meal was also tried, but it did not appear to be relished by the horses, and its use was soon dropped. The conclusion come to as the result of the experiments was that oats are expensive to feed in large quantities, and that the ration may be greatly cheapened by substituting oil meal, cottonseed meal or gluten feed. The health, spirit and endurance of the horses was the same when fed on maize, in combination with one of these feeds, as when oats were fed. A hard summer's work was done by the horses on these feeds, without any considerable loss of flesh.

Care of the Feet.

During the hot summer months, much trouble arises with the horses' feet. The young things go to pasture in the spring, and probably stay there most of the summer, without a great deal of care. The working horses, which do not have to travel on the public roads, are allowed to go unshod, and even those that are shod, having less travelling to do away from the farm, do not have as much attention given them as they do in the winter. As a consequence, many disorders of the feet arise.

The feet of stock on pasture very soon become ill-shapen, due to the growth and breaking of the hoof. Not only does the hoof grow faster, but the wear is frequently insufficient to keep the foot in shape. With young stock, the dangers of injury arising from excessive growth are serious, and the younger they are, the more serious is the danger. Their bones and cartilages are soft and pliable, their tendons less rigid. If the feet become misshapen, the legs are thrown out of the normal position; long toes and low heels have a tendency to weaken the pastern; long heels and short toes work a similar injury, though in a different direction. If the outside of the foot develops faster than the inner side, the pastern and fetlocks are thrown too close together; if the inside grows faster than the outside, they are thrown too far apart. With young colts, yearlings, and even two-year-olds, the continuance of any of these abnormal conditions of the feet is most serious. Their bones are becoming harder all the time, and if thrown out of the correct position, and maintained thus incorrectly for some time, the limbs become ill-set, and are likely to remain so. The younger the colt is, the more damage is done in a given time, since his bones are more pliable. Consequently, the sucking colt must be closely watched, while the older ones must not be neglected. Every few weeks the horse stock should be carefully looked over, and any irregularities in the shape of the feet corrected by use of the rasp and knife. All material trimmed from the feet should be taken from the grounding surface. Never, by use of the chisel and mallet, should the excess of hoof be whittled off.

Aside from the irregular growth of the feet, there are other evils that need watching. The hoof gets well wetted by dews and rains, but often the hot winds, the sun, the hot earth and the dry dust seem to take every bit of moisture out of it. It begins to crack, as a result of the excessive heat, gets brittle, and easily breaks. Under these conditions, quarter-cracks frequently develop, especially at the plantar border of the hoof wall. These are almost as likely to develop in work horses going unshod as in young stock on pasture. Immediate attention is required to keep them from getting worse and the animal from going lame. It is best to trim the entire hoof into proper shape, then cut a small notch in the hoof at the base of the crack, to lessen the pressure on that part of the hoof when the animal walks; this lessening of pressure reduces the likelihood of the crack extending farther upward. Searing a scar crosswise at the apex of the crack also checks its extension. In a working horse, it is frequently necessary to shoe the animal until the crack is grown out of the hoof. The hoof is prepared for the shoe as described above, the idea of the shoe being to reduce the danger of an extension of the crack, which is most likely when a horse is at hard work.

When the feet are unusually dry and cracking, it is well to soak them. This may be done by standing the animal in a barrel prepared for the purpose by cutting so that it is about five inches deep, and reinforced in the bottom. Another method is to place in the front of a tie-up stall a box free from sand and well moistened. It is a simple matter to moisten the clay thoroughly, previous to placing it in the stall. During the day the animal may be tied in this stall, and at night [illegible]. This, however, benefits only the front [illegible]. Some competent horsemen take a flat [illegible] feet long and 12 inches wide, [illegible] house or other stage, and soaking [illegible] the hoof head over [illegible] clay may be packed in the feet [illegible] night, and do them much good. [illegible] the horse's foot, and what [illegible] most convenient to supply [illegible] should be regularly adopted.

Mistakes of Exhibitors.

The exhibition of high-class horses at "high class" horse shows is practically a business, and is conducted, in most cases, by those who thoroughly understand the game; hence to exhibitors of this class we have nothing to say, as they are better posted on "the tricks of the trade" than we are. But a few hints to the ordinary farmer or horse-owner who exhibits only at local fall fairs may be seasonable. The practice of taking untrained colts or horses into the show-ring is too common. It is a too common practice among exhibitors to pay no attention whatever to fitting or training their colts, but to take them to the fair absolutely green and unfitted, except that they have been taught to lead in a manner. They are brought before the judge in this shape, he looks them over, and then wants to see them move, but they have not been taught to lead properly, hence go sideways or backwards, or in some cases can with difficulty be induced to move at all. This is provoking to the judge, aggravating to the audience, and disappointing to the exhibitor, especially when his animal is probably a better one than the better-fitted and better-trained colt that wins. The judge in such cases is often very severely criticised and credited with not knowing a good animal. He is doubtless aware that the awards have not gone to the animals that under more favorable conditions would have won, but he is also aware of the fact that a little trouble is necessary to fit and train a colt for exhibition, and that each animal must show his action and gaits to enable any person to judge correctly of his relative qualities. He also should thoroughly recognize the fact that his judgment of the animals before him must be influenced by what they are at the time, not what they probably would be under different conditions. The general appearance of the unfitted and untrained colt may indicate that if fitted he would be a better animal, and if trained would show better action than those he selects for the awards. At the same time, the colt is neither fitted nor trained, while the others are, and he (the judge) also knows that a colt of good conformation and all indications of showing good action is sometimes a great disappointment when moved, and as he is judging entirely by what he sees, not from what he probably would see under different conditions, he is compelled to give the prizes to those that show what they can do. Then, again, the exhibitor who has spent time and money in training and fitting his exhibit so that it may appear at its best before the judge, deserves some recognition over him who has taken no pains in this line, but apparently simply brought his animals to the show with the hopes of winning a prize. Such an exhibitor takes no pride in his horses, but simply exhibits for the money he may win, and his winning seldom reflects glory to either himself or the exhibition. Even sucking colts should be taught to lead and stand well on the halter before being taken to the show-ring. When this is done there is less danger of accidents, it gives the judge a much better opportunity to judge correctly, and the exhibit a better opportunity to show just what it is. It will be noticed in this class that the colts that are trained to the halter generally win.

Another mistake often made by exhibitors is entering horses in the wrong classes. This is particularly noticed in roadsters and carriage horses. A good roadster entered in the carriage class is often beaten by horses not worth nearly so much money, while a good carriage horse shown as a roadster will meet the same fate. Here again the judge is often unjustly criticised. It is often claimed that because a horse is more valuable than the others he should win, even though he be wrongly classified. It should be remembered that the judge is judging a certain class, and he expects certain characteristics in each animal, and those that approach more nearly to his ideas of perfect animals of that class should win, notwithstanding the fact that there is a horse of another class that is worth more money. There are horses that are very hard to classify. While reasonably valuable and serviceable, they have not the characteristics of either class sufficiently well marked to make them reasonably typical, hence the owner is undecided how to enter them. In such cases it is not unusual to enter in each class, and after getting as good an idea as possible what the competition will be, exhibit in the class in which he expects to have the best chance of winning. Horses of this kind cannot reasonably be expected to win in reasonably good company in either class, although they may have a greater market value than those that win over them. It should be remembered that exhibitions are supposed to have an educational value, and it is the duty of a judge to be consistent in his awards, and stay as closely to type and general characteristics in the different classes as possible. Another mistake exhibitors often make when there is something wrong with their horses is to explain to the judge that the animal met with an accident very recently, and that caused the swollen leg, bunch, blemish or lameness, and that he would be all right in a day or two. Now, the judge cannot be held responsible for the accident; he did not cause it, neither could he have prevented it; but here is the horse, lame or unsound, the lameness or unsoundness may in all probability be only of a temporary nature, but in most cases the probable termination of the trouble is simply problematical, and he must judge the horses as they are, not what they were before the accident, or what they probably will be in an indefinite time. There are other animals in the class that have not met with an accident, but are sound, and unless decidedly inferior to the injured animal they should win. Of course in the breeding classes such things are looked upon differently, but in the utility classes the judge wants to award the prizes to horses that are as nearly all right as he can get them. It should be remembered by exhibitors that soundness, manners and action are prime factors in a horse. Manners count, especially in light horses, carriage, roadster and saddle classes.

In conclusion, I may say that one of the greatest troubles at the ordinary agricultural fair is the failure of the exhibitors to be on time with their animals. More time is often spent in waiting for the classes than in judging them, and often even after waiting a long time for the entries, after notice has been given, or where there is a time programme, if a class be judged and the prizes awarded and a tardy exhibitor appears afterwards with his entry, there is a great cry; he blames the directors, the judge, and everybody, and wants the class called again and rejudged, for of course he knows that he should win. Exhibitors of this kind make it very unpleasant for everybody, and, in our opinion, no notice should be taken of their complaints or reasons for being late, and a few lessons of this kind would teach them to be more prompt.

"WHIP."

LIVE STOCK.

Both humanity and the welfare of the pocketbook suggest that if there is no natural shade in the field, the sheep should have artificial shade, as dark as possible, something into which they can retire in the middle of the day, when the heat is a burden, and when the flies are a great nuisance.

* * *

Sheep seldom die from grub in the head. More of them become weak and perish from disease, because of lack of "grub" in the stomach; but one of the best ways of preventing suffering of the sheep, and "sweeny" of the farmer's pocketbook, is to provide shade in the sheep pasture.

A Section of the London Shire Horse Show 1910