

ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE QUARTERLY

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This Issue's Cover

Our "Tack Room" cover picture on this issue, is one to revive fond memories for all old-time cavalymen. The immaculate room, with its polished wood and sparkling floors, is a perfect backdrop for the orderly rows of saddles and bridles hanging on their pegs. Rich leather and glistening brass emphasize the spotless white head-ropes and the immaculate regimental shabracks. Soon, these brilliant accoutrements will adorn once more the horses of an RCMP Musical Ride on public exhibition.

In training since April, this year's "Ride" begins its tour with appearances at the Belleville, Ont., Fair, August 13-16. From there the troop goes to the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto, the Eastern States Exposition, West Springfield, Mass., the Provincial Fat Stock Show, Sherbrooke, Que., returns to Ottawa for the Winter Fair, October 23-27, then to the National Horse Show, New York, the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto and finishes up at the International Live Stock Exposition at Chicago, Ill., November 23-December 1.

The regimental shabrack (yellow-bordered saddle cloth) and its markings form an important part of the history of any mounted unit. Although the origin of the shabrack dates back to the days of chivalry when knights adorned their chargers with elaborate saddle-cloths, not all cavalry regiments are entitled to use