



THE HUBBARD RANCH

By Frank F. Rush

A Glimpse at 35 Years of Appaloosa Breeding

It is one of the pleasanter things in life to sit in the sun on the round top rail of a corral fence, listen to the running water of a creek and watch a bunch of horses. This is all the more so when the particular bunch of horses is as interesting as the Appaloosa horses of Fernie Hubbard of Bozeman, Montana.

During this last two years, I have seen hundreds, nay, thousands of horses of all breeds in traveling the length and breadth of this North American continent from Canada in the north, to Mexico in the south. It has been an interesting time, made all the more pleasant by the people I have met and the horses I have been introduced to. Horses have played a great part in my life, there is little I have not done with them from attending to and foaling brood

mares to having to shoot an old favorite, from breaking them to halter at 10 days old to trail riding in the mountains, to breaking and making them into hunters, at five years of age, and chasing the fox on them across some of the finest of English and American hunting country. The greater part of my life with horses has been with Thoroughbred and hunter types. I have inevitably experienced the chastening effect of losing my last dollar on the unpredictability of a horse's behavior.

But to return to the round top rail on a sunny morning watching a bunch of horses in a corral in Montana, they were the result of 35-years of careful selective, and concentrated, breeding of Appaloosa blood by Fernie Hubbard. Fernie is not only a knowledgeable man about breeding horses, but he is also a practical and experienced horseman on the ranch, range, trail and in the rodeo and show ring. He was raised on a ranch and has spent a lifetime with horses, moreover, the greater part



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