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longer than I intended it to be, so these last items must wait for another time, when the weather is warmer and more suitable to the subject.

G. H. BRADSHAW.
Marquette Municipality, Man.

Mare Disowns Foal.

A reader from Calgary signing himself "Perplexed" asks for suggestions on the following case of a mare not raising her foals:

"I have a registered Clydesdale mare eight years old, which has up to last year invariably failed to raise her colts. She came into my possession last spring heavy in foal and with the reputation of being a bad mother.

"In August she dropped a perfectly formed colt foal, which only lived for thirty hours. The colt at birth was exceedingly weak and unable to stand, and even while being held to the mare seemed incapable of sucking. The mare being a kicker, I was compelled to draw milk from another mare, and give it to the foal in the usual way. At first it began to thrive and was able to stand, when it suddenly grew weak and eventually died.

"My question, however, relates to the mare. She seems to be fond of her foals, but, I suspect, is not a milk giver.

"How should I treat her in order to encourage sustenance for foal both before and after birth."

[Some mares are peculiar in their disposition towards their foal. Other animals are also peculiar. In such animals there seems to be first a lack of maternal instinct which acts constitutionally upon the foal before birth and afterwards results in neglect or active aversion. Nothing can be done before the birth of the foal to affect the disposition of the mare, so whatever measures are adopted must follow. In some mares, where this lack of maternity is so pronounced that the milk glands are inactive, practically nothing can be done toward getting them to raise their foals, in which cases the sooner the youngsters are found foster mothers the better is their chance of life. Where the mare has some milk it is best to try to accustom her to the foal sucking by putting a twitch on her and holding up a leg until she becomes reconciled to being nursed. If she is so vicious that these methods will not affect her colt should be put upon another mare or upon cows milk. This is always a critical time for a foal. The digestion is easily affected; in fact it is in such a condition that unless it gets the new milk of its own mother there is very apt to be trouble, but some risks have to be taken, and if the foal is smart may survive considerable abuse. If, therefore, it is possible to get it, feed it for a day or two on its dam's milk, if not the next best thing is the milk of another mare not long foaled, and if the colt has to be fed on cow's milk it should be from a freshly calved cow and always from that cow and besides should have a little brown sugar added to it.

The trouble with the foal mentioned above was that the milk it got did not agree with it and it probably died of indigestion or inflammation of the bowels due to the milk being unnatural to it, either because the mare was not fresh or because its digestive system was too weak to assimilate anything but its own dam's milk. In raising such colts one should be careful not to feed too much at first and to feed about ten times a day. It would be a good plan to try to have other mares foal about the same time so that milk from one of them could be used for the disowned foal until it could be brought around to cow's milk.—Ed.]

Some Famous English Shires.

SPECIALLY WRITTEN FOR THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE,
AND ILLUSTRATED WITH PHOTOS BY C. H. PARSONS.

It is very doubtful if there is any branch of British farming, at the present time, that is on a sounder or more paying basis than Shire horse breeding. After one or two seasons of remarkable prices, things have certainly toned down a little, but they are looking up again, and the market for big, sound, weighty horses suitable for town work is as good as ever it was. There is no secret in the fact that the motor, for heavy haulage, has not been quite the success that was anticipated, and the day when the Shire will be dispensed with is further distant than ever. One very pleasing feature in connection with this widely-known draft breed is that the tenant farmer and small breeder has played such a prominent part in its upbuilding. Many a London champion or Royal winner claims a tenant farmer, perhaps in a very humble position, as its breeder; and although the Shire Horse Society is materially assisted by almost all the leading nobility, from the King downwards, it cannot in any way be stated that, like some breeds, a monopoly is held by the wealthy classes. A more important fact than this is that there are many agriculturists in England to-day in a very prosperous condition who would have been bankrupt had it not been for Shire horse breeding. The various societies, composed of farmers and other interested parties, who have clubbed together for the purpose of securing good stallions at a nominal fee in their respective districts, have done an inestimable amount of good. A speaking proof of this is that it is quite a common occurrence for a foal of only a few months old to change hands for three figures.

That there are endless possibilities in the export trade, particularly with Canada, is a fact to which British Shire breeders are awakening. The patriotic and broad-minded spirit which prompted H. M. the King and Lord Rothschild to send out some of the pick of their studs, should do much to further the interests of this breed on both sides of the water. However, one must not be disappointed if the export trade fails to develop with mushroomlike suddenness, as a good many very inferior-class horses have been sent abroad that have caused a misrepresentation of the merits of the Shire that only time and the introduction of typical, weighty horses can outlive.

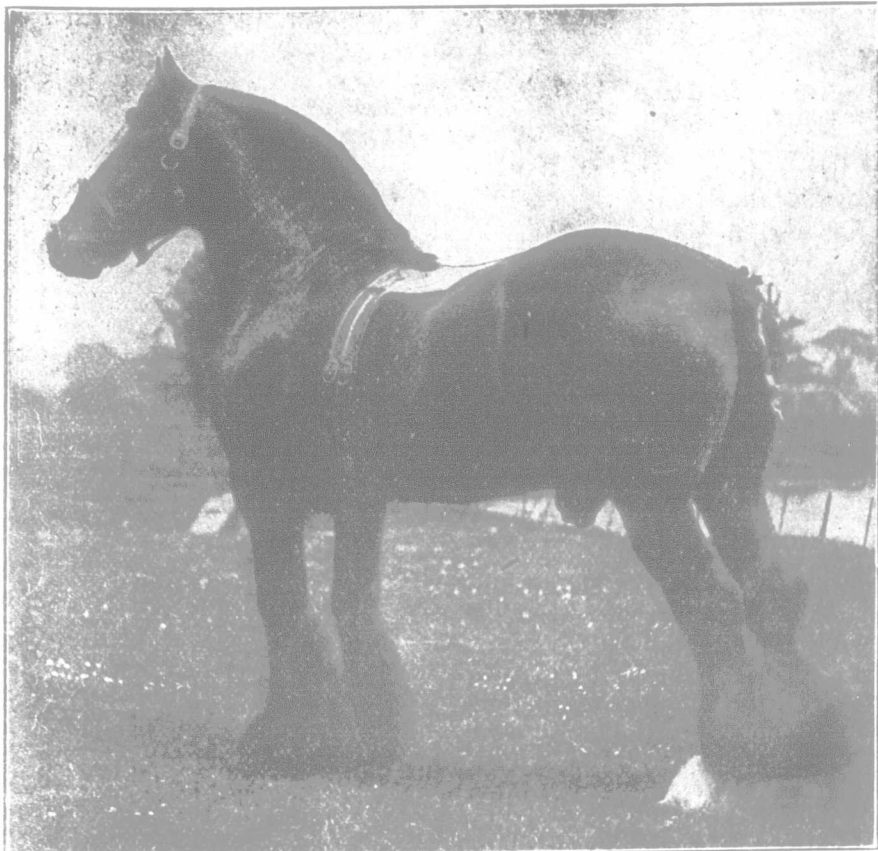
Many Canadian breeders interested in the Shire will doubtless find instruction in studying the accompanying series of portraits of some of the leading British stock and show horses, which reveal the type and characteristics with more force and accuracy than could words. One point which must not be over-

looked is that two of the stallions, Markeaton Royal Harold and Buscot Harold, to wit, were photographed as aged horses quite recently, and the remarkable freshness which they display, after long and arduous careers, speaks volumes for the wearing qualities of the breed.

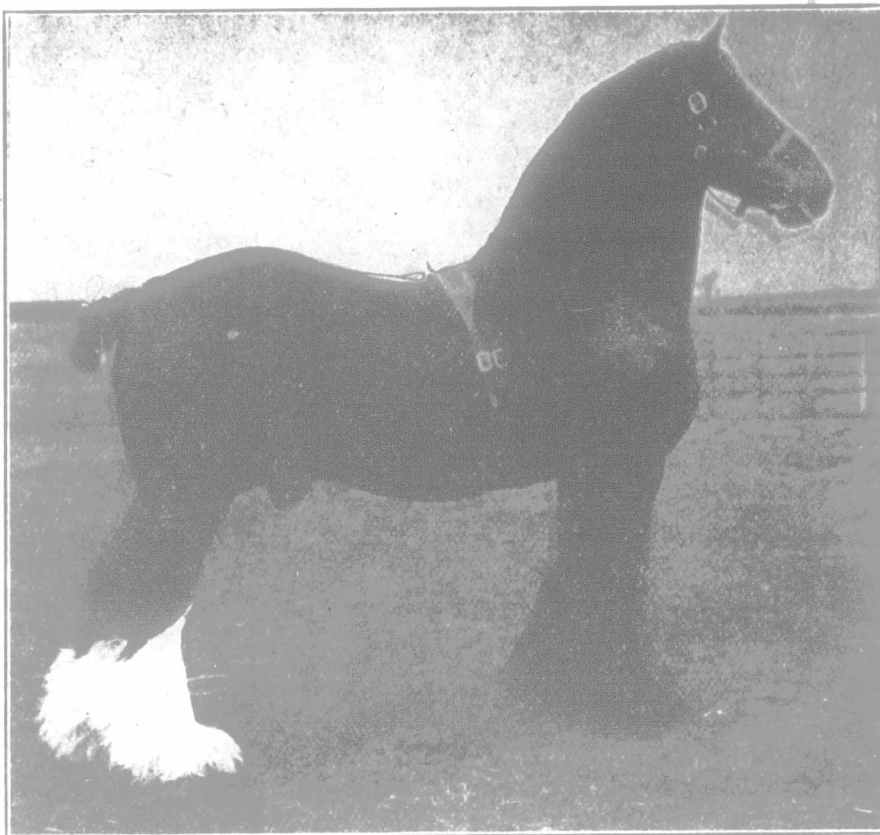
We commence our series with Bury Victor Chief 11105, whose name is probably as widely known in Canada as in England. He is a black, with conspicuous white markings, foaled in 1889. His sire was Prince Victor, and he was bred by Mr. J. Rowell, in Huntingdonshire. He passed into the hands of Mr. Joseph Wainwright, of Great Rocks, Buxton, for over a thousand pounds, a price which created a good deal of comment at the time. It turned out a good investment, however, as he secured for his owner the highest honors the Shire world can bestow, including the championship twice at the London Shire Shows, and made a considerable reputation as a sire. Numerous winners claim this grand old favorite for their sire, prominent amongst whom may be mentioned Victor's Queen, Rock's Chief, a London reserve champion, and Rock's Commander. When we saw the old horse he was well in his teens, but although time had left its mark, he came out of his box with the fire and vitality of a youngster, and his grand bone, good feet and fine-quality feather left a lasting impression of what a cart stallion should be.

Mention of the name of Markeaton Royal Harold 15225 calls to mind the sweeping victory secured by his owner, Sir Alex. Henderson, at the Shire Show in 1898, when Buscot Harold, his sire, Markeaton Royal Harold, his dam, Aurea, and Lockinge Loriet, a mare from the same stud, made a clean sweep of the six championships. Markeaton Royal Harold is a striking example of the famous "Harold" cross with "Premier" mares, his sire being Mr. Duncombe's renowned horse, and his dam, Sensible, by Premier, an own sister to a host of great stock horses, amongst which are Chancellor, Hydrometer, Northwood and Calwich Topsman. Markeaton Royal Harold 15225 is a bay, foaled in 1893, and a more imposing-looking horse could not be found. He combines weight and activity with beautiful flat bone, grandly-turned joints and good-wearing bone. As he steps out of his yard, with head majestically aloft and mane flowing in the breeze, one can picture what a sight it would have been to see a horse of this stamp carrying a knight in glittering armor forth from some ancient castle to do battle for his king in the days of chivalry and romance. But the more peaceful calling of winning honors in the show-ring was his lot, and his prize record is an excellent one, besides being the sire of a very large number of winners, the most famous of which is, of course, the subject of our next notice.

Buscot Harold 16576.—This horse is unique as far as his breeding is concerned, being the progeny of two London champions, Markeaton Royal Harold and the great prize-winning mare Aurea, by Thornton Premier. He is a beautiful bay, foaled in 1896, and bred by his owner, Sir Alex. Henderson. Sound judges of the Shire regard Buscot Harold as one of the greatest specimens the breed ever produced, and they are not far wrong. His grand crest, powerful quarters and well moulded limbs show to advantage in the accompanying photo, which, it should be mentioned, was taken at the end of last season, during which he served 100 mares. The fact of him being put fourth on his first appearance in the show-ring, does not count as a true record of his merits, for, being fresh to the sights and sounds of the London arena, he gave a very poor show, but he was never put back again, as his prize record shows, and he was the



BUSCOT HAROLD (16576) AT TEN YEARS OF AGE.



MARKEATON ROYAL HAROLD AT THIRTEEN YEARS OF AGE.

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