

HORSE

"Directum," 2.05 for seven years' champion trotting stallion and one of the greatest harness horses the world has ever known, died recently of blood poisoning. Next to him on record stands "Creseus" as the greatest trotting stallion.

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It is a great mistake to shut young foals up where they can have no exercise to develop muscle. They require all the exercise they can have for this purpose. Young foals confined in box stalls will never develop the possibilities of their blood inheritance. Idleness and deterioration go hand in hand, and a young foal to develop symmetrical growth needs the free exercise of a paddock or pasture. If confined in a box stall the youngster should be given regular daily exercise to develop strong bone and tissues that will make him an efficient horse when he reaches maturity.

Treatment of Burns and Scalds

BY DR. J. FIELDING COTTRILL

Early last spring I visited a farmer near the United States boundary and was requested to call upon a neighbor who had met with a serious accident the day before. While burning stubble the fire got away, and he endeavored to check it with his plow but was just too late, and in making a sharp turn one horse fell. In a second the four horses were a struggling mass in the midst of the dancing flames. The poor beasts were a pitiable sight, and I have often thought that I would like to tell readers of THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE what to do to shorten the agony of their horses in such a case. Prairie fires are responsible for practically all the cases of burning among horses in the Canadian Northwest; but it matters little whether the cause is that of escaping steam or chemicals, the effects are practically the same.

We can readily distinguish three stages or degrees: First, where there is simply a reddening of the skin; second, where blister or vesicles have been produced; third, where some of the skin and perhaps flesh has been cooked, dried up, and its vitality destroyed.

All stages require immediate treatment, and the danger does not depend so much upon the depth of the burn as on the extent of its surface. There are millions of sensitive nerve endings scattered over our bodies, and these are so close together that we cannot push a pin into our skin without touching one. Therefore,

if we have a small but deep burn, comparatively few of these nerves may be injured, whereas a scorching of a large surface, though apparently only trivial, may affect many more nerves and even produce a fatal result. The effects are not confined to the seat of injury, for almost immediately all the nerves in the body become excited from sympathy, and we have systematic results, shown by a shivering at first, which, however, we generally fail to notice. Then comes a coldness of the extremities. But probably the first thing we notice is a weakness, a restlessness, and a difficulty in breathing. If we feel the pulse we find that it is quickened, and if we take the temperature we shall find some fever.

Now, whatever we are going to do in the way of treatment must be done at once. If the veterinary surgeon lives ten or twenty miles away, the poor beast may die from shock before he arrives. This shock is the first thing we must combat. At once give a good dose of whiskey in milk. Don't hesitate about it. Then proceed to apply something which will keep away the air from the injured part. Really, I believe it matters little what we use (within reason), providing we do it quickly. If the skin is not broken (and even if it is it will do no harm), at once cover with an even mixture of equal parts of linseed oil and lime water. This is known as Carron oil, probably because it originated at the Carron Iron Works in Scotland. Here the men were constantly being burned by the molten metal, and large quantities of this mixture were kept on hand for cases of emergency. Every reader of this will act wisely in procuring a bottle of this mixture at once, and keeping this for personal use in the house.

Having used this Carron oil we have time to look round and think. If the burn is of the first or second class, and is confined to a scorching or reddening of the skin, with or without blisters, we can hope for success. Even if the destroyed skin does not cover too large a surface, we may still go on, but if a large surface of skin has been destroyed, we must ask ourselves if it will be worth while to continue the treatment, or would it be more merciful to put the poor beast out of its misery. You know that when a wound is healing, the scar contracts, and if this scar is large, of course, the contraction will be large also. A skilful veterinary surgeon could easily transplant some healthy skin into the large resulting sore, and produce a satisfactory result.

The position, also, of the burn must be taken into account. If it be in any part where there is much movement, such as round the shoulders and elbows, it is very serious. In any case, if much skin is destroyed, you must expect some weeks and perhaps months to pass before re-

covery takes place. If you decide to go on with it procure a good supply of the mixture recommended, and put it on freely. If you can cover the part with thin cotton soaked in this Carron oil all the better. Renew this dressing frequently, and if any blisters form, open them with a clean needle, but do not remove the skin. Later on you can change to some simple ointment, such as carbolic or zinc ointment.

Although I ask all to procure some Carron oil, many will not do so, and when the accident occurs they will as usual stand and wish. But in such cases we have no time to stand. Rush into the house, get some eggs, and cover the injured parts with the whites, then dust on flour, or chalk, or starch powder, or mix chalk and water to a cream and cover the part repeatedly until a thick coat is formed, and get the veterinarian as soon as you can. If the skin cracks, or is destroyed, some would use a dry powder to dust on. Zinc oxide with twice as much starch is not bad, but iodoform with equal quantity of boric acid is better, and one part iodoform to eight parts of tannic acid is still better. If you prefer, you can mix either of the latter into a salve with vaseline or lard. Probably this would be the better plan. Later on, say after a week, treat it as an ordinary wound.

In speaking of the above I have been thinking mainly of burns produced by fires. If they are the result of chemicals, some other things must be thought about. For instance, say the cause was a mineral acid (sulphuric acid or oil of vitriol, nitric acid, muriatic acid or hydrochloric acid). In this case to add water or anything containing water we would produce more heat. What we want is something that will destroy, or neutralize, the acid. So we should cover it at once with chalk, or even baking soda, and after the effervescing had ceased we could wash all off and treat as recommended before. If the cause has been some caustic substance, such as lye, it would be better to neutralize it with an acid, say vinegar.

STOCK

Live Stock Notes

Live stock prices in the United States are higher than at any time since the civil war. Consumption demand is heavy and despite high retail prices is continually increasing, with no prospect of letting up.

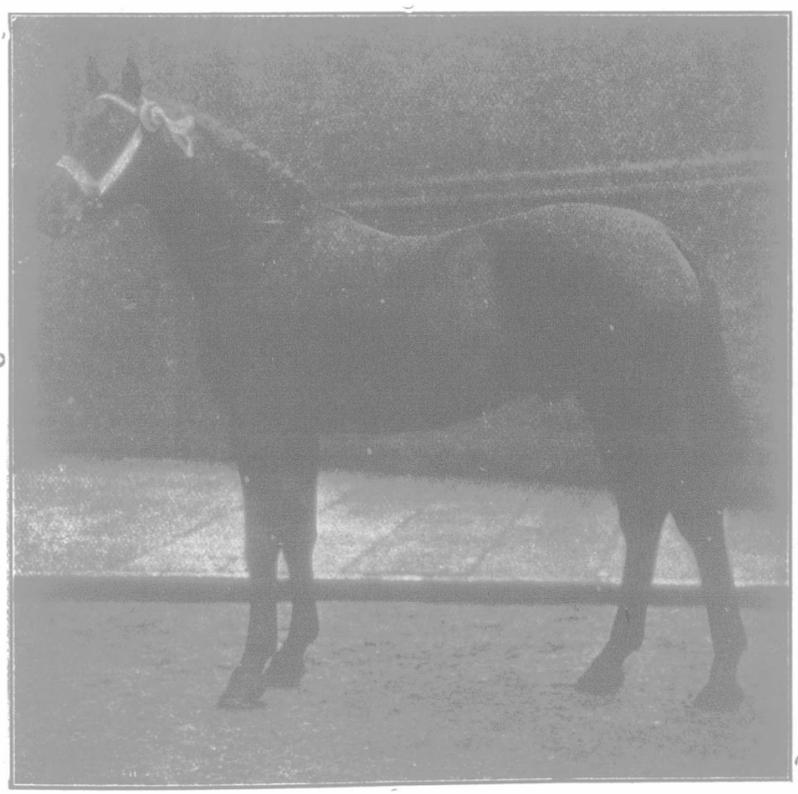
Chilled Meat from Australia

Advices from London report the arrival of 1,330 quarters of chilled beef from Australia. The beef is described as arriving in excellent condition. Shipment was made from Brisbane, Queensland, and was 62 days in transit. It was sold on the Smithfield market at 8½c. to 9c. per pound for hindquarters. This was a little more than paid for beef from Argentina. It is said that this experiment has demonstrated the superiority of the chilling process over freezing for preserving the character of the meat. The London Daily Mail says that arrangements are being made for transporting chilled beef from both Australia and New Zealand.

Reasons for Hog Prices

In his contribution to the Weekly Report issued by the Department of Trade and Commerce, Ottawa, Commissioner J. M. Mussen of Leeds, England, discusses the shortage of hogs in Great Britain, giving reasons for the prevailing prices. He says that the present buoyant state of the pig markets is explained by the scarcity of pigs in the United States. Whatever the reason, that country is producing smaller surplus in all classes of live stock than formerly. It is commonly assumed that the diminution in the export is due to increased home requirements, and, no doubt, this is the correct explanation, although statistics show an actual reduction in the number of pigs in the country.

Pigs, however, are difficult to deal with in a statistical sense. Nothing short of a census twice or three times a year, would approximately represent the actual total, as more animals are slaughtered under a year than over that age, and hence escape enumeration in the actual reckoning. Too much importance, therefore, should not be attached to statistics collected annually, though



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