

upon prize winning horses by the great mass of people, and especially breeders. Exhibitors will themselves price first class winners below those winning no place in the same class. It also explains in a measure, why our best horses are never shown.

286. The Value of Good Eyes. The next most important point in the horse, is the eye. It is very important, both because of the utility value it gives the horse, and the tendency to inherit defective vision. In a report upon 49,317 horses used in this country, eight years or more of age, 5,013 had some inherited defect of the eye. At the age of four and five years, these same horses had all been passed as having good eyes. These reports were based upon the examinations of veterinarians, and must be considered reliable. Such a report is startling, however, and well may be when some more than 10 per cent. of the commercial horses of a country have defective vision. It is much more than I would have been inclined to believe, had I not the figures before me. This is in a measure a breed defect, as the grade Percherons were found much more defective in this respect than any other breed.

287. Intelligence and Temperament. The brain development of the horse, including temperament, plays a much more important part in making up the value of a horse than has ever been accorded it. The greater the brain development in the draft horse, the more easily his work is done, the more pleasure the driver experience in the handling of his team, and the less wear upon the horse as a result of his willingness to perform every duty required of him.

288. Defective Wind. Another defect too frequently seen in the draft horses of this country is that of defective wind. This defect is found in several forms, the most common being that of roaring, and more correctly known as laryngeal hemiplegia. I have attempted no line of investigation so difficult of attaining definite results, as that of reaching any definite conclusions in the matter of defective wind. This, for the most part, was made difficult because of there being no way of testing the wind of a horse except to "wind him" by violent exercise, such as rapid trotting or running. Running the horse a short distance is the test employed in the markets when a horse is sold, but for the large users of heavy horses in the city to employ such a method at their annual examinations, or at any time, would require considerable time and one finds no disposition on the part of the large concerns to waste time in doing such things. The result is that no test for wind is given until the horse is incapacitated for work. I find that many of the largest transfer companies, as well as others employink a large number of horses, have a system of examining their horses annually, and keeping a record or such examinations, but the test for wind is omitted.