

Mr. Bouthillier on rising thanked the Society for the honor that had been conferred upon him by being requested to read a paper before them, and proceeded with his Essay on "Conformation in the Hunter," which proved to be a most interesting and instructive communication.

He explained his reasons for choosing this class of horse, as it was undoubtedly above all others the one in which a combination of good points was indispensable, being moreover the type to be chosen for the improvement of the common stock of horses in every country, embracing as it did every limit of size or height from the polo pony, not over 14 hands, 2 inches, who should be a miniature weight carrying hunter to a horse 17 hands high and up to 18 stone.

Continuing he carefully described in detail the various points necessary for the "Ideal Hunter," referring frequently to such celebrated animals as Rayon D'Or, Ormonde, etc., as practical examples of his arguments, and, though preferring himself an animal possessing a happy medium in all parts to one in which some point had been especially well-developed at the expense of some other portion of the anatomical frame, he stated that the law of compensation might greatly influence some undesirable conformation, giving as an example a straight shoulder, being partially atoned for by an exceptionally sloping pastern.

No hunter, he said, with any pretense to Bone and Substance should measure less than 8 inches below the knee and 9 1-2 inches below the hock. He considered the feeding care and harness of a good horse to be of great importance, few men possessing that species of Equine Ocular Vision known as "an eye for a horse," when seen in the rough.

In conclusion, he stated that, although well aware

that many good horsemen considered conformation of secondary importance to action and performance, he thought that if they took the trouble to consider attentively the best horses in their classes they would come to the conclusion that a considerable majority of them possessed the best conformation.

Professor Baker then proposed a vote of thanks to the Essayist for the trouble he had taken in coming so far to read such a pleasant and instructive essay, which was unanimously carried.

An animated discussion ensued, assisted by the Chairman and Professor Baker, when technical terms were involved, in which Mr. Colin Campbell's Historical and Physiological knowledge of bone in a hunter was worthy of a skilled osteologist, whilst Mr. Bouthillier defended his arguments in a manner which showed that the many years that gentleman has spent in breeding this class of horse has made him thoroughly familiar with its conformation, as recognised by many of the best authorities.

The Chairman then addressed the meeting, congratulating the members for the valuable information they had received both from the Essayist and from several well-known sporting gentlemen amongst the visitors on points on practical interest which were generally neglected by Students in their pursuit of Scientific knowledge.

He extended an invitation amidst enthusiastic applause to Mr. Colin Campbell to read an Essay at some future date on the race-horse, which that gentleman has taken under consideration.

Messrs. Bell and Burke were appointed Essayists for the following meeting.

There being no further business, an adjournment took place.

Class Reports.

FACULTY OF COMPARATIVE MEDICINE.

With best wishes to our Supporters for a Prosperous New Year, trusting that the majority who spent their Xmas at home enjoyed the Festive Season as much as those of us, who, remaining in Montreal, will long remember the kindness and hospitality of our Professors and Friends, we once more assume the responsibilities attached to an official position, as the medium whereby our Habits and Thoughts, amidst scientific environments, are handed down to posterity.

Dean McEachran, whose much-regretted departure took place on December 21st, has kindly promised to send items of interest from time to time in connection with European Schools of Veterinary Science for insertion in our columns of the FORTNIGHTLY during his visits to England, France, Germany and other countries.

The account of Dr. Charlie's Annual Xmas dinner to the Students, which for many years has replaced in popularity our youthful ideas of Santa Claus, Christmas

trees, etc., can well bear repetition, for the charming manner in which our Host and Hostess show us on this occasion that it gives them pleasure to give us pleasure is a lesson one should profit by. This year, in addition to the usual enjoyments, we were privileged to inspect "The First Hunt Cup," won by our Popular Professor, a handsome trophy, the capacity of which should be eminently satisfactory at his Hunt Breakfasts, and is well worthy the efforts of his gallant mare "Magic." If the wishes of Students of Veterinary Science have any weight with the Goddess of Fortune, already could the well-developed embryo of a future Grand National Winner be discovered out at Back River by a close observer of "conformation in mares."

An interesting communication from Professor Wesley-Mills on "Road-making in Germany" was recently received by The Veterinary Medical Association, written with that clearness and accuracy of detail so characteristic of our prized Text-book on Physiology. Most of us realize now the benefits to be derived from a proper appreciation of probably two of his most valuable lessons, viz.: "Force of Habit and Inhibitory