

a proper balance of warm blood or those showing any inclination to weediness, a good Hackney horse might be advantageously used.

### THE MOUNTED INFANTRY HORSE.

The mounted infantry horse for which such an unprecedented demand has recently arisen and which is likely to be even more sought after if present war conditions continue to prevail, is a smaller and cheaper animal than either of those already described. He is in fact a cob, a strong pony on short legs, with as much quality as can consistently be looked for in conjunction with the substance required to carry an armed man. He must have a fair shoulder and a good back, be deep through the heart and stand squarely on good legs well furnished with bone. In height he may be from 14.1 to 15.1, but 14.3 is the favourite standard with Lt. Col. Dent. Strength is the great desideratum but a reasonable amount of activity is indispensable.

The little horse 'Hero' which took first prize in Toronto, stood 15.1, measured 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  inches below the knee and 19 $\frac{1}{2}$  round the arm; from crest to withers he was 34 inches, withers to croup 27 inches, croup to tail 15 inches. He girthed 73 inches and as the measurements show, was an excellent type of the weight-carrying cob. Such horses can be obtained by a stout Thoroughbred sire from French Canadian or other strong pony mares, or by the judicious use of the Hackney horse on the smaller roadsters and on those little mares too common in Canada, resulting from the ill-advised use of the racing or rather sprinting type of Thoroughbred on light mares of trotting blood or other mixed breeding.

### GENERAL REQUIREMENTS.

In times of peace no horses are bought at less than four nor more than seven years old.

As regards colour, bays, browns, chestnuts and blacks are preferred; a few grays are required for special corps, but odd coloured horses are not wanted.

No unsound or seriously blemished horse will be taken; the veterinary examination is fairly strict but is also strictly fair. Un-docked horses are preferred and no horse with a very short docked tail will be taken.

In time of war, however, when the demand, as a rule, exceeds the available supply, purchasing officers overlook many minor defects, provided the animals offered are sound and serviceable, while conforming generally to the requirements of the service.

### ADVICE TO BREEDERS.

Breeders on the Western ranges will, no doubt, find it profitable from this time forward, to devote considerable attention to the production of horses especially adapted for military use.

In the other portions of the Dominion the supply of such horses can be enormously increased with but little extra effort or expense on the part of the breeder.

Immense numbers of light horses and ponies are annually bred in Canada of which, many when grown are, owing to their non-descript character, of but little value. If the breeders of these animals would send their lighter mares to pure bred stallions, of the British breeds, intelligently selected with a view to the production of a definite type of military horse, a vast improvement in our clean-legged stock would speedily manifest itself.

High prices would then as now be easily obtainable for really superior animals; most of the others would find ready sale for army use as well as for other purposes, while the misfits and object lessons would be less numerous and, except by comparison, not less valuable, than they are at present.

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