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#### Getting Ready for the Shows.

The preparation of stock for exhibition at the fall shows is an important business. Little success in the show-ring can be expected, even with first-class stock, unless the animals have been taught to make the best of themselves when brought before the judges. An animal that has not learned to walk and stand well, or that is constantly fighting for his head or trying to break away, is likely to hide his best points, and present his weaknesses in prominent form. The desire of the exhibitor is obviously just the opposite to this. He wants his animal to make the most of his good points, and keep his faults as much in the background as possible. There is much that may be done to further this object without in any degree owerstepping the line which divides fair exhibiting from d.shonest faking.

#### SCHOOLING HORSES.

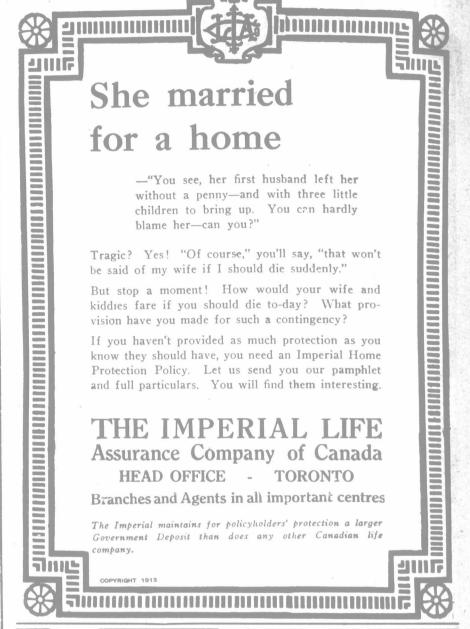
The training of a horse for show ought to start when he is a foal. The youngster can be haltered and accustomed to being led about, walking and stopping as required. This early handling is half the battle, removing many of the difficulties of the further training. Later on the youngster can be taught to move at the walk, trot, or canter, as required, for it is important that he should promptly assume any desired pace when called upon in the ring. A heavy horse, of course, is not required to move at a fast pace, but it is essential that he should walk and trot in easy, well-balanced style, the action being smooth and When pulled up, the horse should be taught at once to assume an attractive pose, with the feet set well out before and behind, though without exaggeration. It looks much better if the animal naturally falls into this position than if it does so only after a lot of shifting about by the attendant. Action is important with all breeds, and is largely a matter of breeding, but it can be encouraged where deficient. There are various ways of teaching a horse to pick his feet up sharply, one being to use heavy shoes, and another to exercise in a heavy clay field. The greatest difficulty is experienced with a sluggard, whose tendency is to slouch along. Such a horse is best taken on a long lead, the groom running before, whilst the judicious application of the whip by a runner-up will induce a smarter action. active, high-spirited animal, is much easier to show well, but he needs to be kept well in hand on a short lead.

#### TRAINING CATTLE.

The training of cattle for the show-ring consists chiefly of frequent exercise on the to render them perfectly They must walk well and stand easily, without any attempt to break away from the attendant. A wellbalanced walk is a natural trait, and is not likely to be produced by artificial means in an animal that is not evenly made, but a good deal can be done to make him show to the best advantage when standing before the judges. Some excellent cattle drop their backs when pulled up. This is very undesirable, as a level top goes far in the ring. Such an animal should be kept on the move as much as possible, and taught to hold his head low when at a standstill, as the defect then shows least. With cattle, a good coat is an important feature. This is induced by keeping in airy quarters, and by frequent use of currycomb and brush. With these useful implements, and a pail of water, the skilful cattleman puts the finishing touches to his charge before entering the ring, and he knows how to make the hair cover weaknesses of back and rump. A great point in showing off any animal to the judges is to know its weak points, and to manage it so that these assume the least possi-

#### SHEEP AND PIGS.

The main care of the shepherd should be to teach his charges to lead well. This can be done only by early haltering and frequent exercise on the lead. This also helps to keep the animal sound on his feet and straight on his legs, so that he walks well and stands square. It is by no means easy to regulate feeding and exercise so that a sheep goes well on his





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