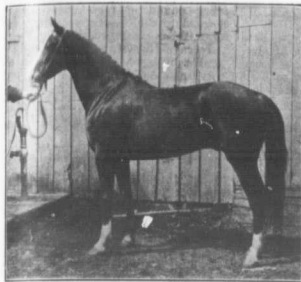


Horse Manners in the Show Ring

Dr. H. G. Reed, V.S., Hallow Co., Ont.

Many exhibitors, especially farmers' sons, do not realize the importance of having their horses properly trained before taking them into the show ring. It is a pitiful sight—all too common—to see a young farmer running ahead of a colt, endeavoring to pull it along, while often another member of the family will follow on behind with a whip in an effort to make the creature trot.



A Four-Year-Old of Thoroughbred Breeding

"Soak," the horse here illustrated, won the Governor General's Prize at the Ottawa Horse Show last May. He is owned by Mr. James Irving, Dundas Co., Ont.

The judge wants to see the gait of the animal, and very often he is not much the wiser as to the quality of the gait after the creature has been induced to trot under such conditions.

Before being taken to the show a colt should be taught to stand properly, with all four feet squarely under it, head up, alert and wide-awake looking. He should also be trained to walk in a brisk, prompt, energetic manner, and it should appear at its very best at the trotting gait, should start off at the word from its owner in a vigorous manner, with a free open gait, which will often tax the speed of the owner to keep pace with it. Imagine the favorable impression a colt trained in this way will make on a judge as compared with the case in which it took one man to pull and another behind with a whip to get the creature to trot at all.

While many judges are loth to turn down a colt of good conformation, even though they may not be able to satisfy themselves as to the action because of lack of training, yet when we consider the value of good action in the modern horse of any of the breeds, no judge is justified in assuming that the action is all right; he ought to be able to see it and judge for himself, and make no guess work about it.

Bad as it is to have green, untrained horses in the show ring on the line, it is far worse when it comes to the harness horse. Many people engage in the training of horses for exhibition purposes with an altogether erroneous idea of what constitutes a good driving horse. They seem to think that in order to make a horse show to advantage he must be excited to the extent of bearing very heavily on the bit even to the extent of drawing the driver forward on his seat, which he can retain only by bracing his feet against the front of the box while he pulls on the lines for all he is worth. Now this is exceedingly bad form in driving, more especially as applied to the carriage horse.

The finished carriage horse is always driven with a light hand. Curb bits are—or ought to be—used which renders it impossible for the horse to bear heavily against it. It requires a lot of schooling to train a horse to drive properly with such a bit, and the grand requisite for the driver is to practice driving with a very light hand. It will take considerable training to make a horse look as showy, or flashy, as when driven on a very

light line; the driver, as well as his horse, requires practice, but the time and trouble are well repaid by the improved manners of the horse and the better chance of winning in the show ring.

Probably the most lamentable lack of manners seen in any class of horse will be found in the case of the saddle horse at he is shown at the average country fair. In many cases it would almost seem as though the animal had never had a saddle on his back before, and what makes matters still worse, it too often happens that the man who rides needs training quite as badly as his horse. The finished saddle horse must be taught three gaits, viz., the walk, the trot, and the gallop. The trained horse will assume any of those gaits at the wish of his rider. He should always be ridden with a curb, which is generally associated with a snaffle bit. He should hold his head well up, with his nose slightly turned in towards his chest, and while he may be controlled mainly by the snaffle bit, the curb should always be in position against the jaw to enforce subjection in case any unruly symptoms may be shown.

VALUABLE TRAINING FOR A MAN

It requires considerable training to finish a saddle horse. The rider must exercise patience and self-control, and while he is engaged in training his horse he is also acquiring valuable training for himself. The training of the horse and its rider goes on together, and in the end, when the horse is properly trained, the man has a valuable asset added to his own.

It is a pity the average farmer's son is so blind to the advantages of becoming a proficient saddle horseman. It is a splendid health-giving, manly exercise, and the young man who has trained a good saddle horse and is competent to ride across country, taking any ordinary fence which comes in his way, has developed qualities he could not obtain in any other way, which makes him—other things being equal—a better man than his neighbor who cannot do it.

Remedial Measures Against Hessian Fly

C. Gordon Hewitt, D. Sc., Dominion Entomologist

When fall wheat is attacked by the Hessian Fly sowing should be postponed as late as possible, that is to the end of September. By this means the young plants will escape the second or summer generation of flies and their eggs will not be deposited on the young wheat, as it will come up after the flies have disappeared. If care is taken in the preparation of the land and a little fertilizer used any loss which might be experienced owing to the late sowing will be made up, apart from the fact that the increase in yield incident to the young plants escaping the Hessian Fly will be considerable. This procedure has proved successful in Ontario and also in the United States, and from its results appears to be the best remedial measure that can be adopted.

In localities where the insect is very abundant trap or bait crops such as strips of wheat may be sown. These trap crops should be sown in August as the summer generation of flies deposit their eggs on the young plants; if this crop is plowed under about the middle of September the contained larvae will be destroyed and the fall wheat may then be sown.

Beef Cattle on the Farm

R. L. Moorhouse, Lambton Co., Ont.

With your permission, Mr. Editor, I am going to make an appeal for the beef animal through your valuable farm and dairy paper. It may be poor policy to mention such a thing as a "beef animal" in a paper that reaches so many people who are breeding the opposite breeds, yet at the same time the question ought to bear discussion. Those of us in the beef business believe



"Til Eat What You Set Before Me"

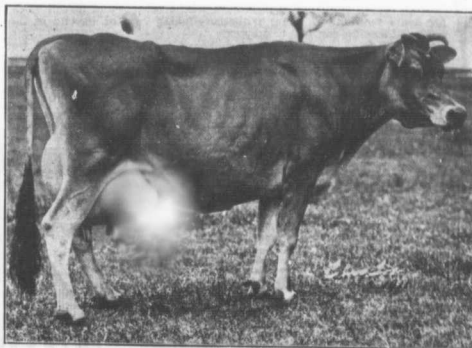
—Photo furnished by R. L. Moorhouse.

we have good reasons for carrying on the trade along this line.

The one great factor entering into either branch of farming and affecting the profit end of the business is that of labor. It is in this respect that we believe we have a decided advantage over the dairyman. In the raising of beef cattle the proprietor can utilize the extra men required for harvesting the crop, (when little extra labor is required on the stock) for the winter's care of the herd, whereas the dairy herd requires almost as much labor during summer as winter. Thus the beef man can secure his men when hiring for a whole year at less money per month than can the dairyman who has to have his extras for harvesting the season's crops. Thus you see that the beef man has his labor distributed throughout the whole year, and does not have to pay the exceptionally high wages during the growing season.

Generally speaking, the dairy cow requires more concentrated foods, consequently the higher priced foods, and consumes less of the roughage and on a smaller ration of concentrates, and can surely be carried through the winter months more cheaply. We know that there is a tendency

(Concluded on page 22)



A World-famous Cow—A Model of Jersey Type

Lady Viola, the cow here shown, sold at the great Cooper sale at Coopersburg, Pa., a few months ago for \$7,000; she is the dam of Noble of Oaklands, the great bull which sold at the same sale for \$15,000. Farm and Dairy readers are afforded a great study in Jersey type as here placed before them.