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THE JOYS OF RIDING

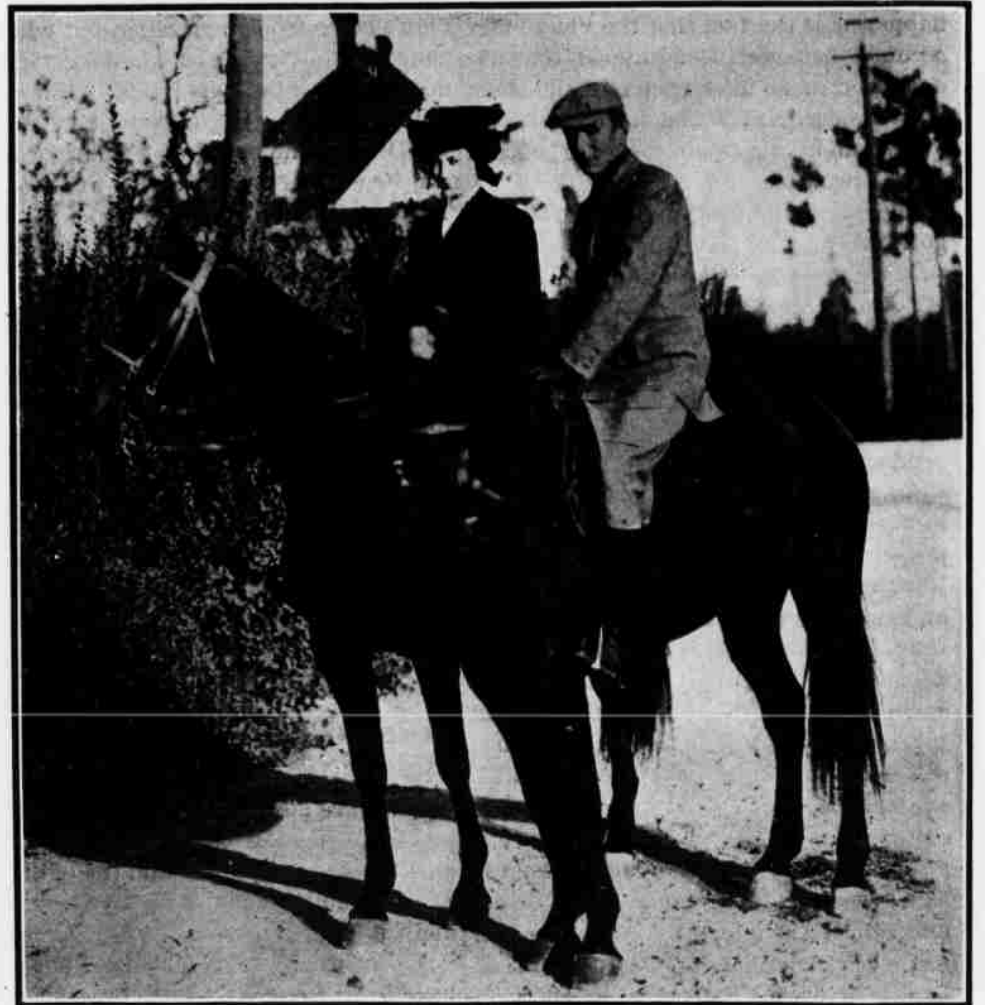
In Them Companionship and Camaraderie Play Important Part.

HERE'S no denying the benefits of horseback riding, remarked an enthusiastic equestrian at The Inn the other evening, for it possesses two distinct virtues peculiar to itself—it's genuinely *beneficial* and it's lots of *fun*—belonging to no class and unlimited as to sex and age. It's certainly one of mankind's greatest blessings as well as one of Pinehurst's greatest attractions; facts so well established as to admit of little argument.

One important feature, however, often

horse in the world. As previously suggested the saddle horse has been bred and trained to man's uses under the saddle for so many years, that he has come to have, by right of an inheritance, a form and movements that are especially adapted for man's pleasure and comfort in this means of locomotion, and especially and peculiarly a degree of intelligence of what we denominate horse sense, not possessed by any other animal.

By way of illustration and comparison we would cite the case of the trotting horse and we all know that though the trotting horse has been bred and trained for many years to one gait, yet with one



"COMPANIONSHIP AND CAMARADERIE."

overlooked, is the *companionship* and *camaraderie* the rider feels for his favorite horse, not unlike the Arab who loved his steed "more than maiden, more than wife, more than gold; next to life!" The sense of intimacy is one of the very closest, and perhaps has to do largely with the closeness of the contact incident to this form of recreation. The horse and rider are as one. There is no other form of communion and contact between the animal world and human beings so close as that which obtains between a horse and his rider. And this is accentuated and emphasized by the further fact that in the majority of instances people use for horseback riding saddle horses that are bred and trained for this purpose.

And when we depart from the horse, in a general sense of an animal that can be mounted, and speak in terms of a technical saddle horse, we find certain characteristics that pertain to no other

or two notable exceptions there are none of the great families of trotters whose progeny are not likely to include many mixed gaited ones, pacers, and in still greater numbers those who do not conform to any gait at all, when measured by the criterion or standard of 2.30 trotting speed. And even with those possessed with unusual speed, and with no inclination to perform at any other than the one gait, yet the highest degree of skill and ingenuity, including all of the arts of the blacksmith and skilled driver, is exhausted in the effort to balance them so that they will move in an easy and frictionless manner.

And it may be said there are so few as to make it well within the mark to say none of these animals who will not when pushed to an extreme leave the gait and break into a run. The saddle horse of saddle breeding on the other hand is easily and readily trained and perfected in the performance of from

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