

the "Good Seed Movement" in this Province and throughout all of Eastern Canada, in order that agriculture may receive, in due time, its fullest fruition.

A. E. BURKE.

## HORSES.

### THE ILLINOIS CLASSIFICATION OF HORSES.

Professor Obrecht, of the Illinois Experiment Station, in the bulletin recently issued, "Market Classes of Horses," gives the following requirements as to height and weight of the different classes of horses:

DRAFTERS.		
Subclass.	Height, hands.	Weight, pounds.
Heavy drafters .....	16.0 - 17.2	1,750 - 2,200
Light drafters .....	15.3 - 16.2	1,600 - 1,750
Loggers .....	16.1 - 17.2	1,700 - 2,000
CHUNKS.		
Export chunks .....	15.0 - 16.0	1,300 - 1,550
Farm chunks .....	15.0 - 15.3	1,200 - 1,400
Southern chunks .....	15.0 - 15.3	800 - 1,250
WAGON HORSES.		
Expressers .....	15.3 - 16.2	1,350 - 1,500
Delivery wagons .....	15.0 - 16.0	1,100 - 1,400
Artillery horses .....	15.1 - 16.0	1,050 - 1,200
Fire horses .....	15.0 - 17.2	1,200 - 1,700
CARRIAGE HORSES.		
Coach horses .....	15.1 - 16.1	1,100 - 1,250
Cobs .....	14.1 - 15.1	900 - 1,150
Park horses .....	15.0 - 15.3	1,000 - 1,150
Cab horses .....	15.2 - 16.1	1,050 - 1,200
ROAD HORSES.		
Runabouts .....	14.3 - 15.2	900 - 1,050
Roadsters .....	15.0 - 16.0	900 - 1,150
SADDLE HORSES.		
Five-gaited saddlers .....	15.0 - 16.0	900 - 1,200
Three-gaited saddlers .....	14.3 - 16.0	900 - 1,200
Hunters .....	15.2 - 16.1	1,000 - 1,250
Cavalry horses .....	15.0 - 15.3	950 - 1,100
Polo ponies .....	14.0 - 14.2	850 - 1,000

### TRAINING BRONCHOS TO HARNESS.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

Much has appeared in "The Farmer's Advocate" on the subject of breaking colts. I have been requested to describe the methods which I have employed in training bronchos for general farm work, and shall endeavor, to the best of my ability, to do so. Owing to the high prices of the better class of horses, new settlers of limited means are often perplexed, not being able to decide whether to invest in oxen or some of the cheap, hardy, unbroken, Western horses. And it is sometimes a question which is stronger, their dislike for the oxen, or their prejudice against bronchos. Wild-west shows and broncho-busting exhibitions have given the range-bred horse an unenviable and unjust reputation, and have caused a great deal of harm to the horse-raising industry from a financial standpoint.

It is not the object of this article to advise all newcomers of limited means to equip themselves with native horses, either trained or unbroken. The inexperienced man had better by far purchase oxen, if he cannot afford a docile team of one of the heavier breeds. But the man who is accustomed to horses need have no hesitation in going into a bunch and picking out whatever number he may require for his work. And he will find that, with proper and careful handling, they will develop into faithful servants, and will astonish him at their ability to perform labor that rightly belongs to their larger and heavier brethren. While physical strength is very desirable, yet it is not absolutely necessary for horse-training; a man wants to match his intelligence against the horse's strength, and, by kindness, coupled with firmness, overcome the animal's fear and rebellion against restraint. The writer has had considerable experience in training horses, and has enjoyed a fair measure of success, and he is far from being a strong man.

While it is hardly along the line of this article, let a few words regarding the selection and purchase of a horse might not come amiss. It is a difficult matter to estimate correctly the weight of a green "bronk," as there are so many things to be taken into consideration. But it is well to make a mental discount of the dealer's estimate; he is not very apt to guess too low. The great majority of these small Western horses will only weigh from nine hundred to eleven fifty when in working trim. Of course, many of the better kind will weigh much more when fed and fitted up. It is also a difficult matter to judge temperament in an unbroken horse. To see them standing in one corner of a corral, they do not appear to have much more life than a lot of sheep. But rope any one of them up, and see the change! They are as full of fight as they were sheepish-looking.

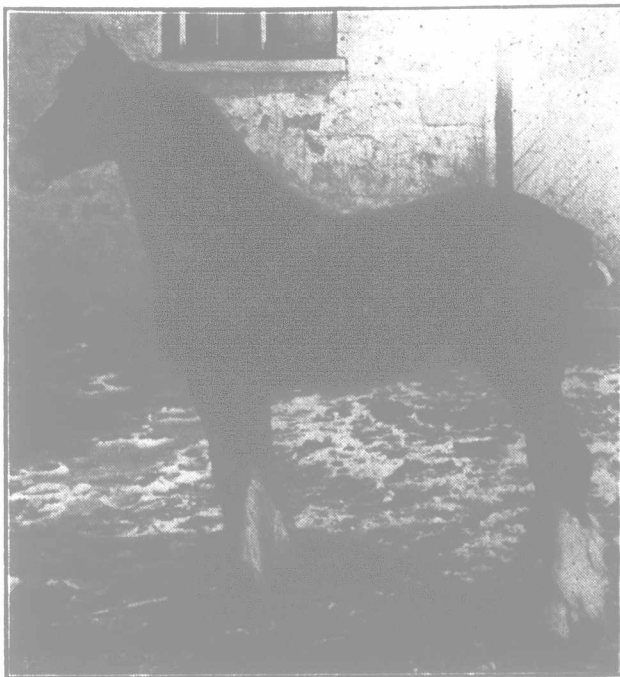
In choosing a small horse for heavy work, you cannot be too critical of his chest and hocks; see that he is well set up, otherwise you will soon

strain him to pieces. Sometimes you may find a horse that suits you in every respect, but his feet may be split or broken. Unless they are too bad, do not turn him down on that account, for it is surprising what a little care will do to a bad foot; perhaps, in a year's time no one could ever tell that there was a split in the hoof. Be on your guard against a horse that is halter-broken, unless all or most of the rest of the bunch are too. Some neighbors of mine bought a nice little horse out of a bunch, and he appeared to be halter-broken. He led home like an old horse, but he was a regular demon when they tried to train him. However, they were good horsemen,

thing of striking him in the face and making him pull back till he gives up, is very bad practice. Never strike a blow unless it is absolutely necessary, then make every one count, and don't scold and swear at the horse after you do punish him. Kindness pays. The quietest way is generally the best way in the long run; but never let a horse beat you out. Most people think—and it is quite reasonable, too—that the first step in a broncho's education should be to teach him to lead. But leave that off till the last, for the only correct way to teach a horse to lead up freely is for the trainer to get on his left side, grasp the bridle with his right hand, and keep the animal tapped up from behind with a whip held in the left hand. But this treatment won't do for a broncho, for you must try to gain his confidence. When necessary to lead him, have someone to follow at a safe distance with a whip to keep him up to place, and, if he must be tapped up, let the man behind do it; always let him see that the man at his head is his friend. The trainer and one assistant are all that is needed to handle the horse, but let each thoroughly understand his part before commencing, so as to avoid a lot of talk. And any little device which may be mentioned here, or you have heard of elsewhere, but don't quite understand, just try on a trained horse till you master the details of it.

A good training horse is a great advantage—one that is strong, and has the right temperament and life. And as it is hard work on a horse, a man should never begrudge a dollar or two for the use of a good animal in training his own. As few stables have properly-constructed stalls to harness and handle a green horse in, take him outside and snub him securely to a post or tree, but be sure he cannot corner you in any of his wild, nervous plunging when he feels the leather on him. Do not put on the bridle till the last thing, as one is very apt to hold him by it, and you must avoid hurting his sensitive mouth. A good mouth—one that can stand a steady pressure from the lines—is absolutely essential in a horse, either for driving or for work. A good big straight bit, with a little strap under

the jaw to keep the bit from slipping through the horse's mouth, is all that is required; never, on any account, put on a severe bit the first time. In fact, a rubber bit is a good thing on a nervous, sensitive animal, as, by my method of training, a green horse is neither guided or controlled very much by the bit the first few times. In putting on the collar, which is in general use, open it at the top, approach your horse on the left-hand side, take firm hold of his halter with your left hand, and with your right hand gently slip the collar onto the animal's neck upside down. He will likely plunge and rear, but you can hold the collar on him much more easily that way; then, when he calms down you can buckle it and carefully turn it into its proper place. Before putting on the harness, fasten a piece of small



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Shire stallion colt; foaled May 25th, 1907; sire Nateby King III. (imp.) (23537); dam Black Jewel (imp.) (50267); weight at nine months, seven days, 1,110 lbs. Owned by A. G. Clark, Alloo, Peel County, Ont.



Black Jewel 236 (50267).

Shire mare; foaled 1902. First and champion, Ontario Horse-breeders' Show, Toronto, 1906 and 1908. Owned by A. G. Clark, Alloo, Peel Co., Ont.

and they conquered him, and he turned out to be a useful horse. It was plain to be seen by the horse that he had beaten someone out at some time.

The first requisite in training a horse is a halter. A well-fitting rope halter, with the double head-band, or what is commonly called a hackamore, is the best to use on a green horse, as he will cease to pull back on that sooner than on any other. Tie the horse to something solid, and let him pull. When he has concluded that it is useless, he will quit, and no sooner. This

rope several feet long to the left-hand buckle of the belly-band, for, by so doing, you can bring it up to its place with more safety to yourself. The reaching after the belly-band and the feel of it is often apt to start a nervous horse bucking, but by this method you can retain your grasp of the halter in your left hand, and with a small hooked stick in your right you can gently draw the cord towards you. The horse will generally resent the straps coming underneath him, but hold it there and talk soothingly to him, and when he quiets down you can buckle it up without any trouble.