

and very good according to draft horse standards. The Clydesdale horse when perfection is reached, will not be less finished about the ground than the best specimens now are, but will have increased substance and his Clydesdale character will be somewhat sacrificed to draft type. The market demands it and Clydesdale breeders are too shrewd to ignore the market demands.

It is not the object of these paragraphs to justify Mr. Gardhouse's decision. We believe he discharged his work conscientiously and in his opinion, to the best interests of the breed. It was a rare case where a line had to be drawn between extreme Clydesdale type on the one hand and a draft type on the other. Probably such an instance will not occur again for a long time but for the present it serves as an object lesson of the relative values a man in close touch with breeding and market operations sets upon Clydesdale character and draft-horse type.

Clydesdales are of such incalculable value after all. In a general way we know the Shire is to be faulted and there is a very general impression that their short pasterns cannot last long at hard work but, somehow, theories have a peculiar way of vanishing in actual life and if Shire pasterns are of sufficient length to stand the dray work in English cities, then the fact should be more generally known and demonstrated by exhibitions of animals that have stood it for a time at least. A show of breeding stock is good, but by all means, Old Country breeders, give us a show of working horses even if you have to shave exhibition grants to do so.

initial expense which is not an insuperable obstacle after all.

If a man knows milch cows, how to feed and select, and has the ambition to breed Shorthorns there is no reason why he should not begin and make the venture a paying one from the start, if he will only select sound, deep milkers; milk the cows from the calving and raise the calves well by hand. There are numbers of such deep milking cows in the breed, and, given a little care in the handling and selection, such traits may be indelibly stamped upon the herd as it multiplies year by year. It is just as feasible, even more so, to make a profit by milking Shorthorn cows, as it is to expect to do it from grades. In fact for one to get the most profitable (year in and year out) cows of the breed, it is essential that the beginner should select cows with plenty of femininity, deep and wide chested, ample bosoms and large middles, big, tortuous milk veins and spacious milk wells, as well as shapely bags and moderate sized squarely-set teats. Avoid the heifer matured at eighteen months or two years, especially if she bear those marks of indulgence at the feedbox, viz., bunchiness at hips and tail root, or hard rolls over the back ribs. Beware of the cow whose udder development resembles more that of a bovine virgin; which may have had a calf, but which Dame Nature with her inexorable laws, let die because its mother could not feed it. Get therefore, one or more cows of size and feminine appearance, breed them and milk them as you would expect to do with a herd of grades that had to pay its way. The matrons with the silky skins and velvety touch, mild-eyed and calm, carrying plenty of evenly laid on flesh and of irreproachable smoothness, given such cows, mated with bulls from deep milking dams, lowset, thick and heavily fleshed and one need not be afraid of making the venture a success. It matters not what breed one keeps, the milking function must not be allowed to decline or remain in abeyance. Nature as already mentioned, never fails to extort the penalty, which in this case is, early decline of bovine good looks and an exasperating sterility, so provoking and unprofitable in its barrenness.

One of the snags which has capsized many a man's ideas of the milking Shorthorn is the rushing after cattle of the breed that approximated to the so-called dairy type, discovered a few years ago by an editor of a dairy paper or professor of dairy husbandry, we forget which. The Cumberland and the Old Country breeders have had the type for years, and there is no reason why our breeders should not also, provided they do not forget the possibilities in selection and the power of inheritance.

The Judging of Cattle at Shows.

The following from the pen of Robert Bruce the noted expert on British live stock, is well worthy of consideration by many of our judges and fair boards, and if observed would tend to avoid heartburnings and friction at the shows:

"The successor otherwise of the judging of cattle may be said to depend upon the classification, the executive of the show, and the judge or bench of judges acting in the rings.

"With regard to the classification in a schedule of prizes offered, it sometimes happens that it is drawn up in such a way as to render it impossible for awards to be made with any degree of satisfaction to the judges, the exhibitors and the public. In cases such as great disparity of the ages in animals, difference of sex, or different breeds competing together, the impossibility or arriving at a conclusion with any degree of satisfaction must have been often felt by judges.

"With reference to ages, if we consider the difficulty experienced at those shows where ages count from the date of the show, the trouble referred to must be at once apparent. Take, for instance, a calf class where the animals under adjudication may vary in age from three or four months to a single day under twelve months, or a class of yearlings where the ages may run from twelve months and one day to twenty-three months and thirty days. The difficulty of judging in such a class need only to be referred to to be understood by all practical men.

"Further, with regard to classification, it is most unreasonable to request judges to award special prizes, where two or more breeds are brought into competition, with any degree of satisfaction, even to themselves. Such competitions are bad enough at a fat stock show, but it should never occur at a breeding show. No one could expect

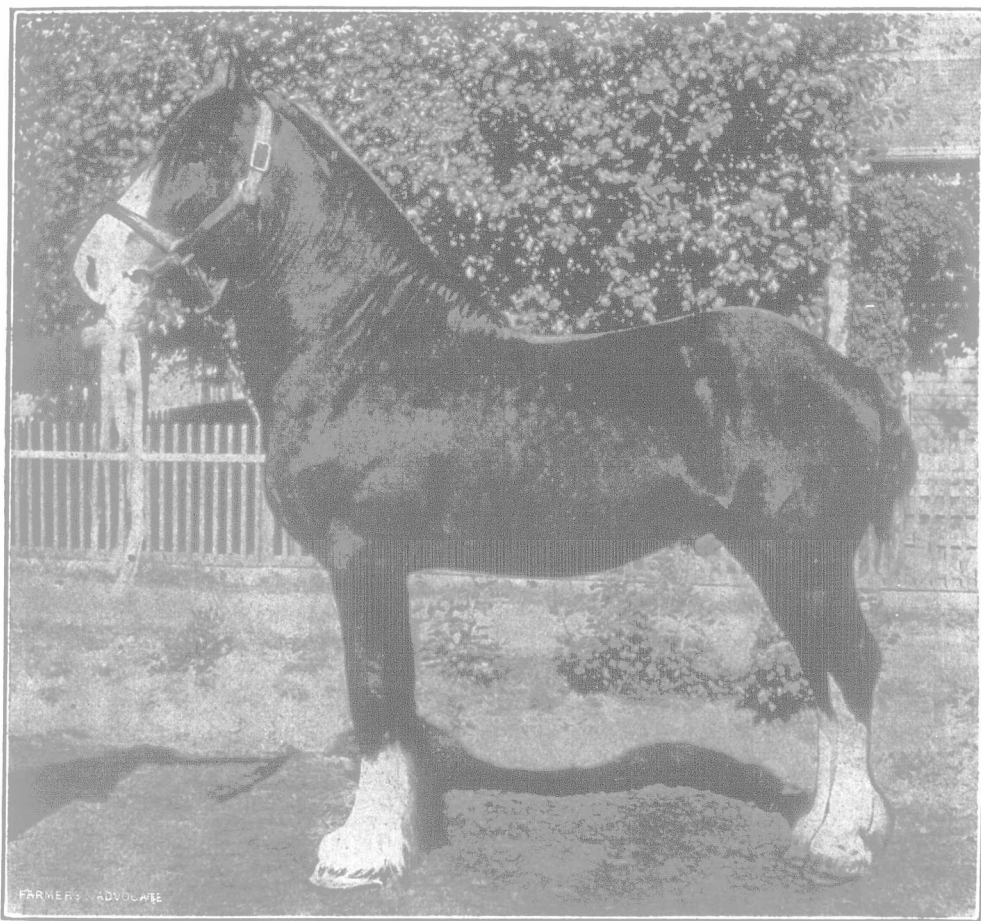
STOCK

Popularizing the Shire.

Last year the Shire horse breeders of Great Britain became aroused over the apparent lack of appreciation on the part of Canadians and Americans of the Shire as a draft horse, and instituted enquiries as to how to proceed to popularize the breed. The suggestion most generally made by those most interested on both sides of the water, including the FARMER'S ADVOCATE,

Starting a Shorthorn Herd.

Several young farmers we have known have shown at times sufficient interest in purebred cattle, to discuss embarking in the breeding of the reds, whites and roans. These young fellows did not begin for several reasons, one being that the view that they took was discouraging to a beginner with little money and anxious to get



IMPORTED CLYDESDALE STALLION

Owned by David Cargill, Peigan Creek Horse Ranch, Seven Persons, Alta.

was that a representative string of modern Shire geldings be exhibited at the leading fairs in Canada and the United States. This is in line with the policy of the Dominion government in making displays of Canadian produce at foreign exhibitions and one that has proved most effective in popularizing any commodity. The English Shire men soon realized the value such a display would mean to the breed but for some reason or other have not been able to get together a string of geldings. Instead, a shipment of breeding stuff from His Majesty the King's and Lord Rothschild's studs has been landed and will be on exhibition at the larger Canadian exhibitions and at some of the American state fairs. Those who have seen the representatives of these two studs pronounce them a very superior lot, and they, no doubt, will do the breed good. But the real need of the Shires in America as has been pointed out before is a display of geldings. We have imported a large number of Shire stallions and mares whose blood has been mixed with that of the stock of the country to its benefit, especially in giving massiveness and weight. What is now wanted is a demonstration of the type of drafters that is in most favor for dray work in English cities. We all want to know if the shorter pasterns of the Shire are so much discredited in their own land, if the long pasterns of the

returns right from the start. They saw breeders pay big money for fashionably bred cows, which later calved, and straightway were given wet-nurses, while these same cows were allowed to forget the maternal duties and were dried up so as to make a good appearance at some of the big shows; other purebred matrons shared the duty and pleasure of raising their offspring with aliens, in many cases cows plebian by birth, but whose milk was every bit as nourishing as that of the bovine aristocrats. Unfortunately the would-be breeders of Shorthorns looked no further, but after figuring the matter up decided in their own minds, that as they had their living to make they could not afford the purebreds, so contented themselves with the grade cattle of the country. Herein they were not entirely to blame as neither breed society nor exhibition association gave hint that some other procedure might be followed with profit, or that different types of cows might be had, cows whose views on race suicide were not so radical as to prevent donating to the world a calf every twelve months and giving a sufficiency of milk not only to raise that calf, but with some to spare for the human race. We would say right here that the only possible and legitimate deterrent to the investment in one or two good Shorthorn cows by the beginner on his own account in breeding good live stock, is the in-