

"(7.) The proposition, when placed before the public, to have all the best names attached to it.

"(8.) Annual subscriptions of county gentlemen £10 to £1 each."

Then I have another suggestion from a gentleman who hunts in the shires, and who is getting together a local society to purchase in at a moderate rate, any sound, fit mares procurable, to retail to breeders in their hunting countries. He also suggests that some arrangement should be made by which the Government should permit troop mares, after a few years in the service, to be resold to farmers and breeders at a reduced rate; then other societies in some of our large horse-producing countries have been in correspondence with me, in their endeavour to get Government sanction that Local Agricultural Committees should be permitted to come, select and purchase the best of the troop mares annually for breeding purposes.

Gentlemen, in the interests of the service, seeing that a large proportion of troop animals are mares, I do not consider this could be done; but I have suggested somewhat the following—when troop mares are being cast for certain causes rendering them unfit for the service, but still no hereditary or other breeding defect about them, that such sale should be notified to any local societies who choose to be constituted in a responsible way, and every facility should be given for members to previously inspect them, on the day of public auction sale they could bid for the animals. After this has been done for a term of years, say five, such societies would be in a position, through the Royal Agricultural or other Societies, to go to Government and represent that during the past term of years, a certain number of horses have been purchased at an average price, and then ask what rates Government could permit mares a few years younger to be purchased. Possibly some arrangement could be arrived at in this way, as then Government and the public would have certain figures before them as valuation data to go on.

If any farmer or breeder requires a mare and will pay for it, will communicate with me at 64, The Common, Woolwich, telling what he requires, and the price he wants to give for it, I will see what can be done towards procuring the mare for him.

We must now consider what is to be done as to the disposal of the produce, my idea being you should only breed for the best; there will be plenty of misfits, it is no use trying to breed a good horse on soil and climate that is unsuitable, or on pasture that will not carry