

mares that came from it, and good ones they were. Many have been sold in this district and all showed their Thoroughbred breeding.

I do not refer to the Hackney or Standard-bred, simply because we all know their foundation blood is Thoroughbred. You cannot get away from the fact that if your efforts in the breeding of high class saddle, carriage or roadster horses are to be met with success, you must have "hot blood" (Thoroughbred) in your mares. You cannot breed cavalry or artillery horses without a top-cross of it. The more a van horse or bus horse has of it with size, the higher prices he commands; and in all English cities you cannot sell a horse to go between the shafts of a cab unless he is "chuck full" of it. Other strains have been tried in all cases and they have each in their turn given way to their own foundation blood, the Thoroughbred.

### Admires the Saddle Horse

EDITOR FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

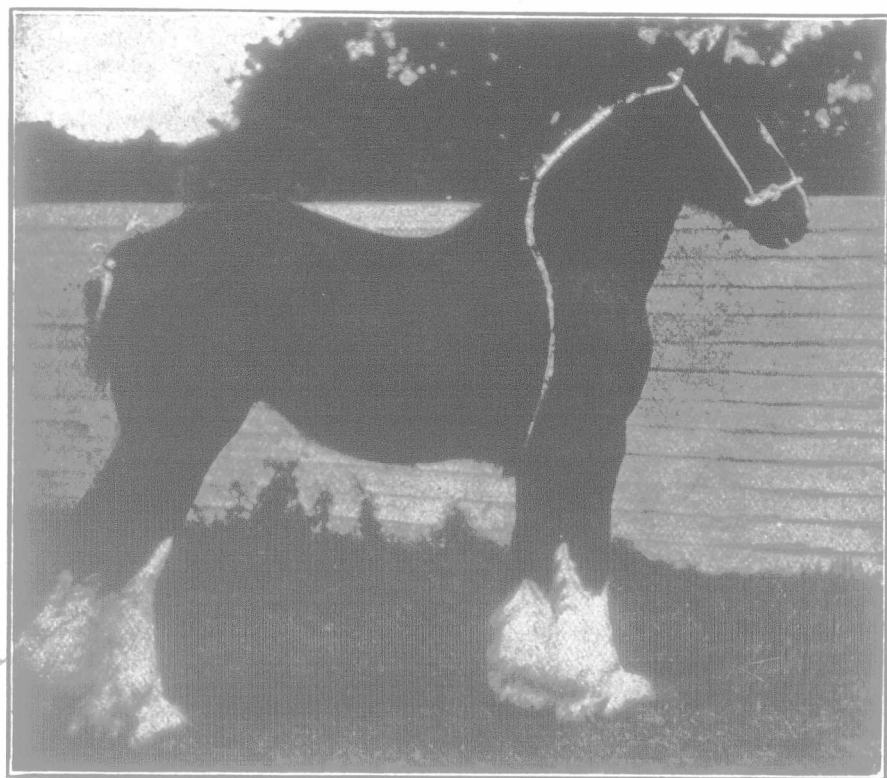
I was very much interested in the article written by Mr. G. H. Bradshaw re utility and fancy saddle horses. While I think his ideas are correct in the main, I can see that he is not very well acquainted with the characteristic of the Kentucky saddle-bred horse. He is looked upon where not known much as the English Hackney was when first introduced into the United States, and like the Hackney, as he becomes better known will be more appreciated. It seems reasonable to me that a horse bred for a specific purpose will excel in that line those that are bred for some other purpose. I also believe there are exceptions to the rule, in nearly all cases, and I think Mr. Railey should have made allowance for the exception. Because Rex

using a Coach horse on small mares with a view to breeding them up, as the cross will not be so radical as to breed to a draft horse the first cross. The Coach horse will increase the size as well as action, and I think be more uniform in conformation.

I am glad to see the interest taken in all classes of stock, and think that we ought to select some one of the many good breeds, and try and procure the best strains of whichever breed we select, and follow the same line of breeding as much as possible, so we will be able to produce something that will go in a class; for the day of the mongrel is passing away.

Yes, Mr. Editor, we shall always need the cow ponies as long as we have the cows, even if they are in the pasture, and I hope we shall always have a desire to breed the best horses, cattle, sheep, swine, poultry, or whatever our fancy desires, and that the ADVOCATE will at all times be at our back to encourage us on is the good work of improvement, either in stock raising or farming. Come again, Mr. Bradshaw. I like to see someone take interest in the horse department. It is the first reading I do when I receive the ADVOCATE. If we had a few more "Whips" it would suit me.

D. P. WOODRUFF.



COMBERMERE ABBESS.

With but Mr. Goddard's experience as an exception, you will hear the world over that the Thoroughbred is the most prepotent of breeds. For a breed of recent origin I think the French Coach or *Demi-Sang* (half blood) as he is called in France, is far above other so-called breeds in being prepotent. Why? Look up his genealogy, and the answer is obvious. It is 70 per cent. of Thoroughbred blood. Mr. Goddard will tell you this is true.

We all know a great deal of patience is required in horse breeding; but let everyone know the class he wants to breed and start aright, and it will not be so tedious a job waiting for good results.

With regard to your correspondent who asks for suggestions on breeding light mares, if he wishes to breed horses for saddle and lighter draft purposes my advice is to get a Thoroughbred stallion of good quality and substance, and he will meet with better results than in any other way, especially if his mares have Coach or Percheron blood in their veins. If he wishes to breed heavy draft horses I should advise him to get a good Percheron stallion, being careful to get one with good hind legs. They are sometimes a little faulty there.

Before I conclude let me for the benefit of those breeding carriage horses draw attention to the fact that in many parts of the U. S. A., also Canada, and in all parts of Great Britain, especially in London, the much sought after horse or horses are of the Hunter type, and one sees many fine, big, up-standing horses of pure breeding (Thoroughbreds) in the carriages of those who can afford to pay for such animals. I have no desire to run down any breed; but only to help the breeders, if I am able.

R. M. DALE.

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One of the good qualities of the Hackney is said to be his soundness, the claim being made that the breed Hackneys are remarkably free of wind troubles, and that despite the pounding gait so many have, yet navicular (coffin-joint) trouble, arthritis (founder), spavins and curbs are rarely found in the breed.

McDonald 833 (saddle-bred) has produced a 2.10 trotter, and Chestnut King 1592 (saddle-bred) has a pacing yearling now in training, does not count that we should breed to saddle stallions for speed, nor that because Jack O'Hazelden (Standard-bred) has been trained by Mr. W. A. Hunter of Woodland, Cal., to go the five gaits of the saddler, that the Standard-bred is the ideal saddler.

I do not understand why Mr. Bradshaw refers to the Thoroughbred as the "despised," for every horseman knows he is the backbone of all our light breeds, even to the heavier Coach horse.

While it is true that a scrutiny of the pedigree of the best saddlers will reveal in most cases that the blood of the Thoroughbred predominates, yet while this is true a breeder could make no greater mistake than to suppose that any Thoroughbred will do—he must look for his blood. If breeding is confined to such, with care as to selecting individuality as well as prepotency, the future is safe. Then we are as sure to breed a saddle horse as we should be to breed a draft horse by selecting the best strains for that purpose.

Denmark (Thoroughbred) by Hedgeford, (imp.) stands at the head of the list as foundation stock in the saddle horse register, and most of the show horses of this breed trace to him. He is to the saddler what the Hambletonian is to the Standard-bred. In establishing this breed they selected for their foundation stock such sires as had proved themselves to be the best saddlers, both as to gaits, endurance, style, etc. Among these sires we find Tom Hal (imp.) from Canada, also John Dillard by Canada Chief; so you see they have drawn from Canadian blood to help make the saddler what he is, the most perfect saddle horse of any one breed—and, if you please, the most beautiful!

He is not only a show horse, but a utility horse as well, either on the road, behind a bunch of horses or cattle, to cut out with if necessary, or for anything a cow pony is expected to do, and if you need a good driving team, hitch up a pair of saddlers, and you will be surprised to see what a showy, good buggy team you have.

I agree with Mr. G. E. Goddard in regard to

### Prepare Stallions for the Season.

The failure of mares to breed, or the production of weak foals by some that reproduce, is not always the fault of the mares. The vigor of the foal when born is dependent in no slight degree on the vigor and constitution of both parents at the time of copulation and conception, and not due entirely to the manner in which the dam has been used during pregnancy, nor to her health during the term. In order that a stallion may give satisfactory results in the stud, as regards not only the number of foals he will sire, but also the strength and vigor of the same, and their likelihood to live and make useful and valuable animals, he must be in good health and vigorous during the stud season. Unfortunately, many sires spend about nine months of the year in comparative or complete idleness. The practice in many cases is to remove his shoes after the season, turn him into a box stall (often a small one), and allow him to remain there, without exercise, until a couple of weeks before the next season commences. The owner has no work or driving for him to do, has no time to give him exercise simply because he should have it, and either has no suitable paddock of lot into which to turn him for a few hours each day, or is afraid to do so on account of the danger of him injuring himself while galloping, etc. The writer has in mind one highly-bred stallion, an excellent individual, that has been used in this way for a number of years. This horse has been bred to the best mares of his class in the section in which he is owned, and travelled during the stud season of May and June, and, while he has sired a few high-class animals, the percentage of good ones is much less than the quality of sire and dams would warrant. A horse that goes practically without exercise during several months of the year cannot have the necessary muscular, respiratory and nervous energy that is necessary in order that he may do himself justice in the stud. The writer has in mind another horse-breeding establishment where a number of stallions of different classes are kept in the stud. The stallions in this stud are too numerous to be given regular exercise either in harness or on the halter without the employment of several grooms, and, as a consequence, no attempt is made in this line, but the owner has several paddocks of one acre or over each, well fenced, and each stallion is turned into a paddock for a few hours every day that is not extremely rough. They gallop around the paddock and have a good time generally, and it is very seldom an accident occurs. In this way the constitutional vigor is kept up, and the percentage of foals produced is much greater and the percentage of weak foals among those produced much less than in the case cited where no exercise is allowed for several months.

It is probable that the experience of all owners of stallions, or of those whose observations have been directed in this line, will be much the same as the above. If this is the case, it can readily be seen that, in order to get the best results from sires, it is necessary not to allow them at any time of the year to become constitutionally weak, either from want of exercise or the necessary food. Stallions in moderate condition have always proved more potent than those either in gross or