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in South Africa. Most likely the pasture is not on top of the limestone soils, and, in increasing the bone, which has to be fed-in as much through exercise as a threshing machine has to be fed with grain when in motion, there may be a lack of the necessary nutriment. In this difficulty, resort has to be had to feeding "bone with bone." Physiologists will no doubt tell us that this is nothing new, there being various preparations of burnt bone essences in use for rickety children, where there is an absense of lime in the water. Phosphate of lime forms a large ingredient of patent chemical foods. In South Africa the horses are given a large amount of bones in a ground state, with a view to a large absorption of the same through the stomach into the system, this through the soil being unequal to creating as full development of bone in the ordinary manner. Much of the bone so fed proves insoluble, and passes through the intestines, but a special form of fermented bone is being tried, the full phosphate in which is likely to be taken up. Bone ash, which is just carefully calcined bone reduced to a fine powder, we know to be largely used in the preparation of various forms of human medicines, and can be very cheaply prepared from bones of all kinds.

In regard to this formation of bone through eating bone, this is nothing new in animal life, as the red deer, which cast their antlers every year—these sometimes of great spread and weight—are held by most authorities to consume the same, but not only that, but the bones of the skeletons of the deer found in their travels. The best antlers are, however, developed on good deep pasture, full of lime, and it is a noteworthy fact that some of the largest heads of horns have been found in the parts of Ireland, which ornamented the old red deer Galway, which fed on grass which now gives such magnificent specimens of horse-flesh.

Breeders of horses will naturally prefer to take the bone through the herbage, but in young stock a little bone food might well be administered where the soil is known to be deficient in phosphates. Superphosphate of lime and other bone manures may be applied, and these being taken up by the pasture the colts and fillies will furnish as they come on. Of course, it must be quite well understood that there must be a fair substratum of bone to begin with, to be obtained in the usual way, viz., by mating horse with bone to light mare or vice versa, or with both fully furnished in this respect.

The Suffolk Horse.

There is probably no other breed of draft horses that can justly claim so much purity of breeding and uniformity of type and color as the Suffolk. Little attempt appears to have been made to complete a history of the breed previous to the founding of the Suffolk Horse Stud Book in or about the year 1879.

That ample material for such a history existed, the Stud Book Committee proved, as in the first volume is recorded, in consecutive form, an account of the breed for about 170 years, with verified quotations, carrying the history as far back as the early part of the eighteenth century. Limited in the district of its origin, and local in its early development, there was little difficulty in getting at the historical facts which were in existence. In compiling the first volume of the Stud Book, the Committee was greatly aided by the proprietor of the *Epswich Journal*, who had an uninterrupted file of his paper from the year 1720, which he placed at the disposal of the editor of the Stud Book. Frequent mention of the Suffolk horse appeared in this organ. In the compilation of the history, recourse was had to advertising cards, sale announcements, records of auctions, catalogues of the Suffolk Agricultural Association, the Royal Agricultural Society of England, and the verbal accounts and descriptions from the oldest grooms and horsemen in the country. So far as the origin of the breed is concerned, little can be said. The Suffolk horse appears to have been present in Suffolk at a very early date. Care and selection in breeding have modified his character, but as regards his marked characteristics, few if any breeds have so tenaciously reproduced their chief features of identification. There is reliable evidence of the fact that many of the most decided points which distinguished them more than two hundred years ago are rarely absent in the Suffolk horse of today. The short legs, roomy middle, chestnut color, longevity, docility, and willingness to draw, are still strikingly characteristic of the breed. As

far back as the middle of the eighteenth century allusion is made to the purity of the breed, advertisements of that time going back for three generations, and noting that a horse of that date was "the truest-bred cart-horse in Suffolk," being frequently met with. Modern writers claim that there was an element of Flemish blood in the forefathers of the present race of Suffolk horses. Beyond the fact that the breeder had a couple of Flemish horses, no record of any such introduction seems to be known, and the only authority for even this fact is that there are portraits of two such animals in the family collection. If these horses were used on the estate, it could have had simply a local effect.

No observer can fail to notice the uniformity of type and character of the Suffolk horse. There is something in the color, type, style and outline, varied, of course, but never obliterated, which speaks of a common origin. Whatever fault we may find with the breed, we cannot fail to observe the marked type of outward appearance and color that is always present in a marked degree. That there have been infusions of extraneous blood cannot be denied, neither can it be denied that these influences have failed to overcome the prepotency of the breed or alter either type or color. The produce of these crosses stood for some years, but sooner or later they died out, and, at the present time there is not a Suffolk horse which is not descended from the old breed.

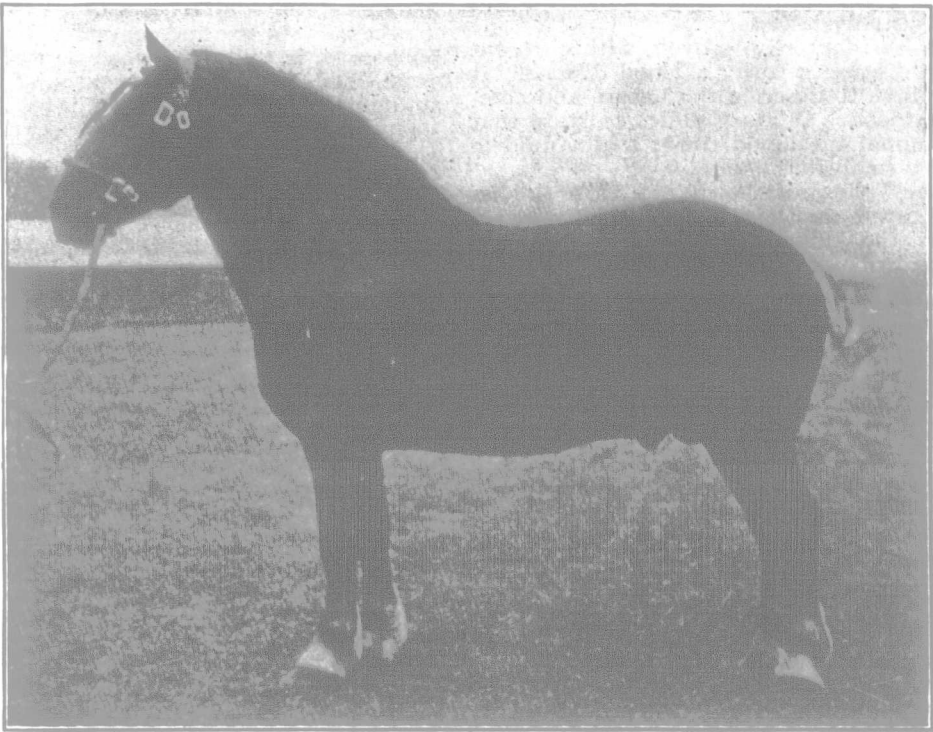
It is claimed that there is not a single specimen

of its characteristics is in proportion to the antiquity and the purity of the origin.

The Suffolk has been introduced into several parts of Canada and his type highly commends him as an agricultural horse, but unfortunately the breed has not "nicked" well with the common stock and have not made much advancement.

Some Little Things that Count.

It is one of the lamentable things in connection with working horses that the large force employed on each farm and the incessant rush of work during summer season often deters a man from doing certain little things for his horses' comfort and his own profit that he knows should be done. One of the most common objects of neglect is the repairing of the harness and oiling it. It would seem a judicious move if a certain day were set apart for the express purpose of harness cleaning and repairing. Certainly every man should include such a day in his arrangement of the season's work, and even then there would be times when small repairs should be made at odd moments. In the rush to get work done and and so produce more crops to buy more goods we overlook the fact that the implements and fixtures we now have are going to wear and we neglect to care for them. This is one of the most noticeable of the characteristics of western farming and is more often seen in connection with the harness and implements than in any



TYPICAL SUFFOLK STALLION, FIRST AT BRITISH ROYAL AND OTHER SHOWS.

of the breed in existence which is not descended from one single source of ancestry—a certain horse of the "old breed," a nameless sire, foaled in 1768, and advertised as the property of one Mr. Crisp, of Ufford. This is not a mere assertion, or the result of a fair conclusion from reliable data; it is a proved fact, which the pedigree chart of the Stud Book proved beyond doubt.

The introduction of the Stud Book speaks of the old Ufford horse: "The first notice we got of a horse of the old breed, of whose undisturbed identity there is a printed record, belonging to a Mr. Crisp, of Ufford. The advertisement appeared in 1773. The following year he is described as a fine, bright chestnut, full 15½ hands high, with the additional notice that his owner has no occasion to say anything more in his praise, as he is so noted a horse for getting fine colts; and, moreover, those who were unsuccessful with the said horse last year, can have the use of him this year for 5 shillings." His route appears to have been in the district of Woodbridge, with excursions to Saxmundham and Framlingham, "so to continue the season, God willing."

The Stud Book gives details of various introductions of outside blood, probably the most important being that of a Lincolnshire trotting-horse, belonging to a Mr. Blake, and known as Blake's Farmer, and another Lincolnshire horse known as Might's Farmer's Glory, or the Attleboro horse. The influence of these and other outside crosses were more or less marked for a few generations, but it became extinct from no assignable cause. It was the same old tale, the fresh introduction striving in vain against the power of the parent stock, proving that the power of assertion, the extent, the tenacity of retention

other. The good old saw "a penny saved is a penny gained," seems to be completely ignored yet it is one of those principles that lie at the bottom of all success except the plunger's and gambler's.

On farms where from eight to twenty horses are kept an investment in a few saddler's requisites should be considered a necessity. Further than this, it should be insisted upon that the teamsters keep their harness in repair. Knots in the lines, flapping blinkers, wired up pole straps, etc., are a few of the little things that are often responsible for runaway accidents resulting in broken implements, injured horses, or disabled drivers. If this habit of neglecting to repair the harness were deliberate carelessness we should not mention it here but because it is nothing more than thoughtless neglect growing into a habit as a result of not being seen as others see us we make mention of it. We candidly believe it would pay a man to leave his work on the summer fallow or whatever else he is doing on a midsummer Saturday and turn his whole force of teamsters to washing and repairing and oiling harness then the oil would have all day Sunday to strike in and the addition to the life of the harness would repay for the time expended upon it.

Where Seed Farm Competitions Are Aided.

Sympathetic departments of agriculture have rendered it possible in Alberta and Saskatchewan, by providing funds for prizes, to have standing wheat competitions on block of ten acres by many agricultural societies.