

HORSES.

Shoulders should be sponged off at night. The use of an oak-bark tea occasionally on the shoulders toughens them.

Collars should be kept absolutely clean and smooth. Here, indeed, does a little neglect cause much delay and loss.

Checkreins may have a real use in driving horses, but for the drafter pulling the load, they are an annoyance, an inconvenience and a hindrance. Charity and utility demand practically a free head for a pulling horse.

How fine it is to be comfortable when eating. If so for a man, why not for a horse? Strip the harness from a team at noon on hots days at least; they will eat better, cool more thoroughly, and do more work for the rest of the day. Incidentally, you will feel more comfortable in the region where the soul is supposed to dwell.

A colt will do well on good grass and nursing a good mother, but it will do more than well if the mother be fed grain, and the colt taught to eat these concentrated feeds, and regularly fed them. We expect our son in school to do not well, but his best; we fall short if we do not demand these same things of everything under our hand.

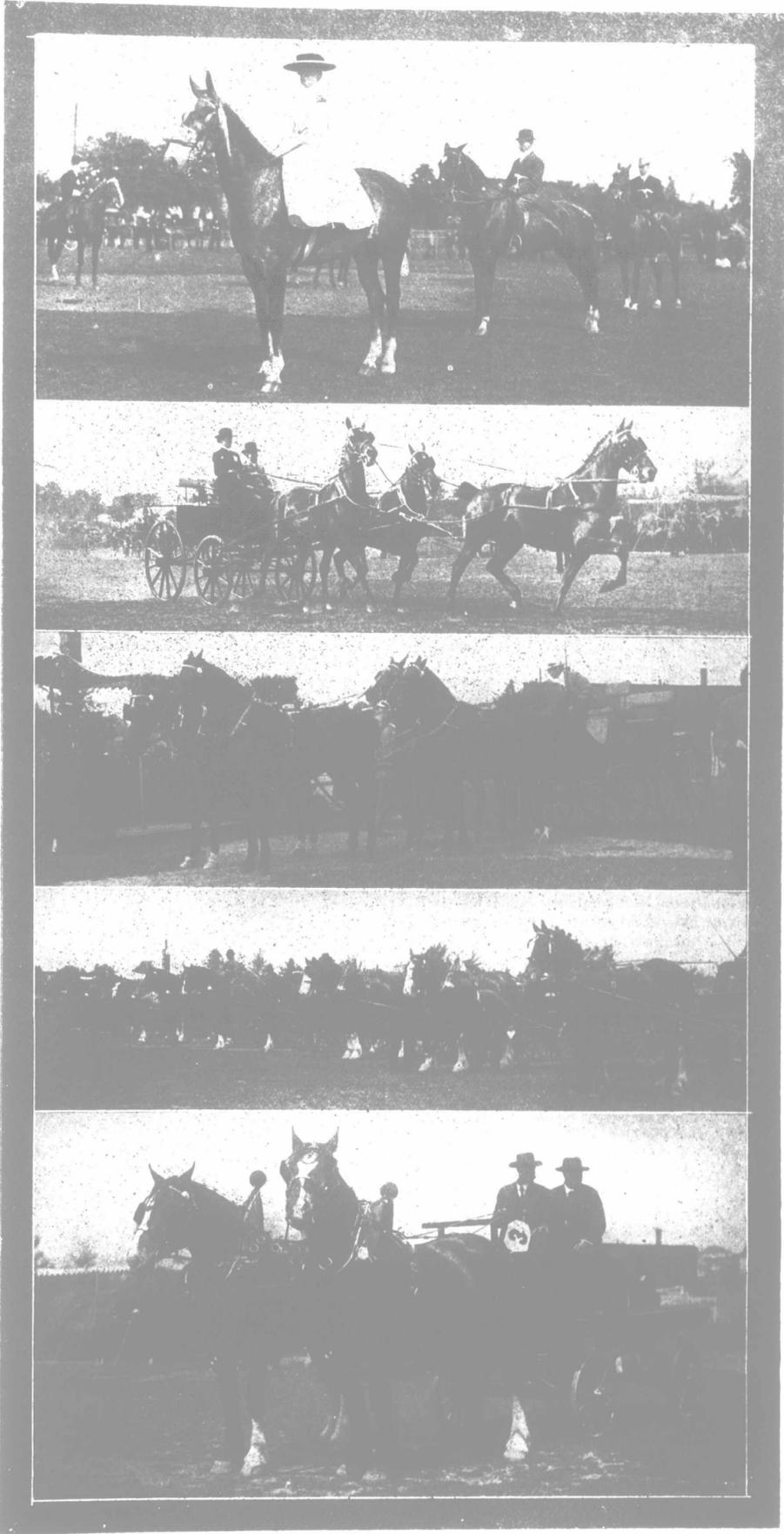
The District of Matched Teams.

There is a strong, active demand for matched teams of both driving and draft horses. At one time this thought was considered as the chance idea of the bizarre merchant who desired to have everything in connection with his business unique and distinctive. At an earlier time, the matched teams of drafters were rare enough in the cities and towns to be very distinctive. While they still engage the attention, and always will, yet they are by no means as scattering as they have been hitherto. Whom we called the bizarre merchant is now the accepted type. His idea was not only startling, but sound. His flashy, matched teams pleased all who saw them, and, in drawing his loads, they drew business too. Now, business men everywhere who use teams appreciate the value of having the components of a kind in the greatest possible degree. In the small town, and on the farms, as in the centers of trade, all realize that it takes two of a kind to make a good pair.

The market always has, and always will, place a premium on a matched span of whatever type. In drafters of medium type, the fact that they go well together, puts about \$50 premium on the value of a team. If they are extra-heavy draft, it may put \$200, or even more. In driving horses the difference is even greater. They are hard to get; there may be a mate somewhere for this good horse, but it takes money to find that mate. Consequently, where the buyer encounters a matched pair, he is ready to part with his money freely.

Matched teams are born, not made. They are usually brought forth from the same loins, or are closely related or similarly bred. This in all likelihood accounts for their rarity, for but few communities patronize the same sire for two consecutive years; or, if they do, half the community patronizes him one year, and the other half the next. Such practice probably produces as many good horses as does any other, or even as many good teams, but it does not give that impression, neither does it produce as great financial returns. There is a lack of stability, and a consequent dissatisfied unrest in equine affairs in that community which owns no good stallions of its own or has no controlling power over one. Its people must make the best of what chooses to come to it, and there are not enough good stallions in the country to assure them of the services of even a passably fair one. This does not make for uniformly good horses; this pathway does not lead to the district of matched teams.

But to the reader, the desirable procedure in horse-breeding is probably suggested in the preceding lines. Undoubtedly, using the same good sire year after year in each community would progressively improve the standard of the product. Our importers are fully aware of the value of this method; they have seen it so successfully practiced in the European horse-breeding districts. No district of the Old Countries will slacken its grip on a good sire if they have the sinews wherewith to retain their grasp. And so our buyers know just where the best are to be found before they ever start from home. What pertains to the breeding of pure-bred is equally applicable to the production of grades for market, only in less striking a degree. The pursuance of this policy has brought the market to the door of the old Country breeder. The community that will per-



Snapshots at the Galt Horse Show.

- 1.—Mrs. Adam Beck, on Gray Cloud, winning first in a class of eight competitors.
- 2.—Mrs. McSloy, of St. Catherine's, driving in the Unicorn Class.
- 3.—The second-prize Four-in-hand Team, belonging to Miss K. Wilks, of Galt.
- 4.—Single Dray Horses. The judges are examining the first-prize animal.
- 5.—First-prize Agricultural Team. J. Hilborn, Roseville, owner.

The programme of the Galt Horse Show for Saturday afternoon, June 11th, which was postponed on account of rain, was carried out most successfully on Monday, June 14th. There were three thousand people present, and the full quota of exhibitors, making, in spite of the weather, a very gratifying culmination to this splendid show.