

THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME MAGAZINE.

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AND N.-W. T.

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other localities which constitute perhaps the largest portion, and we must not forget them.

Perhaps, taken on the whole, less Eastern help will be required this year, and if such proves true it will be a good thing, for our grain-growers would suffer severely if they had to depend as fully on outside help as they have had in former years. In the East laboring men to-day are about as difficult to get as with us, and wages are equally high, except, perhaps, during our harvesting and threshing months.

Crop prospects are bright; wages will likely be good, and every indication at present points to a return of the harvester in considerable numbers.

Slow Freight Transportation.

An evidence of the imperfect live-stock transportation facilities which are available in the West is to be found in the case of a car which left Smith's Falls, Ont., June 20th, and arrived at its destination in Edmonton, July 2nd. This is a rate of a little less than eight miles per hour for the entire journey. If that is encouraging the live-stock industry of this country, we fail to see the point.

Some Things that Are Needed.

Provincial autonomy for the Territories.

An experimental farm for Alberta.

A few more agricultural exhibitions that are not horse races.

A creamery at Carstairs, Alta.

A few more farmers to become interested in the stock judging ring, and less in the exciting attractions.

1. The farmer who plows and knaves the power,
2. The farmer who lets his seeds rise or fall,
3. The farmer who plants a tree or trains a flower,
4. The farmer who...

The Hour of Destiny Passed.

The Saturday Evening Post, of Philadelphia, is out with a strong editorial appeal to the United States authorities to hold out a friendly hand to Canada. The Post says their relations with Canada overshadow the Philippine question and every other issue of foreign or colonial policy that confronts the Republic.

The popular Chamberlain proposition and Canada's unprecedented progress have frightened our Yankee neighbors out of their Rip Van Winkle sleep regarding the great Dominion. But like many another deathbed repentance, Uncle Sam's has come too late. Canada has put her hand to the plow, and will not turn back.

Horses.

Runaway Horses.

One can scarcely take up a local paper without reading under the above heading the narration of quite a list of runaways which had occurred during the week. It naturally occurs to one to enquire into the cause of this. The immediate cause is, in nine cases out of ten, carelessness on the part of the driver. But there is a primary cause, also due to carelessness of a grosser nature, which is begun in the training of the colt, or, perhaps, to be more correct, in the omission to train him. To get still nearer the root of the matter, and to begin at the beginning, the boys on the farm should all be taught how to handle and train the colt. If the matter were looked after with the same strict attention which is devoted to other business matters in the ordinary course of everyday life, we would hear little or nothing of runaway horses. A properly trained horse never gets far enough ahead in the "knowledge of good and evil" to discover that he has the power to run away. He may get very impatient and irritable in an uncomfortable position on a cold day, but his pawing and other indications brings any sane driver to his side to remove the cause of discomfort before the animal becomes infuriated to such a degree as to seek refuge in flight. Then if frightened by something which is to him an unnatural phenomenon, he, believing that he is powerless to snap his halter shank, or break away from his driver, may execute some fancy impromptu jig steps, with perhaps a "highland fling" or two thrown in by way of variety; but to gallop madly down the street, while foot-passengers tumble over one another in their fright to get out of the way of the bone-breaking wheels which spin behind him, is an action which has been trained out of his wild free nature, and has no place in his acquired ideas of possibilities. With horses that have acquired a habit of bolting, however, there is no remedy but the constant care, and as nearly as possible the constant presence of the driver; and that should be insisted on both by the owner of the horses and the general public, for runaway horses are a source of very great danger to all property and human life which may come in their way.

Sweat Pads.

The use of sweat pads under some circumstances may be justified, especially when horses have started work in the spring in good form and are reduced in flesh during the summer. One of the principal objections to the sweat-pad is that it tends to become soggy, and, consequently, increases the friction between the surface of the pad and the shoulder. It sometimes happens that by the use of the pad one can fit a collar that could otherwise not be worn. In this instance the price of a collar may be saved. By the use of the pad the draft is often thrown on the outer edge of the shoulders, while it should be as close in as possible. When an animal gets a sore spot on some part of the shoulder, it is sometimes possible to cut a hole in the pad and thus relieve the pressure on this place until it becomes healed. The main thing is to have a collar fit the shoulder well. Where this is the case there is seldom any danger of irritation, providing the hames are properly fitted to the collar and pulled up tightly each time they are put on. It never pays to work away with a collar that does not fit, because an animal that constantly experiences pain through ill-fitting harness cannot do the same amount of work, nor do it as willingly, as would be the case if all parts of the harness are adjusted to its form.—[Iowa Homestead.

Diseases of the Digestive Organs in Horses.

While it is not wise for the ordinary horse-owner to attempt treatment of disease in horses when professional attention can be promptly procured, it is well that all who own or drive horses should have an intelligent idea of the causes and symptoms of the ordinary diseases to which horses are liable. Some are so situated that a veterinarian is practically out of reach, and in such cases he is compelled to depend upon his own or his neighbor's skill. Again, even though a veterinarian may be in practice within easy reach, he may be from home when wanted, and his services not procurable for a few hours or longer. In such cases it is well for the owner to be able to diagnose the case, and give remedies that will have a tendency to alleviate the symptoms until skilled assistance arrives. In all cases, especially in digestive troubles, where simple remedies do not effect a cure in from one to two hours, it is much better to send for a veterinarian promptly, as the fact that the symptoms of disease are continuing, despite treatment given, indicates that the disease is serious and requires skillful and prompt treatment. Give your veterinarian a chance. Do not wait or treat yourself until the disease has reached that stage that renders successful treatment improbable or impossible, and then send for him. This is frequently done, and the practitioner called hard names because he failed to cure an animal that was practically dead when he was called. If a veterinarian be not within reach, the owner, of course, has to do the best he can, and it is particularly on account of those thus situated that I have considered it advisable to consider in these columns the causes, symptoms and treatment of some of the ordinary digestive diseases of horses. With rare exceptions, diseases of the digestive organs are the results of errors in feeding and watering. When horses are intelligently fed on food of good quality, and allowed to drink frequently (the water being of good quality), it is seldom any acute digestive trouble is seen. The stomach of the horse is less liable to disease than the intestines, from the fact that the former is small compared with the volume of the latter. The food is arrested for only a short time in the stomach, soon passing on to the intestines, where the chief part of the process of digestion takes place.

CHRONIC INDIGESTION, or indigestion without engorgement, occurs in the horse as the result of food of poor quality, diseases or irregularities of the teeth, the process of dentition, irregular feeding, voracious feeding, debility of the stomach or intestines, etc.

SYMPTOMS.—The horse is unthrifty, his hair is dry and staring, and he is usually more or less hidebound. The appetite is capricious, and he often has a tendency to eat filth; there is usually a sourness of the mouth and increased thirst, along with irregularity of the bowels and general unthriftiness. Colicky pains are sometimes noticed for a short time an hour or two after feeding, while in others giddiness, megrim, and even partial paralysis may occur.

TREATMENT.—The first principle in the treatment of any disease, especially if of a chronic nature, is to ascertain the cause and remove it if possible. In the majority of cases of chronic indigestion in the horse, we will find the cause exists in the mouth. In a young horse, especially in his third and fourth year, when the temporary molars are being shed and replaced by permanent ones, we frequently find that the permanent teeth have partially displaced the temporary ones, the fangs of which have to a great extent become absorbed, but the crowns, which have been forced above or below the level of their fellows, have not shed, and, as a consequence, the colt cannot masticate properly. In older horses, and also frequently in young ones, the permanent molars are irregular, sharp corners projecting inwards from the inner margin of the lower row, and outwards from the outer margin of the upper row. These projections irritate and lacerate the tongue and cheeks, and thereby prevent proper mastication. Any person who has not paid attention to the mouths of horses in this respect, has no idea how often such conditions exist, or how necessary it is to have the teeth attended to. All horses over five years old, and often younger animals, should have their teeth dressed every year; hence, if a horse is suffering from the disease under discussion, his mouth should be carefully examined, and if not in good condition the fault should be corrected. If the mouth be all right we must look for the cause elsewhere, and if possible remove it. If diarrhoea be not present, causing