

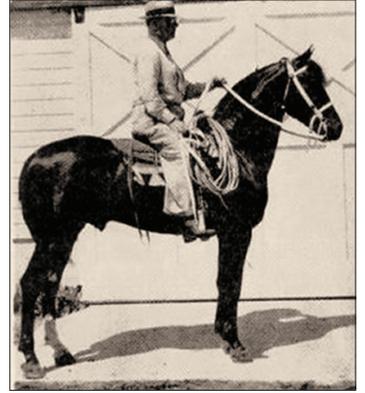


Blood Will Tell

Red Correll 8299

The Research of Marsha Valance, 2014

Red Correll 8299 (Will Rogers 7943 x Kate Smith 05013) • Dark chestnut, star, left hind sock white, 14.3 hands, 1,040 lbs. • **Foaled:** May 12, 1940, Pine Ridge, South Dakota • **Died:** June 30, 1973, Hay Springs, Nebraska • **Bred by:** C. G. Stevenson • Three close crosses to Winterset, 25 percent of his blood from his sire; his dam was pure old government blood. Fourteen crosses to Black Hawk 20; nine crosses to Hale's Green Mountain 42 • **Eight Generation Coefficient of Inbreeding:** 0.146484375 percent • **Registered Morgan progeny:** 50 colts, 42 fillies



“Red Correll was sired by Will Rogers, a typey Morgan of the Old Midwest family. Behind him were some of the best of that family. Red Correll’s dam was Kate Smith, sired by the great sire Romanesque and out of Bird L by Linsley. Red Correll had an impeccable pedigree.... The [Red Correll offspring] were compact horses, most under 15 hands, very typy, with chiselled heads, clean necks, deep bodies, long smooth croups, big square, very muscular hindquarters carrying way down into the quarters, nice short cannons, and superb feet and legs.”—Joanne Curtis

At the C. G. Stevenson dispersal sale in Des Moines, Iowa, in 1940, Kate Smith, carrying Red Correll, sold to the Oglala Community High School on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota, where Red Correll sired many good Morgans.

In 1940, the Bureau of Indian Affairs was involved in a program of upgrading the native horses of the Western Indians and was purchasing dozens of fine Morgans to create breeding herds at the many Indian reservations across the nation. Blood from these herds was to be used to add quality to thousands of Indian horses.

W. O. Roberts, then superintendent of the Pine Ridge Reservation, was a skilled horseman and under his supervision many outstanding Morgans were acquired and brought to Pine Ridge, some staying in the Oglala Community School herd and many others being supplied to other reservations, forts, police units, and agencies of the federal government. Offspring from this Oglala Community School herd in Pine Ridge have gone all over the nation and through government channels and private individuals as many were sold by the school to Morgan breeders.

Writing in *The Morgan Horse* in 1965, Red Correll’s last owner, B. Wallace Mills of Hay Springs, Nebraska, described him: “Red Correll is a frisky 25 years of age. His animation and muscling are those of most horses half his age. A few grizzled hairs around his muzzle and eyes indicate aging, but there is no loss of condition or atrophy of muscle, as is often seen in senior stallions.... He is still in service and sires 12 to 30 colts a year. Strangers who do not know him usually guess him to be eight or ten years of age. Many who know cannot believe when they see him prancing down the street in a parade that a horse so old could appear to be so young. Many times I have been asked where I got this new horse that looks so much like Red Correll used to. There is no way to determine how many colts he has sired, but it is entirely possible that he may have sired more offspring than any other Morgan stallion. From five to 16 he was used heavily. Each year he stood at some point on the reservation, such as Manderson,

Kyle, Wounded Knee, Porcupine, Allen, Red Shirt Table, Wanblee, Slim Buttes or Pine Ridge, where he was mated to dozens of mares belonging to Oglala Sioux Indians and... ranchers who prized his colts for their beauty and intelligence. Few horses have had the opportunity to serve so many mares and could have stood up under such a heavy schedule. It is a loss to the breed that so many colts were from grade mares, but he was also used extensively on the school herd and he has many recorded sons and daughters. An analysis of the Morgan records might well reveal him to be a contender for top place as a sire of registered offspring. In any event, he has made a great contribution to the quality of horseflesh in the Western area.”

In an article on the Niobara dispersal in the January 1989 *TMH*, Mary Jean Vasiloff commented, “The Red Correll bloodline is not nearly as well known in the East as it is in the West. He was highly rated out here as a sire of some of the finest working ranch horses, and he shows up in many of the Eastern-bred sport horses that are now doing so well. He was a consistent sire, getting horses with balance, strength, endurance and common sense. Of course, the cattle people appreciated that in him, but those are also attributes that make highly competitive show horses and sport horses.” Mary Jean herself successfully brought Red Correll’s blood into her breeding program—the famous Grand Prix dressage horse Whippoorwill Ebony was sired by Red’s son, Blackwood Correll.

Red Correll made an impact on observers. “A handsome horse, very good conformation and good bone.”—Bob Riley; “... laid-back shoulder, short back, nice hip.”—Suzanne Edmonds; B. Wallace Mills concluded his 1965 article:

“Like all Morgans he is full of personality. He loves a crowd and applause. He is a regular ‘ham.’ When he hears a band begin to play he begins to prance. He loves a parade. He is a ladies’ man, but when no mares are around you would think him a gelding. A child can catch and ride him with only a halter. Unlike many stallions, he never muzzles or nips. He is quiet and tractable and taught to stand stretched while saddled or harnessed. But let a truck drive in with a mare in it and he is a different horse. He is electrified. He becomes a peacock and a showoff. The first time I rode him I was amazed at his easy gaits. I had never ridden a horse that moved as easily at the walk and trot as he does. The first time I hitched him, I was dubious as it had been 14 years since he had been driven. I was afraid he might scatter my vehicle across the countryside, but I needn’t have been concerned. He moved off like he had been hitched the day before. He is like a member of the family and it will be a sad day when he leaves us.” ■