

HORSE

The Morgan Horse

The United States department of agriculture issued recently a bulletin on the regeneration of the Morgan horse. Of the three types of light horses which American breeders have developed during a century and a quarter none stands higher in history, judged from the interest and affection which have been devoted to it, none has had a more direct and lasting influence on other types; none, in fact, has been more uniform in type, more prepotent in breeding, or more nearly a fixed breed than the Morgan horse. Yet during the past twenty years the Morgan has become all but an extinct breed. A few years ago the United States government instituted measures, now underway, to establish the breed beyond possibility of extinction, undertaking to carry on the breeding of Morgans at special studs set apart for the purpose, giving material from which to develop the modern Morgan. As giving an idea of the size and type of the breed it may be mentioned that the brood mares in the stud average 15.04 hands in height and 1050 pounds in weight, the leading stallion stands 14.24 hands and weighs 1,000 pounds in breeding condition.

The Head of the Horse

Much emphasis is properly laid upon the head of a horse, no matter of what breed he is. Besides entering largely into the whole sum of a horse's beauty, from a practical standpoint, the head has a great deal of significance regarding the breediness, the disposition, the stamina and vitality of its bearer.

A neat, trim, proportionate head is desired, if beauty is to be attained. A large head is ungainly, and indicative of underbreeding or mongrel. This is especially true in the lighter breeds. Yet, a large head is preferable to an unduly small one, it being pretty largely accepted that a horse with so small a head lacks in vigor. In heavy-draft horses the head is preferred to be always quite large, yet in proportion to the scale of the entire animal.

It is especially desirable to have the forehead broad, and the eyes prominent, full, clear, placid and fearless. Width between the eyes denotes courage, and bespeaks the intelligence of the animal. Much is to be learned from the eyes. A small, sunken eye usually accompanies a vicious, sullen, unreliable disposition. The cheerful, free, generous horse shows it in his bright, full, lively, yet not excitable eyes.

The full front view of the horse's head should show the greatest thickness at the jaws, with the head tapering towards the muzzle. The profile should show full between the eyes, but not bulging, and straight from the eyes to the nose. A

dish-face is not attractive, if at all pronounced, though a slight dish is often seen in the lighter breeds, and is not a serious objection. In light breeds, a Roman nose is not liked, though it is usual in the Shires, common in the Clydesdales, and frequent in other heavy breeds. It is usually believed to be associated with a rather wilful and enduring disposition. In light breeds it is associated with a lack of refinement, which is associated with the straight or slightly-dished face.

The lips should be strong and neatly carried; the nostrils large, dilating and fine. The ears lend much to make or mar the beauty of the horse. They must not be too far apart, and, while carried slightly forward, must chiefly be erect. It is very desirable to have them nicely pointed.

The attachment of the head to the neck is very important. Throatiness or thickness at the juncture of these members is not desirable. The jaws should be wide apart at the angle, and curve well upward at the rear. A coarse setting of the head results in an awkward carriage, resulting in a plain-appearing horse.

Cure Roaring by Operation

A British veterinarian has succeeded in curing roaring by an operation hitherto not attempted by the profession. The operation consists in drawing back the paralyzed vocal cord so that it is no longer a foreign body in the larynx. Having done so to one cord the other must be treated also, as its balance is disturbed. By stripping the two sides of the passage an air tube is made which may be likened to an extra tracheal ring. The operation is described as simple, but extremely difficult, calling for an exact knowledge of the anatomy of the larynx, a steady hand and a very delicate manipulation of the instruments to avoid injury to the cartilage of the larynx or the cord itself. This operation was first attempted in the United States, with a fair degree of success. British surgeons have advanced further and by modifying the original method have succeeded in improving the operation until a high degree of success is being attained.

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Closed bridles, or bridles with blinders, are probably needed with a few horses of very nervous disposition, but in the great majority of cases horses drive much more safely with open bridles. Without the blinders, the horses certainly have a better opportunity to see things as they are, and consequently are less likely to shy at unusual objects. With work horses there is still less argument to present in favor of the use of these usually objectionable bridles.

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Clydesdale importations to the West this year will be less than in 1909. A number of importers who usually bring over fair sized consignments are not going over, expecting a rather slack season. Prices in Scotland are said to be about 20 per cent. higher than they were last year.

STOCK

Tying Cattle in Stables

Two letters are published herewith on the best methods of tying cattle in stables. Two methods are generally in use: tying by chains or ropes and fastening in stanchions. Something can be said in favor of each method, though on the whole we believe that the most up-to-date stables, dairy stables especially, are equipped with stanchions in preference to chains. The modern stanchion is a thing quite different from the old form of rigid stanchion. It permits of the maximum amount of freedom to the animal, while at the same time keeps it firmly tied in place. In the matter of cost stanchions are higher than ropes or chains, but results on the whole are more satisfactory. The prizes for these articles are awarded in the order in which they appear.

Best Method of Tying

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

The use of chains or stanchions, or the running of the cattle in loose boxes, have all advantages and disadvantages. It depends somewhat on the kind of stable. In an old stable that has been built for chains there is not enough difference in the two methods of fastening up cattle to make a change to stanchions worth while. For a new stable, however, I would recommend the stanchion. The advantages of stanchions are that no front is needed to the manger; to keep the cattle from crowding through onto the feeding alley; the stanchion holds them secure, keeps them from stepping into the manger, and allows the maximum degree of liberty. A cow fastened in a stanchion has more liberty to move about than has a cow tied with a chain, she is easier to untie and tie up and there is no danger of her getting the foot over the chain or jumping over the alleyway in front and breaking her neck. The stanchions referred to are not the old-fashioned rigid kind, in which a cow could move her head up and down but not do very much more than that, but the modern kind hung at top and bottom on swivel chains, permitting the animal to turn the head clear about, standing or lying at ease. Stanchions cost more at the start, but in the end they pay. Sask. W. S. THOMSON.

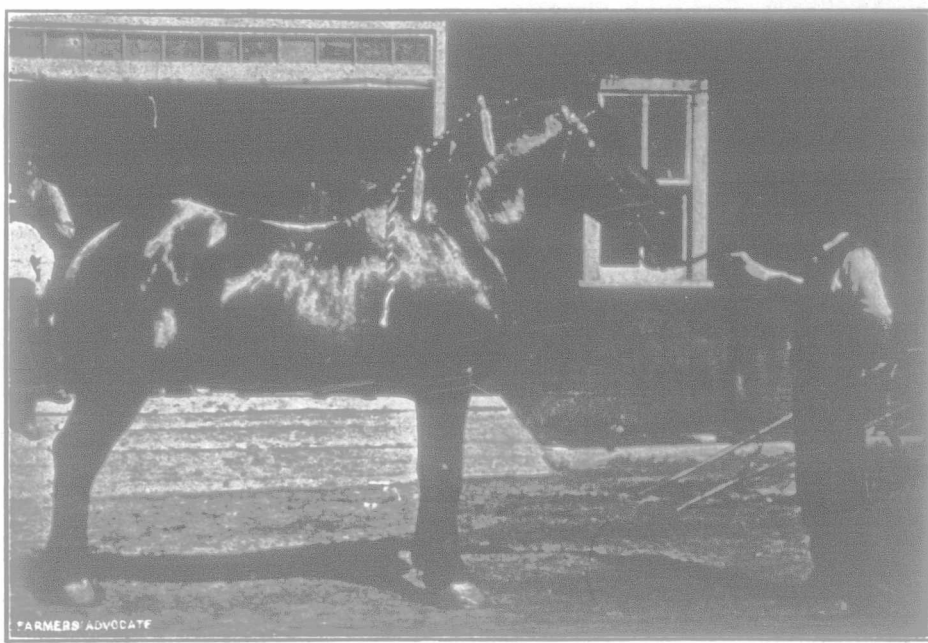
Prefers Ropes to Chains or Stanchions

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

As far as my experience goes I have found that the best way to tie cattle in the stable is to buy enough rope, so that when it is cut into seven-foot lengths you will have sufficient to tie each animal. Then take a snap and ring for each rope. Braid the snap into one end and slip on the ring, and tie at the proper place with a small knot. Before tying the ring place in correct



COLONEL MACQUEEN, FIRST PRIZE THREE-YEAR-OLD STALLION, EDMONTON EXHIBITION. OWNED BY JAMES CLARK, GLEICHEN, ALTA.



MARMITON, OWNED BY E. G. BEATTY, HAS STOOD IN THE STOUGHTON DISTRICT FOR THREE YEARS