

ance to the coat. This done regularly for a short time before the show, will get the hair in good condition, provided the colt is thriving and in a good state of health. Feet and legs should receive some attention. If the animal is too young to be shod, his feet should be kept trimmed to proper shape, and, if shod, care should be taken to have this done by a competent blacksmith, because the action depends largely on the kind of shoes used, and whether or not they are properly placed. The legs should be thoroughly washed and cleaned just before the show, and the animal made as attractive as possible without the use of too much artificial adornment. A few ribbons in the mane and tail are all right, but too many do not add to the chances of success. Given the size, quality, conformation and action desired, you need not worry about decorating with fancy colors.

An important consideration in the fitting is the training of the animal to understand what is desired of him. Much depends upon action, and, to get the best the beast is capable of, requires that much time be spent in teaching him to lead well at both the walk and trot. It requires patience, but a short time spent in handling the colt each evening will cause him to become very handy, and will educate him so that he will acquit himself creditably on show day. An animal that walks right up on the shank and trots freely and well is sure to get the preference in action over one that has to be pulled along by his attendant. Many good colts fail to land the premier honors because they have not been taught to display their action. This is more important in the light breeds than in the heavy-drafters, but it is an important factor in any case.

Flies are a source of annoyance to colts, and cause a roughening of their coats. To prevent this to some extent, the colt should be stabled during the day and pastured during the night. The nights are cooler, and the colt would feed better then, and when brought in during the day the extra feed required could be given him. A little extra care and attention will work wonders in his condition, and go a long way toward placing the coveted rosette on the bridle of the careful horseman's colt.

The Sire Required to Produce Draft Horses.

Horse-breeders have been coming in for criticism these last few years, because it is contended that the size of the draft horse has been diminishing generation after generation, though an improvement in quality is pretty generally conceded. The supply of large draft geldings of the right kind is not sufficient to meet the increasing demand, and often the dealer is compelled to buy small horses in order to get any at all.

The prevalence of undersized geldings is, no doubt, largely due to the use of stallions which, while compact and smooth, are more of a type to sire agricultural or general-purpose geldings than the heavier weight of drafter. While not disparaging quality in the least, those breeding geldings for the draft-horse market, such geldings as are desired for use on the heavy drays in large cities, would do well, in selecting the stallion they use, to see to it that he had sufficient size, as well as quality, and at the same time that he showed indications of being able to transmit his massiveness to his offspring. Many horses which have sufficient size themselves do not pass their proportions on to succeeding generations to such an extent as they should, hence some attention should be paid to the horse's pedigree, to ascertain whether or not his size was characteristic of his strain or family, or whether he had developed unusual scale because of some extraordinary condition. A freak of this kind cannot be depended upon to be of much service in producing the desired avoirdupois, because almost invariably his progeny will be much smaller than himself, reverting to former generations of small animals. The horse with plenty of size and suitable conformation, as stated before, should show indications of being able to reproduce this weight in his foals. A masculine appearance is an indication of ability to do this, and no horse which does not show sufficient masculinity should ever be used, unless a small, nondescript farm chunk is expected.

The head of the horse is perhaps the best indication of his ability to get drafters, assuming that he is up to desired weight himself. No stallion with a small, effeminate head can be expected to sire colts which will make the heaviest of drafters. The horse should have a large head, not so large, of course, as to be ugly in appearance, but sufficiently large to be proportionate with the massive appearance of the rest of his body. Width and fullness between the eyes, and a large, bright eye, are also very good indications of the prepotency of the sire. A strong head is an indication of strong character, and strong

character indicates power to pass on to the offspring the good points, among which a very important one is size. More size is desirable, and the only way to get it is to breed with that end in view. The size of the existing brood mares cannot be increased, but the weight of the next generation can be greatly increased by the judicious selection of the sires mated with these mares, and if this selection is practiced for a few years, reckless of service fees, the size of the brood mares will have increased, until less trouble should be experienced in getting geldings of sufficient weight to satisfy the draft-horse dealers.

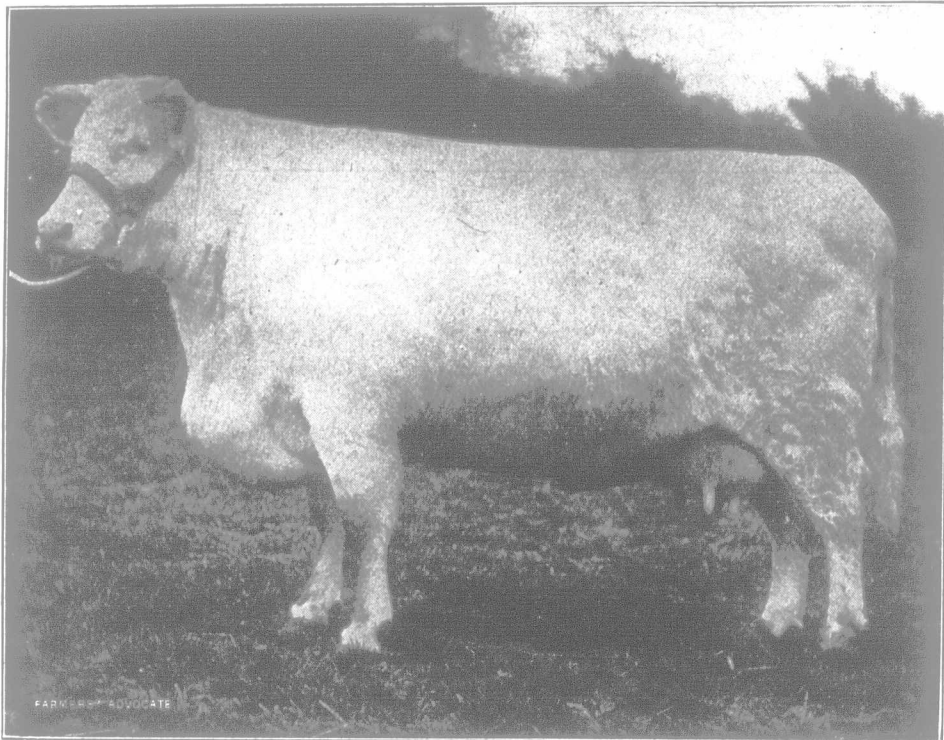
Strength of bone and heaviness of muscling must not be forgotten in the selection, as these



Rubelate of Maisemore.

Aberdeen-Angus bull, male champion of breed, Bath and West Show, 1911. Exhibited by J. J. Cridlan.

are two very important factors of the horse from which heavy work is required. Given the quality, too much bone and too heavy muscling can scarcely be had. The feet must be large to compare with the rest of the horse's great size, and they must be of good quality, because, after all, it is the feet and legs that usually give most trouble with horses of all types, the drafter included. Quality counts, but the buyers are looking for size, and the market demands larger horses, therefore, it behooves the breeders to make an effort, at least, to satisfy the demand; and to do this



Daisy's Queen.

Shorthorn cow. First at Bath and West of England Show, June, 1911.

they must use sires which will give the offspring of ordinary brood mares sufficient weight for heavy dray work. No chunky little agricultural horse can do this, and the breeder must resort to the full-sized, perhaps somewhat coarser, heavy-boned, heavy-muscled, massive, though not overgrown horse with a strong masculine head. The agricultural horse has his place, but it is not in the production of the heavy type of drafter, and this should be borne in mind by those who are endeavoring to produce geldings for the heavy-draft horse trade of the large cities.

LIVE STOCK.

A Home Market for Our Hogs.

With many breeders who are endeavoring to produce the most profitable class of hogs, it is a question whether we in Canada should stick to the pronounced bacon type, or whether our own fast-growing home market warrants the production of a class of hogs more like the American type, but not to such an extreme fat type. It is true that we do not wish to give up our bacon hog, but, in producing Wiltshire sides for the Old Country market, we must of necessity come into

competition with the Danes, who, because of the breeding of practically only one breed of pigs throughout their country, are able to place a much more uniform product on the market. The Danes also have the advantage of being a co-operative country, and their hogs are thus handled at a greater profit to the producer.

Buyers of hogs in Ontario, while not caring for the heavy hog or the thick, fat hog, have not discriminated very closely against them. Consequently, because of this, and because of the fact that many different breeds, grades and crosses are bred in Ontario, a carload of hogs going to market in this Province contains hogs, which, while of

quite uniform weight, are very much different in type. In fact, many times, almost all types, from the thick, fat hog to the most extreme type of bacon hog, are to be seen in one shipment. This lack of uniformity counts against our hogs in the British market, and is one of the discouraging features of breeding the bacon hog for that market.

It is well understood that we cannot so well compete with our neighbors to the south of us in producing the fat hog, because he has the advantage of having at his disposal an abundance of that great and cheap fat-producing food, corn. At the present time, the greater part of Ontario's pork production is utilized in our own towns and cities. The rapid growth of these industrial centers during the past few years has made this possible. The cities are now growing rapidly, and are likely to continue advancing, even at a more rapid rate than at present. This being the case, it looks as though our home market was to be our best market for hogs, and it is a matter of some speculation as to just what type of hog can be most profitably produced, and at the same time fill the requirements of this new home market. The value of the hog, like every other class of

stock, is its utility. It seems that at present the business is in rather a transitional stage, and many breeders are at a loss to know just what is to be the best hog for the market.

Present indications are that our market is going to demand a hog of about the same weight as that of the best bacon hog, namely, from 160 to 200 pounds. Hogs make more rapid gains up to this weight, and it looks as though the bacon hog, or a modified type of it, is the type best suited for our market, and the type which will yield most profitable returns to the farmer. It