

These industries and allied trades have a total investment of upwards of \$100,000,000.00 and pay annually provincial and government licenses amounting to upwards of \$14,000,000.00.

In addition they pay city licenses, real estate and personal property taxes aggregating the enormous total of \$7,500,000.00.

This is an array of figures that is being circulated throughout Canada by interests opposed to prohibition. Accompanying it is an appeal to working men to defeat the objects of the prohibitionists on the ground that the liquor interests provide a certain amount of labor and contribute from their funds a certain amount to the public treasury.

In discussions of the liquor traffic, the public seldom gets the arguments pro and con. Prohibitionists invariably make their appeals upon moral grounds, as while anti-prohibitionists adopt a line of argument of which the above is a fair sample. In so far as prohibitionists endeavor to eliminate the liquor traffic by confining their appeals to morals, we think they make a mistake. Few men will be convinced that when all accounts are balanced up they are any less moral than the average. One man will drink, another will not drink, but is mean to his men or his family, or is something else. All of us think we have a right to our pet vices and the endeavor to dispose of one of these vices by special legislation upon moral grounds can scarcely be expected to succeed. But in the figures above submitted is found the strongest possible argument for prohibition upon economic grounds.

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Primarily men expend their energy to provide themselves with food and clothing, or to produce some form of wealth which can be exchanged for life's necessities. And what applies to individual effort applies also to the community and nation. Whatever makes for the maintenance of life and contributes to life's necessities and comforts is worthy of the expenditure of human energy. But liquor does not come under the head of life's necessities nor comforts, in so far as its use contributes more to human misery than to human comfort, and destroys rather than repairs or builds up human energy. Hence any work expended in the production of liquor is a waste of energy and all waste is an economic evil. Thus, the figures we have submitted represent a waste of \$35,200,000 without taking into account the money paid in licenses.

Could any institution except humanity, stand such a waste and live? Are people so blind as to believe that the \$14,000,000 contributed to the purposes of government have been brought from some foreign country and deposited for our use? Cannot every one see that it is a fee paid out of the toll the liquor trade has collected from the people, and that if the people paid it direct they would save the millions of dollars that go to the support of a large class in indolence and a larger class in the production of the means of ill-gotten wealth?

The liquor business is commonly looked upon as one of the most profitable of enterprises from the manufacturers', wholesalers' and retailers' standpoints, and if \$35,200,000 represents the wholesale cost of the raw materials it is safe to assume that the cost to the consumer of the finished product is very close to twice this sum. Yet the public, as a whole, is asked to pay this enormous sum for the reason that the industry involved may pay out to working men \$6,000,000. Would it not be cheaper to keep these men in idleness, also all the wholesalers and retailers and their families than to pay through the nose in ten cent. prices and increased taxes the enormous sums represented above?

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The liquor traffic thus presents to us a serious economic waste. If men were not working at the manufacture and sale of liquors they would be engaged in pursuits that would contribute to the sum of life's necessities and comforts that increase the efficiency of the hand and brain and expand the capacity to enjoy living. In its scope it is a world-wide problem. Local measures of restriction leveled at the improvement of morals must necessarily be of doubtful benefit. The real remedy for the evil of the liquor trade is the gradual elimination of manufacturers and reduction of licenses extending over a period of years with the ultimate object of entire elimination after a given period. Economies rather than morals dictate such a policy. We have infinitely more faith in an appeal to the pocket than to the conscience.

HORSE

The Dublin Horse Show

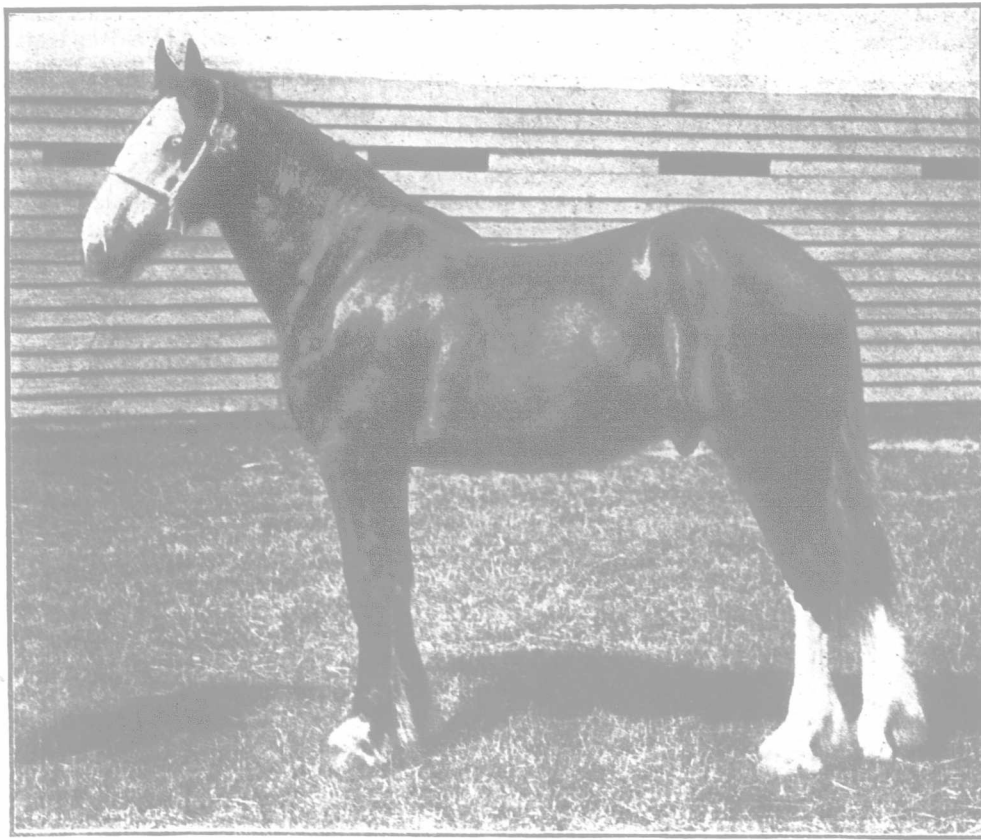
Few, if indeed any, horse shows enjoy more genuine popularity among equine fanciers throughout the world than that held each August under the auspices of the Royal Dublin Society. No doubt the recently established International Carnival, which takes place in London, comes as a serious rival to Ireland's great fixture, but in its own especial province the latter is still without a superior, and it will give any other country of the same size more than they can do to oust it from its pre-eminent position as a demonstration of horse-breeding as a national industry. The claims of the fixture at Dublin on the attention of horse enthusiasts all over the world are, however, too firmly established to call for any re-statement of them here. The show for the present year took place from Tuesday, 25th, to Friday, 28th August, and as usual, it proved a great attraction, not only in Ireland and Great Britain, but to many countries on the continent, while even far-off Japan was represented among the visitors. Unfortunately, many farmers were prevented from patronizing this show owing to the pressure of harvest work, but, notwithstanding this restriction, between 50,000 and 60,000 persons passed through the gates. Buyers, of course, were present from various countries, and some very fine prices were realized during the week. For instance, there was the fancy figure of £1,250, paid by a Hungarian Count, for one of the first prize five-year-old hunters. Princess Ena, a beautiful chestnut mare, showing lovely quality, grand breeding and tiptop ability as a mover. She was entered by Mr. Laverly, of Dungannon and a full sister, named Activity, was sold by this exhibitor to the same buyer for £525. Numerous other transactions were effected, but need not be detailed.

Most people who know anything about this big event are well aware that it is mainly on account of its magnificent display of horses of the hunting type that it possesses the importance which it is admitted to enjoy. The Irishman is by nature a sport-loving individual, and even the rapid spread of the motor and other mechanical means of locomotion seems to have no serious influence upon the popularity of the Irish hunter. There are classes of horses, of course, which are being greatly damaged from this cause—such, for instance, as the tram or street-car horse, the harness horse, and perhaps, to some extent, the wagon-dragger in our big cities. But "the Irish specialty," either for the hunting field, or as an army remount, does not seem to have felt the stress of mechanical rivalry. It would be a pity, indeed, that it should at any time. Regarding the breeding of hunters as an industry, it is the general consensus of opinion that the animals of the present day are vastly better in style and quality than they were ten or twelve years ago. This desirable change has been brought about undoubtedly by the extensive use of the thoroughbred as a sire upon the country clean-legged mares for their production. It is thought in some quarters, however, that the indiscriminate use of the thoroughbreds now at service may not be advisable in the best interests of the industry, as many of them have not the bone and substance that are required. To supply the latter, the use of the heavy imported breeds—Clydesdales and Shires—is

considered by the best authorities to be very injudicious, and a highly important problem presents itself as to the system on which hunters should in the future be bred. The most sensible solution is to establish a stud book for a recognized breed of clean-limbed, strong-boned horses, such as have made Ireland's reputation, and undoubtedly, this is the best—indeed, the only—way to fix a type; mere spasmodic crossing, which rings the changes on the light thoroughbred (to secure quality and breeding) and the heavy feather heeled draft breeds (to obtain substance and size) will be at best an unreliable way of keeping hunters up to the mark. This digression, will no doubt, be pardoned, but it is obviously suggested by such an important gathering as that under review.

Turning now more particularly to the show itself, an idea of its scope may be gleaned from the fact that the total entries reached the fine aggregate of 1,200, of which over 900 were hunters or young horses to develop thereinto. The thoroughbred section, of course, was not so extensive, but its importance entitled it to first attention. Thoroughbred sires in two classes numbered 28, and the stallions over 8 years of age were thought to be the finest collection ever seen at Dublin, which is claiming a good deal. The noted Co. Waterford bred Red Sahib, by that famous champion, Red Prince II., was a handsome winner, and he also secured the Croker cup as the best sire for his present owner, Mr. E. W. Robinson. At the London International last year, Red Sahib won first for hunter-getting sires—a notable distinction for a grand Irish stallion. The junior stallions were not quite so even a lot as the older ones, and this was not at all satisfactory. Still, several good ones were forward, and a very symmetrical, good-quality bay, named Gavello, the property of Mr. Thos. Lindsay, of Crossgar, was chosen as the winner. A better-boned and stronger made horse, named Hill of Ward, got the second prize for Mr. Parr, of Athboy, but he did not possess the nice style of the winner. With regard to the two classes for yearlings, regret must be expressed at the number of weaklings that turned up among the 58 colts. The evidence of this display would point to the fact that some of the sires were rather deficient in bone. The same comment may be made with regard to the 32 fillies, but it must not be understood that either of these classes lacked in merit, as the winners and many more besides, were the makings of very nice animals. Thoroughbred mares were a most pleasing collection, and a capable lot of animals of splendid substance was found bearing away the rosettes. Prominent among them were:—Mr. Burke's Lady Marmion, from Co. Galway; Mr. Boothman's Excitement, from Co. Dublin; Mr. R. G. Carden's Katrine, from Co. Tipperary; Mr. Cole's May Morning, from Co. Westmeath; Mr. J. O'Sullivan's Fairy Queen, from Co. Cork; and Mr. Hassett's Belle of New York, from the same southern county.

In all, sixteen classes were provided for hunters of various ages and up to different weights. In each class valuable prizes were offered, the total sum per class being (with about three exceptions) £50, made up of a first of £20, a second of £15, a third of £10, and a fourth of £5. In their entirety, the displays were quite up to the level of former years, and though no sensational winners came forward, the general uniform average was distinctly satisfactory. I will not try the patience of my readers, nor risk the displeasure of the courteous editor by attempting to refer to these classes in detail. I will just content myself by mentioning the most notable exhibits. Prominent among these was, first of all, a grand, muscular, five-year-old chestnut, belonging to Major Alexander,



YEARLING CLYDESDALE COLT

Champion Male Clydesdale, Highland Society's Show 1906. Color, brown. Sire, Baron's Pride, dam by Sir Thomas.