

PLOUGHING OLD AND NEW.

Pride in the horses' appearance is traditional in rural Britain, with an extra polish round Shrewsbury way to mark the British Isles Ploughing Championship. A little attention to the fetlocks completes the beauty treatment, and then it's all set for the competitors. For good ploughing, conditions were all but impossible. Far too dry and dusty. Especially for the high standard demanded here. Nevertheless some of the best ploughmen in the United Kingdom put up a fine show. Nothing less would get by, under the eyes of experts. It's rather sad to think that in another generation or two of mechanised farming the art of horse ploughing may die out. A pity, too, because the horse often pays respectful tribute to the soil as he goes along. Just as much skill, in another way is required in tractor-ploughing, a necessary method in these times of labour shortage on the land.

For the fourth year running Waggoner E.J. Davies won the award for the neatest and smartest turnout, which is really an achievement in this company, among the height of fashion. Winners of the ploughing competitions were A. Revitt (horses) and for tractors, H.W.J. Price.