

action on these contents of the rectum. There is danger in giving purgatives, because diarrhea may be produced and is very weakening to the young colt. Oil the forefinger, trim the nail, and insert the finger into the rectum and remove in this way all lumps that can be reached. The foal by his expulsive efforts will help, and in this way much of the material may be removed. An injection will also aid. A little warm water and soap, or warm water and linseed oil or glycerine and warm water, is good. A stout piece of wire doubled may often be used to good advantage by inserting the blunt end into the rectum and carefully handling to loosen and draw away portions which the finger would not reach. If after all this has been done the milk has not been able to get a passage through the colt, a laxative may be resorted to. Give one or two ounces of castor oil and continue the injections frequently. Many consider that it is a good practice to assist to remove the meconium in all colts, whether or not symptoms of retention are manifest. If properly done, no harm can result.

Once the meconium is expelled and the colt is nursing regularly with his navel well cared for, the greatest danger is over. Good care is necessary for some weeks, but once well started most colts give little further trouble.

Record Price for a Shire.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate."

All previous records for English Shire horses were eclipsed on February 14th, at the sale conducted by Messrs Sexton, Grimwade and Beck, for Lord Rothschild, at Tring Park, when an average of 2,070 dollars was realized for 32 head, with 21,525 dollars as the top price of the day.

Lord Rothschild has for many years past been an enthusiastic supporter of the Shire, the direct lineal descendant of the ancient war horse of Britain. Five years ago his lordship sold the greater part of his breeding stud at what was then the record average of 1,383 dollars each. Since then he has only kept stallions, some of which he lets to various Shire horse societies, while others travel districts nearer home for the benefit of tenant farmers. Each year Lord Rothschild searches out and purchases the best of the foals bred by those who use his horses, and brings them out at the shows, where in his name they have won the highest honors possible. Most of the 32 sold had been raised by tenant farmers, who, themselves, can have no cause for complaint that their animals sold so well, for Lord Rothschild is known to them all as a generous buyer. He always puts "the dust" down when needs be.

The company which assembled at this sale numbered close upon 800, and was thoroughly representative of the Shire horse industry. At the luncheon Lord Rothschild paid a well-deserved compliment to Richardson Carr, his agent, and to Tom Fowler, his stud groom, when he attributed his success as a Shire breeder to their unfailing judgment and painstaking.

The sensation of the sale was, of course, the payment of 21,525 dollars for the two-year-old stallion, Champion's Goalkeeper. This grand colt, which last year was first and reserve for championship at the Royal Show, and first at the Ashbourne Show, in the autumn, is a son of Childwick Champion. Put in at 5,250 dollars, the price quickly rose to 15,750 dollars at which point Sir Walpole Greenwell, of Marden Park, Surrey, and Mr. Gresson, one of the partners in the Edgcote Shorthorn Company, near Banbury, were left to fight it out. The last named bid 21,000 dollars, and Sir Walpole capped it with another 525 dollars, which secured for him one of the best, if not quite the best, horse ever offered by public auction. The previous record for a Shire stallion was 19,425 dollars, paid four years ago at the dispersal of Earl Egerton's stud at Tatton, for Tatton Dray King.

Other prices were good. Blackland's King-maker, the very massive three-year-old, which was junior champion in London last year, also caused keen competition, and finally fell to Sir Arthur Nicholson at 9,185 dollars. The highest priced filly was Halstead Duchess 7th, which went to J. G. Williams for 4,335 dollars.

England.

G. T. BURROWS.

Under most conditions it is advisable to choose, as a sire, the horse which has proved his worth. A horse which is getting along in age and has been a sure getter of high-class foals, is not so much of a gamble as the young unproven sire whose name is still to be made. Soundness is a great consideration. There is a chance that the young horse may show a blemish of some kind before he is as old as the older horse, and the tendency toward this blemish, while latent in him, may be hereditary and transmissible to his offspring.

Encourage Good Horseshoeing.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate."

The day has come in Canada when something will have to be done to encourage good horseshoeing. As the old mud roads disappear and the gravel roads take their place, the need for having the road horse shod all the year round increases. The increase in the use of cement in the stables makes it necessary to keep the iron on the hoof for protection. If, however, the shoeing be poorly done, the horse is seriously handicapped in the race for the high price or for rendering his highest service.

The matter would not be so serious were all horses' feet normal to begin with. Instead, the majority of horses have feet that require human skill to help them out. Hence the need of the shoer who thoroughly understands his business.

Is it asking too much of the department to make this a matter of early consideration? The Farmer's Institutes might well be favored with a few lectures dealing specially with this very matter. The feeding, breeding and general care of the horses have been thoroughly and profitably dealt with. Why not give this vital point of the care of the horse some special attention?

Then, would it not be well to give the blacksmiths themselves a chance to perfect themselves in an art that lies so near the foundation of agricultural success, as the art of horseshoeing? Blacksmiths, like farmers, are willing to learn. Why should not the government give this craft the same kind of help that has been given the farmer in the Farmer's Institutes? We have licensed veterinarians. Why not have licensed horseshoers? All admit the force of the old adage, "No foot no horse." Why not make a move in the direction of better shoeing?

York Co., Ont.

J. D.

Mating Up the Team.

On the farms where a considerable number of horses are kept, and in fact on many of those on which only a comparatively few are in use, it is many times possible to mate up the teams very well according to size, conformation, color and temperament. Where this is the case it is always advisable to pair the horses off having the individuals composing the team as nearly alike as may be. A writer in "The Farmer and Stock-breeder" has this to say on the subject:—

"One thing which is too frequently neglected—partly perhaps on account of the prejudices which the men sometimes have themselves—is the proper selection of the teams—by which I mean putting the horses together to the best advantage. I think that in this particular they were no better in the brave days of old than we are now. Horses should be matched by their weight, their activity, and by that indescribable characteristic, their style. Nothing looks worse than to see a heavy horse and a light one working together, the light, quick horse tied back and fretting his heart out in order that his pace may be reduced to that of his heavier yokemate. But more than mere appearance is affected by such bad "pairing." There is waste of work, and where there are several badly paired teams this apparently trivial, because not very obvious waste, becomes quite a considerable item. So it is worth while to spend some time in putting the various teams together, and on a large place perhaps to change them about somewhat."

Classification of Horses at Shows.

At the annual convention of the Ontario Association of Fairs and Exhibitions a resolution was passed authorizing the superintendent to select a committee to arrange for the proper classification of horses at fairs and exhibitions.

The committee composed of Messrs Robt. Graham, H. G. Reed, John Gardhouse, C. F. Bailey and J. Lockie Wilson met on February 17th, and drew up the following regulations:—

HEAVY-DRAFT.—Heavy-draft horses should conform in type to the breed which they represent. A matured animal should weigh 1,500 pounds and upwards.

AGRICULTURAL.—An agricultural horse should conform closely in type to draft horses, but on a smaller scale, and should weigh from 1,350 to 1,500 pounds.

GENERAL-PURPOSE.—No agricultural society should offer prizes for general-purpose stallions at exhibitions, but, if thought advisable, prizes might be offered for general-purpose mares, fillies or geldings. General-purpose horses should conform in outline closely to the coach, carriage or hunter type, but should be larger and stronger, and able to do satisfactory work in wagon, plow, buggy and saddle. They should be cleanlimbed, without excessive hair on the legs, and be able to travel seven miles per hour. Horses showing draft conformation should not be included in this class. They should weigh from 1,150 to 1,350 pounds. The minimum height of general-purpose horses should be 15.3 hands.

CARRIAGE.—There should be separate classes for carriage horses and roadsters at every exhibi-

tion, and these two breeds should not be shown in the same class. In judging carriage horses, style, conformation, and action must all be considered. The minimum height of the animals should be 15.1 hands.

ROADSTERS.—Roadsters should be judged in every case for conformation, style and speed.

SADDLE HORSES.—In the saddle class horses should be tested in walking, trotting and cantering.

PONIES.—The maximum height of all classes of ponies, except polo, should be 14 hands. Shetland ponies should not exceed 12.3 hands.

J. LOCKIE WILSON.

The Thoroughbred and the Farm.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate."

A few days ago I received a catalogue of the Canadian National Bureau of Breeding Ltd., Montreal, and as I have been in the horse business for almost half a century, especially in the County of Simcoe where I have during the last forty years owned a great many stallions of Thoroughbred, Percheron, Clydesdale, Shire, Belgium, Standard-bred, and Hackney breeding, I have given horsebreeding very careful consideration, and having managed a farm for many years myself, I think I can give a little good common-sense advice. Forty-five or fifty years ago, in the County of Simcoe, the majority of horses, that worked on farms, had a streak of Thoroughbred blood in them. Their price would average from sixty to eighty dollars, and sometimes as much as one hundred dollars. But about that time the heavy horse made his appearance and to-day you can hardly find a farmer, willing to breed a light horse, suitable for saddle purposes. Why does he object? Because times have entirely changed. Instead of plowing with an old Scotch plow which turned a furrow only from six to nine inches wide, you'll see him with a riding plow, turning a furrow from eighteen to twenty inches in width. Attached to the plow you will find a pair of horses each weighing from fifteen hundred to two thousand pounds and these horses are almost self supporting from two years old, and if properly bred, are worth, from five to eight hundred dollars each. Now here comes a company, with a catalogue, shaking it in the poor farmer's face and telling him if he crosses his mares with a Thoroughbred horse, he will improve his stock, and make a larger sum if war breaks out. I will ask the farmer to take his pencil and do a little calculating as this is quite essential, when hay, straw and grain are selling at such high prices.

We'll say the farmer breeds to this castaway Thoroughbred at the low service fee of \$10 which I believe is the price, and he is lucky enough to get a good strong colt, I ask him to charge that colt up with fifteen cents per day for keep, for 365 days. I think this would be a minimum scale. His first year would at this rate cost the farmer \$54.75 and he would have to keep him till five years of age before he would be fit for market, which means, an outlay for the farmer of \$273.75. Add \$10 for service fee making a total of \$283.75. We'll say he sells to the army, for \$160, or should he sell to an outside party for \$200, which would be a maximum price. In the first case he would lose \$123.75, in the second \$83.75. This is a calculation based upon facts, and I think very reasonable, but how much will he lose on the misfits? We know from history that the Thoroughbred horse when crossed with cold blood, is apt to leave many blemished colts.

—Now let us take the other side, that of the Canadian National Bureau, and see how their end figures out financially. According to their catalogue, they have sixty-one stallions standing for service in the Dominion of Canada. For this service the Dominion Government pays the Canadian National Bureau the sum of \$750 each horse per year, this amounting to \$15,250 per year. They further collect \$3 from the service fee of each mare. We'll say each horse serves thirty mares, which I think would be a fair estimate, which would net the Bureau \$90 per head each season, for the sixty-one the amount would reach \$5,490 thus netting each year for the Bureau \$20,740 at the present number of horses. Now we'll see what the farmer makes, for keeping this horse for a year, under a cast-iron rule. Take \$3 from \$10 and \$7 remains for each foal and at 30 foals the stallioner would get \$210. The horse must be regularly exercised, must be housed in a loose-box, in a warm, dry, well lighted and ventilated stable. To give a horse this accommodation with proper food, at present prices, cannot be done for less than fifty cents per day, which will amount to \$182.50 per year, this is for food and housing only. Deduct this \$182.50 from a possible \$210, leaving the poor farmer with a magnificent "gold brick," \$27.50 and not one cent for his trouble during the season, for extra grooming and care. Now I would like someone to show me where the farmer can make any money raising remounts. Brother farmer stick to the bridge that carried