

HORSES.

Horse Lectures at Ottawa Winter Fair.

When the management of Winter Fairs are able to schedule their lectures at periods when horse classes are not being judged, there is a full and appreciative attendance. One of these lecture periods was entirely devoted to the discussion of horse subjects. Dr. Grenside, of Guelph, presented his paper on "Horse-training," the subject matter of which was fully given in a previous issue. Wm. Smith, of Columbus, Ont., discussed the classification of horses at fairs. This is a subject that has been pretty well discussed from time to time, the bone of contention being the agricultural and general-purpose classes. Mr. Smith defined the agricultural horse as a small draft horse, weighing from about 1,400 to 1,550 pounds; aside from size, he is of practically the same type as the draft horse, but will show a little more action. The general-purpose horse was defined as one which will serve in almost every capacity, being usable under the saddle, to the plow or to the buggy. According to such standards, there is a great deal of difference between these two classes, and exhibitors and judges should have little difficulty in determining the proper class in which to show, and the rating in the class. Provision should be made in the prize lists for fillies, mares or geldings, but never for stallions in the general-purpose class. The agricultural class is deserving of more attention at the shows than the general-purpose, which class should be dropped as soon as possible.

Mr. Smith also recommended that the home-bred, recorded horses should be shown against the imported stock, thus stimulating the improvement of the home-breds; for their encouragement, more money should be put in the prize lists.

Principal Cumming, of the Agricultural College at Truro, N. S., who followed Mr. Smith, emphasized the fact that the general-purpose horse is very difficult to produce, and that more misfits arise from breeding after this type than good horses, proving his statements from breeding operations in his own locality. In England and Scotland there is no provision made for such a class. Proceeding to discuss the question, "Why we do not produce horses on the same business basis as is followed in dairying?" Prof. Cumming pointed out the continued strong demand for good draft horses. Colts can be raised until two years of age for about \$100, after which they will work enough to pay their way, and, when four or more years old, colts of good stamp will bring \$250 to \$300. He found at the College that it proved good practice to raise some fall colts. He is now making it a policy to have half their colts dropped in the fall. By this method, more work is done by the mares. By ordinarily careful wintering, the colts go right ahead through the winter, and, when grass comes, are in shape to make the very best use of it. He cited the case of a 1,400-pound mare which dropped a foal in September, having worked all summer, and the colt at 1½ years of age was just about as large as the two-year-olds of similar breeding. It would appear from this that the colt marks time less in its development when dropped in the fall than in the spring.

Looseness in English Hackney Registration.

As illustrating the inconsistency of the new rule of the United States Bureau of Animal Industry, which recognizes certain loosely-kept foreign pedigree records while discriminating against carefully-compiled Canadian records, read this by Gurney C. Gue, in the New York Herald:

"In the last published volume of the English Hackney Studbook, for example, there is duly registered under the number 11216 the brown stallion Smite, by Sir Horace, dam The Mighty Atom, pedigree unknown. This is one of a class of quite numerous cases in which stallions whose dams are of totally unknown breeding are full registered in England, and will, therefore, pass muster under the new regulations as 'pure-bred,' though no studbook in the United States or Canada would admit such a horse to registration, and if brought over prior to January 1st, the importer would have been compelled to pay duty on him."

Horsemen regard it as singularly inconsistent and unjust, that under the operation of a tariff law, presumably framed to protect American breeders, short-bred horses of this character can be brought in and certified by the Government as 'pure-bred' to be sold under the magic of the word 'imported' in competition with native-bred horses of really pure breeding. The American Horse Society has directed the attention of the Bureau of Animal Industry to the matter, and hoped that action will be taken to meet the needs of the case."

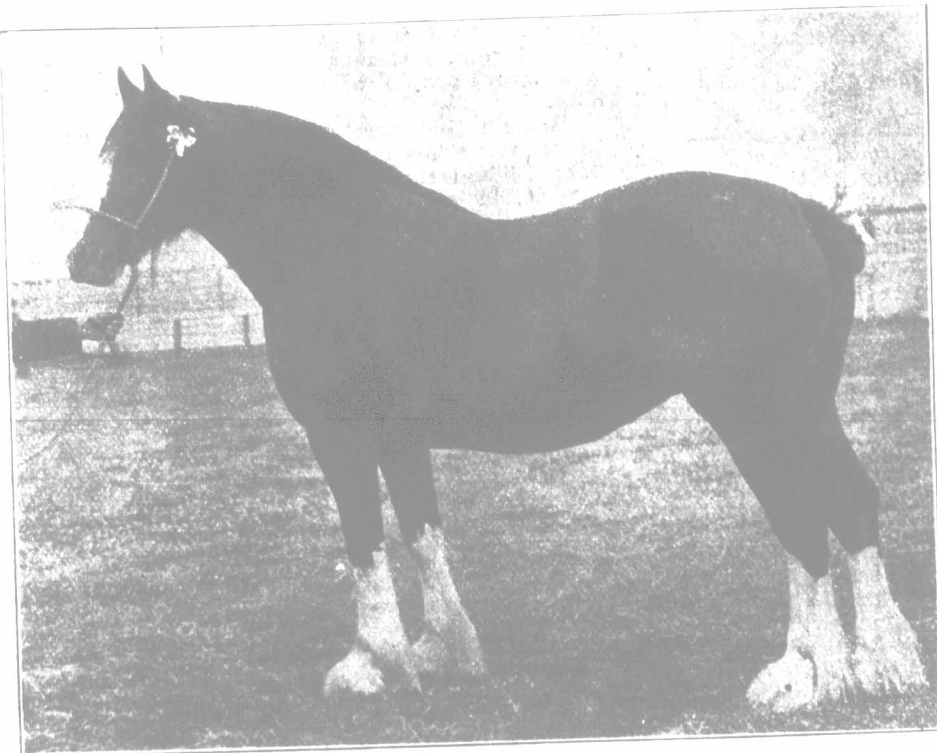
The Rival of Darnley.

In our last week's issue appeared a brief record of the breeding, individual characteristics and prepotency as a sire of the noted Clydesdale stallion, Darnley (222). Following are some interesting facts, gathered from the same source, regarding the record of Prince of Wales (673), Darnley's great rival individually, and as a sire of superior progeny, judged by the standards of the show-yard and the stud:

Prince of Wales was a large, powerful horse, of a rich-brown color, with white stripe in face, white hind feet and near fore foot; foaled in 1866; bred by James Nicol Fleming, of Knockdon, May-

ing; it was a grand foot, large, round, open and solid, as it must have been to stand twenty-two years of such treatment as the user gave it. The hind leg did not excite the same enthusiasm; it was abnormally straight in the hock, though the thighs were muscular and strong; the hind pasterns and feet were a repetition of the fore. If the straight hocks foretold imperfect action, they prophesied falsely, as action was the specialty of the Prince, and has been transmitted to most of his offspring. It was more like that of a Hackney than of a draft horse, and only one finer goer have we seen among draft horses, his own son, Prince of Avondale. The Prince also walked well, and always carried himself gaily—a remarkably striking horse, that must attract attention in any company.

In his earlier years at the stud, Prince of Wales proved himself a notable sire, and many were the wins to his credit. Subsequently, when in Mr. Drew's possession, his stud fee was raised to what was in those days an unheard-of figure. He got comparatively few mares during some seasons, beyond those of his owner's large and important stud, and winners, consequently, were fewer than formerly. Undoubtedly, the close was the most brilliant of his career. On the death of Darnley, after having served three seasons in Wigtownshire, breeders there induced Mr. Riddell to send the old Prince to fill the gap. Here he found many Darnley fillies, and the cross with them

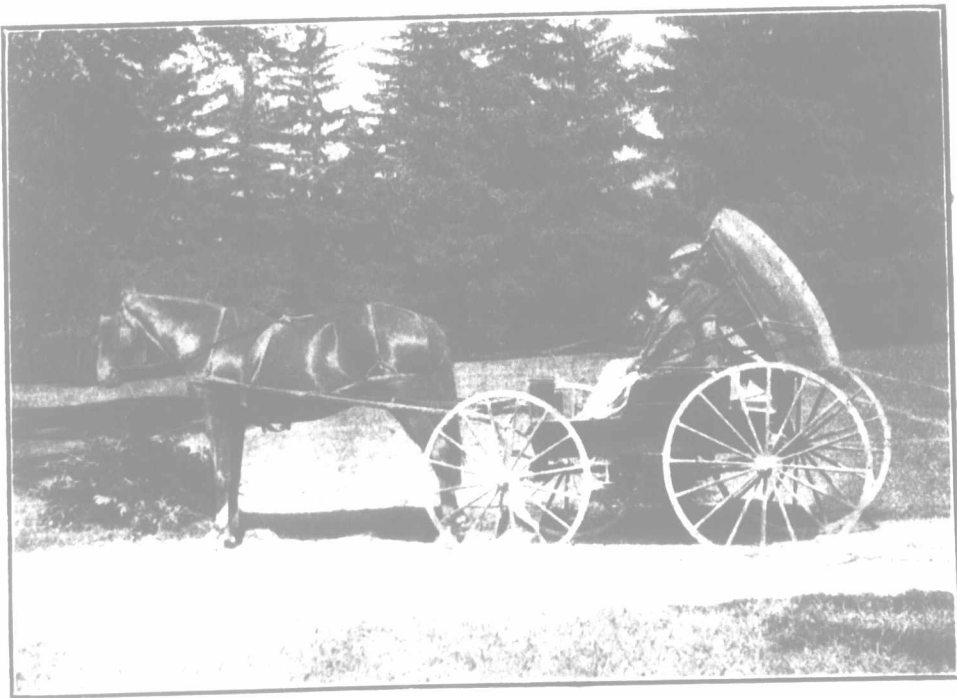


Boquhan Lady Peggy.

Clydesdale mare; bay; foaled 1906. Winner of Cawdor Challenge Cup, as best female at Highland Show, Dumfries, 1910. Sire Hiawatha (10067).

proved a veritable gold mine. Unfortunately, the old horse only survived for two Wigtownshire seasons, and most of his stock was promptly cashed by its breeders, and left the country. Among the long list of sons of Prince of Wales, prominent as prizewinners or sires of winners, were: Luck's All (510), Prince of Kelvin (656), Cedric (1087), Prince of Albion (6178), Prince Robert (7135), Prince of Kyle (7155), Orlando (8092), Prince Romeo (8144), Prince of Carruchan (8151), Prince Alexander (8899), Prince Patrick (8933), and Gallant Prince (10552). Of these named, Prince Alexander was one of the most brilliant show-yard competitors of the past twenty years, and his breeding success is commensurate with his good looks.

His dam was Jeanie Black, by Darnley. At the Highland, in 1890, he not only won his class, but accomplished the very exceptional feat of winning the championship while still a yearling. The Cawdor Cup only came into existence two years later, and Prince Alexander is honored by having his name inscribed upon it as its first winner, when a 3-year-old. He was a remarkably handsome bright bay, of fair size, with a grand top and most fashionable legs and pasterns, with abundant quality. He was a most popular stud horse, and the record of his



Lingering in Pleasant Places.

Riddell, in whose possession he remained until his death, in 1888, when 22 years old.

Prince of Wales' body and neck were beautifully moulded, but his head was rather long, hard, narrow, and Roman nosed, with a small, narrow eye. His fore leg was as nearly perfect as is found, with well-developed arms, beautiful, sharp, but abundant bone, fringed with long, silky hair; pasterns that could not be improved upon, and have rarely been equalled; the coronet graced with a curtain of beautiful hair which nearly hid the foot. Not that the foot lent itself to hid-

progeny would be a long one. A few years ago he was purchased by Walter S. Park, Hatton, Renfrewshire, who later sold him to Canada. Prince Romeo, bred in Wigtownshire, was in his younger days the property of William Hood, Chapleton, and subsequently was owned by Lords A. & L. Cecil, and later became the property of A. & W. Montgomery, who sold him to Canada. He now belongs to Messrs. Henderson and Charlton, Belton and Duncreef, Ont., is hale and hearty in his twenty-third year, and believed to be the oldest living entire son of Prince of Wales.