the Arab Horse, in which he says: "The line of the hind quarters is finer, the action freer, and the upper limb longer in proportion than in the English race-horse. The hocks are larger, better let down, and not so straight. The cannon bone is shorter. The legs are strong, but with less bone, in proportion, than back sinew. This last is perhaps the finest point in the Arabian, in whom a 'breakdown' seldom or never occurs." Again he says: "The back is shorter than it is in our Thoroughbreds, and the barrel rounder. The Arabian is well ribbed up. The hoofs are round and large, and very hard." By the way, speaking of the Arab's very short back, R. V. V. Sewell, president of the Huntingdon Arabian stud, makes the interesting, and, I have no doubt, correct, statement that the Arab has one less spinal vertebra than other horses.

In a recently-written pamphlet on the Arab horse, Sir Wilfrid Blunt says: "What may be safely affirmed is that, for the ordinary purposes of cross-breeding—that is to say, for the production of animals that shall be thoroughly efficient for the work half-bred horses are commonly put to in England—a first-class Arabian stallion will be found a much more satisfactory sire than any but a very first-class English Thoroughbred, superior in every way to the ordinary Thoroughbreds used

by breeders to give quality to their coarse stock. This will be found to be especially the case when large mares are used."

A breeder unacquainted with the Arab will naturally hesitate to use him as a sire, because of his small size. Blunt says, as do all other authorities, that the natural height of the Arab in his own country is from 14 hands to 14.2. Blunt adds that, though an extra inch may be fairly allowed as the increased result of good feeding among his pure descendants in England, the true type almost always disappears at 15 hands, and, with the type, largely the quality. He claims, however, that "The good Arabian sire of 14.2 hands, which is the natural height, will get stock from common cart mares as large and powerful as an English Thoroughbred will, though he be of 16 hands, and, as a rule, far sounder in wind and limb, and especially with better feet." In another article he says: "With 16-hand mares, the produce from an Arab sire of 14.2 will be little, if at all, under 16 hands."

Is it possible to obtain by a first cross of a pure-bred Arab sire, upon the right stamp of heavier and larger mare, an exceptionally good draft or work horse? Sir Wilfrid Blunt appears



Palaver.

Thoroughbred stallion. Winner of Premium, Hunter Show, London, Eng., 1909.

gence, and unequalled temper and disposition, sound constitution, good legs and feet, and wonderful strength and endurance, he may use the Arab, and will not be disappointed.

Those who most severely criticise the Arab horse are, for the most part, those who know least about him. I recently heard a very prominent, able and generally well-informed veterinary surgeon, in a public address, speak somewhat disparagingly of the Arab, as compared with the