

be brought about through a Government-supervised system of immunization.

The Essex County seed farms, in Essex County, Ontario, which turn off around 500 hogs annually, have been double-treating since 1915. They claim to have had no breaks and the neighbors have not suffered in one instance. The farm has been under quarantine, of course, and all stock goes to the slaughter house.

If the Government would take full control of serum and virus used in this country and enforce what rules they might consider necessary to ensure safety, as rigidly as they have their quarantine regulations in the past, the danger to the industry would be no greater than it is now through stock cars coming from the other side, improperly disinfected; from ham and bacon rinds and from divers other acknowledged carriers of the disease.

Less than three million hogs is a woefully small swine population for a country the size of Canada, and with the possibilities that are ours. However, as we increase our hogs we increase our losses.

Looking back, the quarantine regulations of the Health of Animals Branch appear to have been sound, well-adapted to the situation up to very recent years, and well enforced. However, after reviewing the conditions at home, and in the United States where they have developed to a stage requiring more advanced methods of control, the writer cannot help but feel that we are on the threshold of a new era and our breeders are entitled to make use of modern, scientific methods for the protection of their swine herds.

The Outcome.

On January 5, 1918, after their return from the trip, the Swine Breeders' Committee interviewed the Veterinary Director General in his office at Ottawa, and presented their case. Dr. Torrance said he was in favor of modifying existing import regulations to allow double-treated hogs to enter Canada subject to a thirty-day quarantine after treating on the original owners' farm, and a thirty-day quarantine at the border. He stated that where any county or counties in Canada desire to double-treat he would favor such treatment, subject to special quarantine regulations and supervision by the Health of Animals Branch.

Diseases of the Feet—IX.

Foul in the Feet of Cattle.

Foul in the foot is a quite common disease in cattle. The term is applied, somewhat indefinitely to soreness, or the formation of abscesses between the clouts, resulting in disorganization of structure. This condition may be attributed either to common causes or specific influences. The latter are scrofulous, tubercular, and perhaps rheumatic conditions. Scrofulous, or tubercular arthritis may affect the bones and joints of the foot, causing such disease of them as of other parts of the skeleton. The disease may be caused by the presence of foreign bodies fixed between the clouts, giving rise to inflammation; by over-growth of the hoof horn on the inner side; by injuries of various kinds as severe sprain of the pastern joint or the joint of the foot. The most common cause is filth or irritation between the clouts. It most frequently affects the hind feet, caused by the animal continuously or repeatedly standing in or walking through irritating substances, as when cattle stand in stalls that are not regularly cleaned out, hence are compelled to stand in liquid or semi-liquid manure; when cattle, especially in the early spring, are turned out into the barnyard, more or less regularly for exercise, hence walk through or stand in the manure that is more or less wet from melted snow or ice, or from rain. This being repeated frequently, the alternate wetting with irritating liquid and drying sets up an inflammation which usually results in suppuration. Cattle pasturing on marshy land, or land where rushes abound, are liable to the trouble from the irritation caused by the wetness of the ground, or the repeated irritation caused by the rushes passing between the clouts as the cattle progress. The disease is also frequently noticed in cattle that are compelled to walk through even a slight extent of wet, muddy land in order to get water. In fact, any condition that causes continuous or often repeated irritation to the parts is liable to cause the trouble. When the disease is caused by stable conditions, the hind feet are most frequently involved, but when due to outside conditions the fore feet are nearly as liable as the hind.

Symptoms.—The patient is noticed going lame or sore on one or more of the feet. An examination usually reveals the clouts or digits more or less separated from each other. There is usually more or less swelling and tenderness of the coronet. When the foot is cleaned the tissues on the inner surface of each clout will be noticed to be swollen and tender to the touch. As the disease advances the lameness becomes more acute, the swelling and tenderness increased, and eruptions are very liable to appear, the surface of the affected parts become raw, or there is the formation of an abscess or abscesses. The animal holds the foot up with a jerky motion when standing, and in most cases it is a difficult matter to examine sufficiently to determine the degree of the trouble without casting and securing the patient. In some cases, especially in those that have been neglected, and the cause allowed to continue for considerable time after the first symptoms are noticeable, the inflammation extends upwards and involves the pastern joint, as well as the joint in the foot. In such cases the symptoms are very acute. There is well marked swelling and soreness of the pastern joint. If but one foot be involved the patient refuses to put it to the ground; if two or more feet be affected, he will be most of the time. He suffers acutely. There is considerable sympathetic fever, a well-marked increase in temperature, the pulse becomes full and frequent, appetite impaired, and a rapid loss in condition. In some cases

the patient succumbs to the pain of the disorder very quickly.

Treatment.—When the disease is due to a scrofulous or tubercular condition, little can be done. When due to removable causes, if treated in the early stages it usually yields readily to treatment. The cause must be removed. This is best done by keeping the patient as quiet as possible in thoroughly dry, comfortable quarters. All foreign substances, dirt and filth, must be removed from between the clouts, by washing thoroughly with warm water to which has been added a little carbolic acid or one of the coal-tar antiseptics. The too common practice of cleansing the parts by pulling a rope back and forth between the clouts is extremely cruel and should not be tolerated. After thoroughly cleaning the parts apply hot poultices of linseed meal or boiled turnips until the acute inflammation and soreness are allayed. If any proud flesh be present it should then be dressed once daily for two or three days with butter of antimony applied with a feather, and then dressed three times daily until healed with one part carbolic acid to thirty parts sweet oil, or, if in hot weather, a lotion made of one ounce each of sulphate of zinc and acetate of lead to a pint of water. In cases where the joints have become acutely involved, it is sometimes necessary to amputate at the joint, in order to save the animal's life. This operation, of course, should be attempted only by a veterinarian. As with most diseases, prevention is the better treatment. This, of course, consists in seeing that cattle are not exposed to the ordinary exciting causes.

WHIP.

Dates of Live Stock Meetings.

MONDAY.

- Feb. 4, 2.00 P.M.—Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society, Directors' Meeting.
 " 4, 2.00 " —Canadian Swine Breeders' Association, Directors' Meeting.
 " 4, 3.00 " —Canadian Thoroughbred Horse Society, Annual Meeting.
 " 4, 4.00 " —Canadian Pony Society, Directors' Meeting.
 " 4, 8.00 " —Canadian Jersey Cattle Club, Directors' Meeting.
 " 4, 8.00 " —Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, Directors' Meeting.
 " 4, 8.00 " —Canadian Swine Breeders' Association, Annual Meeting.
 " 4, 8.00 " —Canadian Pony Society, Annual Meeting.

TUESDAY.

- Feb. 5, 9.00 A.M.—Ontario Swine Breeders' Association, Directors' Meeting.
 " 5, 9.30 " —Canadian Trotting Association, Directors' Meeting.
 " 5, 10.00 " —Ontario Swine Breeders' Association, Annual Meeting.
 " 5, 10.00 " —Dominion Shorthorn Breeders' Association, Annual Meeting, Temple Building.
 " 5, 11.00 " —Canadian Jersey Cattle Club, Annual Meeting.
 " 5, 11.00 " —Canadian Standard-bred Horse Society, Directors' Meeting.
 " 5, 1.00 P.M.—Ontario Berkshire Club.
 " 5, 2.00 " —Ontario Yorkshire Club.
 " 5, 2.00 " —Canadian Trotting Association, Annual Meeting.
 " 5, 4.00 " —Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association, Directors' Meeting.
 " 5, 8.00 " —Canadian Sheep Breeders' Association, Annual Meeting.
 " 5, 8.00 " —Canadian Standard-bred Horse Society, Annual Meeting.

WEDNESDAY.

- Feb. 6, 9.00 A.M.—Ontario Sheep Breeders' Association, Directors' Meeting.
 " 6, 10.00 " —Ontario Sheep Breeders' Association, Annual Meeting.
 " 6, 10.00 " —Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association, Directors' Meeting.
 " 6, 2.00 P.M.—Canadian Kennel Club, Directors' Meeting.
 " 6, 2.00 " —Clydesdale Horse Association of Canada, Directors' Meeting.
 " 6, 4.00 " —Canadian Hackney Horse Society, Directors' Meeting.
 " 6, 6.30 " —Holstein-Friesian Association Banquet, Cafe Royal, 14 King St., E.
 " 6, Evening—Ayrshire Breeders' Banquet.
 " 6, 8.00 " —Canadian Hackney Horse Society, Annual Meeting.
 " 6, 8.00 " —Canadian Kennel Club, Annual Meeting.

THURSDAY.

- Feb. 7, 9.30 A.M.—Canadian Shire Horse Association, Directors' Meeting.
 " 7, 9.30 " —Holstein-Friesian Association, Annual Meeting, Foresters' Hall, 22 College St.
 " 7, 10.00 " —Canadian Shire Horse Association, Annual Meeting.
 " 7, 10.00 " —Canadian Ayrshire Breeders' Association, Annual Meeting.
 " 7, 10.30 " —Clydesdale Horse Association of Canada, Annual Meeting.
 " 7, 2.00 P.M.—Canadian Hereford Association, Directors' Meeting.
 " 7, 3.00 " —Canadian Hereford Association, Annual Meeting.
 " 7, 7.30 " —Ontario Horse Breeders, Directors' Meeting.
 " 7, 8.00 " —Ontario Horse Breeders, Annual Meeting.

FRIDAY.

- Feb. 8, 9.00 A.M.—Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, Directors' Meeting.
 " 8, 10.00 " —Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, Annual Meeting.
 " 8, 1.00 P.M.—Eastern Canada Live-Stock Union.

All these meetings will be held at the Carls-Rite Hotel, with the exception of the Shorthorn and Holstein annual meetings.

THE FARM.

Lessons From the Election.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

Now that the election is a thing of the past would it not be worth while to set down some lessons to be learned from it, bearing in mind, as has been well said, that "History is Philosophy teaching by Experience."

1. The first thing that strikes me as noteworthy is the relative permanence of straight party voting. In so far as this is so it shows the innate conservatism of human nature. Many members of both parties are truly conservative because they are disinclined to change. A friend of mine once told me that a Liberal would, on sufficient provocation, leave his party and vote for the other side, but a Conservative would never do so. I disputed his contention at the time but on second thought I am inclined to admit its truth, remarking only that there are many *conservative* "Liberals" and also many *liberal* "Conservatives". The question is largely one of temperament, outlook and mental attitude, complicated by the force of tradition.

So far as farmers are concerned I am more than ever convinced that they must eschew party politics if they hope to obtain recognition and justice. Again I have seen farmer voters by the thousands whose interests are identical and who should be united at the polls if they are ever going to get what is their due, divided into opposing camps and killing one another's votes. The situation would be ludicrous if it were not so tragic—Smith going to the polls and killing the influence of his neighbor Jones whose interests are identical with his own in every possible respect, while the shrewd politician laughs in his sleeve, knowing that both Smith and Jones will be loyal to their parties and that the constituency is a "safe" one. How long will we tolerate this absurd tragedy? So long, I take it, as the shrewd politician can convince Smith and Jones that they should not discuss political questions for fear of offending one another's feelings; and that political questions must not be discussed in their club meetings for fear of breaking up the organization. How in the name of reason and common sense are Smith and Jones to discover that their interests are identical and that they ought to *combine* and not *divide* their votes, except by discussing those matters which are involved in the elections? It is impossible. Smith and Jones ought to be brave enough and friendly enough to face the situation and make an honest effort to unite their forces. It is true that they may fail to agree, even after full, free and frank discussion. We cannot all see eye to eye. But I venture to say that for ten cases of disagreement under our present system of "politics taboo," we should not have more than one case of disagreement if free discussion were engaged in. The policy of silence is naturally enough enjoined by those who have selfish interests to serve but it is essentially cowardly, and will lead nowhere. Let us be strong enough to put it from us.

2. The second thing which seems to me worth recording is that the recent election was conspicuous for three-cornered fights, and that such a situation puts the voter in a most embarrassing position. What he ought to do depends not only upon his choice of a candidate, but upon his estimate of how the vote is likely to turn out, and in any event a minority of the total vote may elect a representative. All this is most unfortunate, and, moreover, quite unnecessary. A very slight change in our methods would remedy the evils and give general satisfaction. I propose to suggest such a change, but first let me take a concrete case to make the whole matter plain: Smith, Jones and Brown are candidates in my constituency. Only one of them is to be elected, and I am entitled to vote for one and only one of the three. My first choice is Smith; my second is Jones, and I desire above all things that Brown be not elected; what can I do with my single vote? My first impulse would be to cast it for Smith. But if I think that Jones will in any event poll a larger vote than Smith I would consider my vote wasted if given to Smith. I must rather give it to Jones in order to swell his vote and prevent the election of Brown. In this way I vote for my second choice and discover, when it is all over, that Smith did better than I expected, and would have won if he had only got a few more votes from such as myself. As a matter of fact Brown is elected by slightly over one-third of the total vote and the majority has no representation. Thus my whole purpose is defeated by a situation for which no provision has been made in our electoral system, and my vote counts for naught.

Now see what a change would be wrought through the simple expedient of giving me a single *transferable* vote. In that event my ballot would be marked thus:

Smith—1
 Jones—2
 Brown—

which would mean that I desired that my vote should be counted for Smith first. In the event of Smith's not getting a sufficient vote to be elected, however, I

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