

## HORSES.

The day of the short, thick, chunky drafter is past. The horse that wins at present-day shows is the larger, rangier type, with large, wide feet, flat, clean bone, sloping pasterns, short, strong top, and a long, level croup; the horse that has a chest denoting good constitution, and that can move, strong, straight and true at the walk and trot. Such a horse is the one which should be chosen to be the sire of the colts, and such filly is one which should be the most profitable breeder.

The carriage horse without an abundance of action is no carriage horse at all. Of course, the animal must have suitable conformation, or he cannot show fine action, but many typey horses cannot act high and true. Much depends upon training, and much upon shoeing. Look well to these factors before taking the horse into the show-ring, for the horse that cannot pick up in front, flex his hocks well, show a reasonable speed with a long, true stride, stands a poor chance of being a winner.

Judging from the crowds present and the enthusiasm manifested at the recent horse show at Galt, the popularity of the horse is not on the wane, but rather on the increase. Never before was so keen interest taken in the various classes, and competition was closer than in former years. The automobile has a big contract on hand before it can fill the place of the loping saddle horse, the handsome hunter, the high-going carriage horse, the lifey roadster, the clean-limbed, general-purpose horse, or the massive drafter, in the eye of the lover of horses.

Few, indeed, are the displays of animal intelligence to equal that contained in a long line of Hunters, Hackneys, Roadsters or Thoroughbreds facing the judges at an exhibition. Keen and alert, right up on their fettle all the time, ready, willing, and ever anxious to show their paces or to take the hurdle, understanding every word and every movement of their rider or driver. What is more to be admired? The horse still has a place, and always will have as long as human nature continues to get out of him that satisfaction which cannot be got elsewhere.

### Horse Don'ts.

Many "don'ts" for horsemen are published from time to time, but few touch more important points than the following list by C. L. Barnes, which was recently published in the Agricultural Gazette, but is good enough to bear repetition almost indefinitely. Drugging, bad shoeing practices and carelessness in feeding and watering, form the basis of the list:

Don't water a horse soon after feeding him grain.

Don't feed a large quantity of hay to a horse that is afflicted with heaves.

Don't change the grain ration abruptly.

Don't keep idle horses on full feed of grain.

Don't turn horses to a straw stack and expect them to get a living, keep in condition, and with certainty escape impaction of the bowels.

Don't fail to have your horses' teeth examined once a year.

Don't feed your horses when they are tired, especially grain.

Don't wait until your mare is almost dead, at the time of foaling, before calling a veterinarian.

Don't administer medicine to the horse, or any other animal, through the nose; nature never intended it that way.

Don't administer any drug to an animal until you are familiar with its action and the exact condition of your patient.

Don't be continually dosing your horse; keep him well by proper care.

Don't clip your horse and leave him unprotected while not in motion.

Don't leave the shoes on a horse longer than five or six weeks without re-setting.

Don't allow the blacksmith to rasp the hoof wall and otherwise mutilate the foot in shoeing.

Don't leave the grain bin where the horse can get to it should he become untied.

Don't allow the horse to stand in a draft.

Don't wait until the horse's shoulders are sore before properly fitting the collar.

Don't put chains behind the horses to keep them from backing out of the stall.

Don't allow the horse to drink too much water at one time.

Don't feed irregularly.

Don't stand the horse on an inclined plank floor.

### Education Counts.

Nothing detracts more from the horse's chances of winning in a show-ring than lack of education. The "green" horse is often turned down simply because he cannot show his paces to advantage before the judge. The light types of horses are more likely to suffer from this cause than the heavier classes, owing to the fact that action counts perhaps more with them, but it applies to all kinds of horses. How often a hunter is seen to quit at the first wall, or falter, make an awkward effort, and either knock the wall down or strike it slightly, all of which are accounted against his chances of winning the red or the blue. Many a roadster has lost not on conformation or appointments, but on behavior. Some do not drive up to the bit, others become nervous and next to unmanageable, and in either such condition show very little of their true gait. It is not infrequently noticed that a carriage horse of fine conformation—one which looks like a real winner—is placed very low in the list, and the people who have not seen him move cannot understand the placing. It requires considerable time and patience to teach a horse manners, and to teach him to show his best in competition. A carriage horse which cannot show high, true, straight and strong action has little chance of winning championships. The agricultural or heavy-draft animal which, when shown on the line, has to be pulled or dragged along, or when in the team has to be frequently brought into position by the use of the whip, is not usually a winner. Actions and manners mean much in the show-ring, and weeks and months spent in training are necessary if the horse is to be on his best behavior when he goes before the judge.

With the colts and all animals to be shown in the breeding classes, the first thing to do is to have them lead well at the walk, then at the trot. Talk to them, and get them to thoroughly understand what is expected of them long before the show takes place. It requires constant application—a short time daily, if possible. Once

few who otherwise could not be induced to enter the show-ring. But it is just as important that the amateur entry be well trained as it is that the championship entry be educated. No horse should receive the injustice of being thrust into the "hot" company of the present-day show-ring untrained. The thing is to start right by giving the horse the best possible education before taking him into the prize-ring, and he will not be so likely to prove a disappointment.

With a colt or spirited animal—and most winners are more or less spirited—thoroughness in the training is essential. At the exhibition there is always more to excite the animal than there is around his own stable or in his own pasture paddock, where most of his training is done. Where at all possible, it is well to get him somewhat accustomed to the hustle and glare of the arena or the ring. The more training he has in this respect the better, and every little effort in improving his manners is certain to add to his chances of carrying off the honors for which he competes. Start now to prepare the green horses for the fall exhibitions, by devoting any spare time to their training. Give all the best chance possible.

## LIVE STOCK.

### Advice on Wool Handling.

While it is generally conceded that Old Country methods of handling sheep and wool are far in advance of those practiced in this country, it would seem that it requires persistent lecturing even there to keep up the production of the best; at least, this is what one would gather from reading the report, in the Scottish Farmer, of a lecture by George Dun, before the East Lothian Farmers' Club. According to Mr. Dun, wool is bought in Scotland either at sales or from dealers. Bought at sales, it comes to the manufacturer just in the condition in which it leaves the grower. Some dealers class their wool, while others sell either

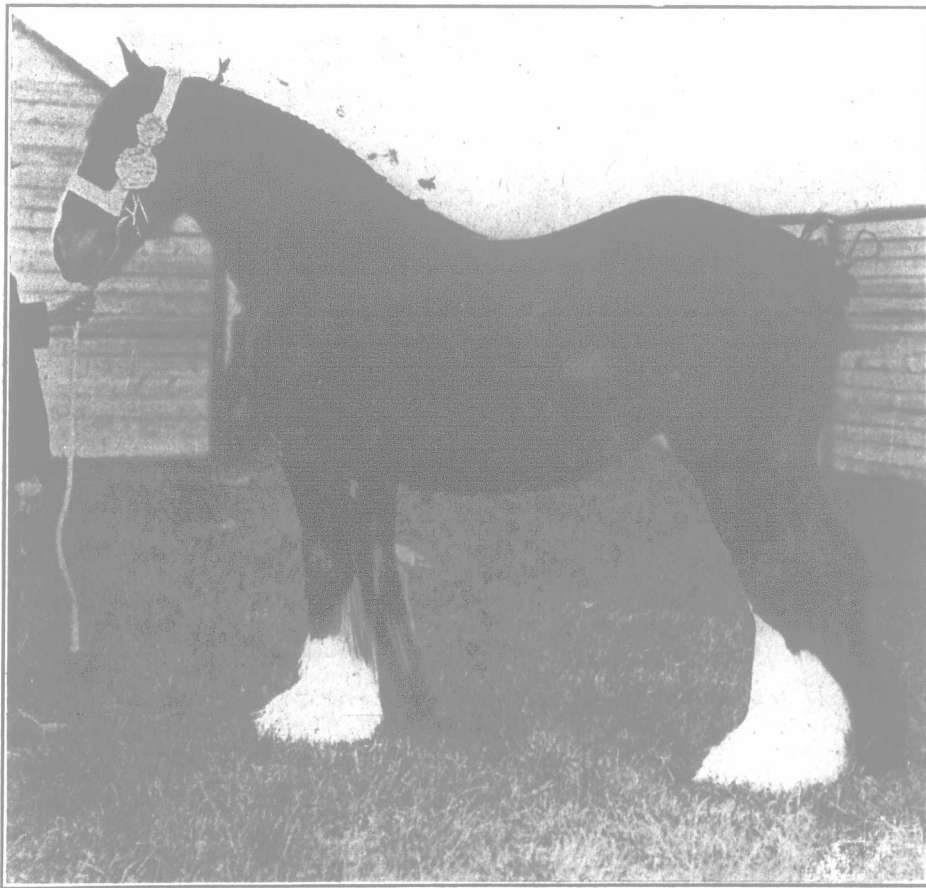
classed or in the clip, and others seldom class at all. The wool of yearlings and ewes is now classed separately, which makes it possible for the manufacturer to get the class he wishes. In some places the wool is not classed, but goes straight to the sorter. What is wanted in wools for combing is good quality, long-stapled wools, and any farmer who feeds his sheep well can supply this want by breeding good skinned sheep and caring for them well. For carding wools, a short staple is necessary, and it is obtained from the Cheviot in districts where these sheep are fed lightly.

Mr. Dun does not believe that sorting can be profitably done on the farms where sheep are not kept in very large numbers. The main ob-

jection he gives to farmers sorting their own wool is the poor way in which it is done. It must be done well if it is to be of any value, and the supply of capable wool-sorters is limited, so farmers should confine themselves to treating and selling their wool, not to sorting.

When washing is done, it should be thoroughly done. Once through the pool, which is often practiced, Mr. Dunn believes to be insufficient, as it only wets the fleece, and a second dip is necessary to remove the dirt. Many farmers do not thoroughly wash their wool, and so it weighs better, but the dealers are getting on to the practice and examine the wool, discounting that which has not been made clean by a second trip through the washing pool.

Taking the operation of clipping as next in order, Mr. Dun advised doing it about ten days after washing. If delayed longer, the yolk mixes again, and results in wool equal only to badly-washed wool. Clipping should be done on boards or sheets, where there is no danger of grass,



Halstead Duchess.

Winner of first prize and gold medal at Bath and West Show. Owned by Lord Rothschild.

trained, the animal never forgets it. The large breeders and importers rarely show an untrained horse. It is the young breeder that generally suffers in the show-ring from this cause. Busy with the farm work, he neglects to train his colt properly, takes it to the show, and is very often beaten by a well-trained opponent in the hands of an expert horseman. With some, failure on a few occasions drives them from the ring; others keep up the fight, train their animals, and eventually get into the win column.

If shows are to be a great success, the amateur breeder must be encouraged, but it is difficult to help those who will not put forth an effort to help themselves. It is sometimes discouraging for the young breeder to place his entry alongside of those of the wealthy importer; but if his horse has the type, conformation and quality, and can win over the importer's entry, how much greater is his success, and how much it adds to the value of his animal. It is well that amateur classes are provided at exhibitions. They draw out a