

upon pacers of mixed breed brought from Canada. Starting with these materials, a saddle horse possessing great intelligence and beauty was established. These horses are taught five or more distinct gaits and are also known as "The Five-Gaited Saddle Horse". The gaited saddler is the horse that has made Kentucky and Missouri famous. There he is looked upon with great admiration and bred and trained with great care.

Miss Hoover

Now, getting back to riding--Mr. Mott, do you think that riding lessons are essential to enjoying horseback riding?

Mr. Mott

Riding lessons are a safety insurance while you are enjoying riding. The risk of riding without them is too great. There is no way to learn without being shown. Some people have ridden or do ride without lessons, but they lack the keen cooperation between rider and horse. They "stick" on a horse.

I teach beginners the proper way to fall from a horse. Most horses will stop when they lose their rider and by knowing how to fall, a rider can usually avoid serious injury. Then, too, it is an advantage to know the proper way to handle the reins, two or four, as the case may be; the proper seat in the saddle; the proper position of the feet----all of which are factors in determining the ease and enjoyment of your rider, as well as the handling of the horse. There are many phases of instruction from the mere fundamentals necessary for a beginner up to the more involved methods used for five-gaiting, jumping, trick riding, show ring riding, and high schooling.

Miss Hoover--

Mr. Mott, what type of saddle do you recommend for easy riding?

Mr. Mott

I like for beginners to use the stock (or Western) saddle for the first few rides at least. It has the saddle horn to grasp if they need to do so and there is more saddle there than with the flat (or English) saddle----thus the beginner feels more secure and less as though he might fly over the horse's head at the first sudden movement of the animal.

For the person who has ridden enough to "get the feel of the horse" I recommend a flat or (English saddle). It is more comfortable riding and gives the rider more freedom. It also adds more style and show to both horse and rider.

Miss Hoover

What is the reason for two such opposite type saddles for riding?

Mr. Mott

The stock saddle is primarily for western riding. It emphasizes relaxation and comfort for riding for hours in the saddle over rough country. The large, deep saddle, the wooden stirrups, the saddle horn (which is really for use in roping), the cowboy boots, the chaps are all calculated to be aids to the security and comfort of the cowboy. The flat saddle is used for park riding, jumping, polo, show ring riding, and largely in the army---and always, of course, on five-gaited horses.

Miss Hoover

Now that we are getting technical, how about bridles? I have seen some with two reins and some with four,---what is the difference