



Seventeen horses

A horse dealer made an eccentric will. He left instructions that the horses in his stables at his death were to be divided among three relatives.

The first relative was to take half the total number of horses; the second, one third; and the third, one ninth.

At the time he made his will, the horse dealer was the owner of 18 horses. But as it happened, when he died only 17 remained, which of course could not be exactly divided as instructed by the will.

Faced with the prospect of disputes, the executor hit upon the plan of adding his own horse to the late owner's stables, dividing up the animals as set out in the will, and then recovering his own.

How was the division made?



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