

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquirers must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.]

## Veterinary.

## ANASAREA.

O. W. REID, Grey Co., Ont.:—"My thoroughbred Durham cow calved on April 12th—a bull calf. When the calf was born his hind legs were swollen from the hock down to the feet, the tail also. When the swelling is pressed by the finger the dent comes out slowly. He seems smart and doing well. Please let me know the cause and if anything can be done for him?"

[The meaning of the name of this disease is fluid beneath the skin, and although we have never met a case just as described by our correspondent, still the same cause operated in all. The remarkable point in this case is, "the calf is alive and well," but we are not quite sure that it will be reared. The cause of this dropsical condition is not well ascertained. It may be due to a disease of the kidney, causing interference with the blood circulation, or to some mechanical obstruction to the portal circulation or absorbents. We would recommend that nature be allowed to take its course. If our surmise is correct, nothing can be done.]

DR. WM. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S.]

## PARALYSIS IN COW.

C. B. T., Dundas Co., Ont.:—"I have a cow seven years old. She calved last March. The calf was large and she required assistance. She bloated very badly. After a little time the bloating went down, but she was unable to stand on her legs. After four days I was advised to get her up, but found she could not stand long, and then only by leaning against the wall. She went down again and cannot get up, and has remained so for about four weeks. She feeds well, and I turn her over every day. Please tell me what is wrong, and is there any liniment I could rub on?"

[Paralysis is a loss of power and sensibility, and is frequently seen in cows. When the animal is only partially affected, there is some little power and feeling left, but in moving the gait is staggering and uncertain, and if the paralysis is complete, caused by the compression of the nerves or spinal cord, the animal is unable to maintain a standing position; and in this case we are of opinion that the nerves were injured during the delivery of the calf, and we do not think it will pay you to treat her. If you are determined to try, this method should be adopted: Place the animal in a good roomy loose box. Keep the bowels opened freely, and apply along the course of the spine a strong stimulating blister, such as the liniment of croton or mustard oil, applied daily until a blister is formed. For medicine, give the following powders daily in a quart of gruel: Powdered nux vomica, two ounces; carbonate of soda, eight ounces; bicarbonate of potash, two ounces. Mix, and divide into twelve powders. Give one night and morning.]

DR. WM. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S.]

## KNUCKLING IN FOAL.

A. C., Durham Co., Ont.:—"I have a foal that knuckles on its front pasterns, and also appears weak in the knees. What treatment would you recommend?"

[Foals frequently show the weakness referred to above. It is difficult to account for it when the dam has been fairly well kept, not been overworked, and has not run milk to any extent before foaling. With older animals an application of a blister to the weak joints would be in order, but the skin of a foal is too tender to admit of this treatment, as a sore would probably be caused that would be very difficult to heal, and the last state would be worse than the first. The best treatment is to apply a firm bandage from the foot half way to the knee. It may be necessary to apply a front splint cut from the leg of an old felt boot, but usually a firm bandage well put on will remedy an ordinary case.]

## BROKEN WIND.

W. H. M., Victoria Co., N. B.:—"I have a horse ten years old which has worked all the winter in the lumber camp. I noticed this horse had a difficulty in breathing—it was not a heave, but he breathed like a horse just in from a hard run. He feels well, but has a cough and a rattle in his throat. It does not seem to affect him much when working. Would you kindly reply, as I should like to do something for him as soon as possible?"

[A good deal of misconception exists in the popular mind with regard to broken wind. Many horsemen apply this term to all cases of difficult breathing. Asthma, heaves, heavy, thick wind are some we frequently hear of, but it is known better by the term emphysema of the lungs, for this explains the true character of the disease. An escape of air between the pleura, or covering, and the lungs proper. Symptoms: It will be almost impossible to give all the symptoms met with in various cases. Almost all horsemen and traders become very smart and knowing when talking of broken wind. I can soon fix him so that no veterinary surgeon can find it out. To bring forth the characteristic sign of broken wind it is only necessary to give the animal a pail of water (repeated if necessary), and then have him ridden or driven for ten minutes, and no fixing in the world will con-

ceal broken wind if in existence. A short, husky, dry cough, peculiar to broken wind, is the first symptom that is noticed, especially when brought out from the stable in the morning, or after a short drive or drink of water. When the disease is well established there is no cure for it. Putting aside all theories as to its origin—and there is only one in my opinion: hereditary predisposition—it is generally admitted to be caused by derangement of the digestive organs, in many cases due to poor, innutritious food. Bad clover hay is a very frequent cause; this will cause distention of the stomach, and taking the animal to work directly after a meal or a hearty drink of hard, cold water. Very careful attention to feeding and watering of the animal is the greatest importance. The diet should be of the very best clear oats; very little hay, and that chopped if possible. The animal should be watered before feeding, and fed one hour before work. Many different remedies have been tried, and we only know of two that have afforded any service—arsenic and sulphur. The most convenient way of giving arsenic is in the form known as Fowler's Solution, or Liquor Arsenicals of a standard solution—that is, each ounce should contain 4 grains of pure arsenic. A tablespoonful mixed with the oats twice or thrice a day and alternated with the powdered sulphur each week.]

DR. WM. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S.]

## SYMPTOMATIC ANTHRAX.

W. S. A., Grey Co., Ont.:—"Please send a remedy for a disease called black leg on young cattle. They generally die in a very short time after they take it. It is very contagious."

[There is no treatment known that will cure this disease. The sound animals should be removed, the affected ones should be destroyed and burned, and the pastures should be drained and broken up.]

DR. WM. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S.]

## PARALYSIS IN HORSE.

Jos. C., Lincoln Co.:—"I have a horse nine years old that has something wrong with his hind quarters. Ordinarily he can move forward without much difficulty (that is, to walk), but if I should try to back him or to make him stand over it would seem as if he couldn't lift his hind feet. He would throw his right hind leg out sideways and hold it very stiff, as if all the joints were set, and at the same time tremble violently. This condition has lasted about two years. At first his left hind leg was the worst, now it is the right one. He has been able to work all along until this week. He is in fine condition; his hair is soft and glossy. He is a fine large horse. His joints are apparently all right. It seems to me as if the trouble is in the small of the back. What is the matter with him, and is there any cure for it? And if there is, please give treatment?"

[This disease is commonly called broken, sprained, jinked back, shiverer. The description given is excellent as regards the horse. He may be able to trot in a straight line well enough, but when turned round sharply immediately knuckles over with the fetlock joints and sometimes falls to the ground. A modified form of this disease is often encountered: Although able to turn without falling, does so with great difficulty, throwing the hind legs about in an awkward, unsteady manner, clearly showing the want of co-ordination of the muscles of the back and limbs. Shivering is another form of this complaint, and manifested particularly during the act of backing. The tendency of this disease is to increase in severity as the animal becomes older, and give an aged appearance before he has reached his prime. The animal is unable to take natural rest, as he rarely lies down, particularly if confined in a stall; and should they fall down in their sleep are unable to rise again without assistance. There is no doubt in my mind that this disease is hereditary, and will reappear in the course of years. There is no treatment likely to remove this malady. It should be treated on the best general principles dictated by the owner. If unable to work, a dose of physic must be administered: Barbadoes aloes, one ounce; calomel, two drams; mixed with molasses and given after preparation of one or two days' bran mash. Apply a good stimulating liniment of ammonia along the spine is about all that can be done.]

DR. WM. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S.]

## HORSE CRAVING MINERAL MATTER—HOOF DRY.

W. E. S., Gloucester Co., N. B.:—"I have a Standard-bred carriage horse with whose hoofs there seems to be something wrong. They are very brittle. I would be much obliged to you for indicating a treatment that would remedy that defect. The horse has also an intense craving for clay; so much so, that I fear to let him out in the yard. Would this depend on the feed? He is fed on hay and oats. What would you advise?"

[The desire for clay indicates a craving of the system for mineral matter, which the horse requires. This can be given by mixing one part of hardwood ashes with three parts of salt and allowing him free access to it. It will do no harm to give him sods occasionally to consume if he desires to do so. After two or three weeks' treatment in this way he should be turned out to pasture. The hoofs will in all probability come all right after he is turned out. If he cannot be allowed to run out, his shoes should be taken off and he should be given a box stall with earth floor. Also paint the hoofs every night with the following ointment: Raw linseed oil, crude petroleum oil, neat's-foot oil, and pine tar in equal parts.]

## PINWORMS IN MARE.

J. McK., Algoma District, Ont.:—"Mare nine years old troubled with pinworms. Please give remedy through FARMER'S ADVOCATE?"

[This question was answered in our May 1st issue, page 200. Give a physic of Barbadoes aloes, 8 drams; common soda and ginger, each one teaspoonful, in a pint of warm water. After this inject into the rectum soon after evacuation a strong decoction of quassia chips. Boil one-half pound of chips in a gallon of water. Strain off and inject once a week or oftener. Use a long-pointed syringe, and retain the decoction in the rectum half an hour by holding down the tail. It is also recommended to mix hardwood ashes with the salt, about one to four of salt.]

## FOWLS OVERFED.

FARMER'S WIFE, B. C.:—"I had quite a few hens eighteen months ago and of all kinds. They would drop dead off the roosts. Others took lame on one leg and never got any better. They were quite fat. Opened one of them that dropped dead and found a purple lump the size of an egg and soft. Others just drooped and died—no diarrhoea at all. Have nice pure stream of water and all the liberty they want—acres and acres of it. Noticed insects on some I killed, and smeared roosts with coal oil and lard and sulphur."

[From the above symptoms I am inclined to believe the fowls are overfed. There are symptoms of being egg-bound, which is due to the same cause. Hens that are forced for winter laying are sometimes affected with this disease. The occasional leg-weakening is also caused by the overfeeding, especially in the heavier breeds, such as Cochins. Those that drop dead die of apoplexy.]

Where the fowls have a large, free range, do not give any feed until evening, when a small feed of whole grain should be given until the hens become reduced in flesh. When once in a healthy condition, give all the whole grain, such as oats or wheat, that they will eat up clean at the night feed during the summer months. Induce them to take exercise by making them forage for their living. If any grain is left, take it up, so that the fowls cannot get any food in the morning except what they find on the range.]

W. R. GRAHAM, Poultry Department, O. A. C., Guelph.]

## INDOLENT SORE.

G. W. F., Grafton, N. Dak.:—"I have a driving horse that was cut with barb wire from the inner side of stifle around towards outside, down to hock. It was cut last fall, and half way between stifle and hock it was cut to the bone on the outer side, and it does not seem to heal up, but keeps getting larger and larger all the time. A scab forms over the sore, and pus gathers under the scab and then comes off. The horse does not seem to go lame. Can anything be done to take away the abundance of flesh that has formed and take the swelling down over the sore. The cut is on the left hind leg, looking from the back of the horse, and the cut runs inside of stifle around the outside to hock."

[Foment the parts well with warm soft water and remove all the scab. Dry off, and then apply with a swab to the raw surface pure hydrochloric acid. This will cause the formation of a heavy scab, which will in about a week become loose, so that it may be removed without using force. Repeat the acid dressing until the excessive granulations become level with the surrounding parts. After this use the following lotion once or twice daily until the part is healed: Acetate of lead, sulphate of zinc, and creolin, of each half an ounce; water, one and a half pints.]

W. A. DUNBAR, V. S., Winnipeg.]

## INDIGESTION.

J. B. R., Simcoe Co., Ont.:—"I have a mare that is thin in flesh, for nearly a year now. She eats all right and works well, but keeps in poor condition. Two weeks ago several blotches about the size of a cent raised over the body and the hair came off. Could you give the cause and cure?"

[Feed bran mashes only for 36 hours, after which give her a pint and a half raw linseed oil and two ounces spirits of turpentine. If the bowels do not act freely in 24 hours give exercise freely until purging commences, still continuing the mash diet, and return to solid food gradually, which should be oats and bran and grass. Give her a teaspoonful of the following mixture three times a day for a month. Bicarbonate of soda, nitrate of potash, powdered gentian, of each four ounces; nux vomica, powdered, two ounces; arsenious acid, one dram. All thoroughly mixed. Have her teeth examined by a competent veterinarian, and, if necessary, have them filed.]

## FLIES ON CATTLE—INDIGESTION IN MARE.

W. H. P., Durham Co., Ont.:—"1. What is good to put on cattle to keep off flies? 2. What would be good to give a mare that passes wind while driving? Sometimes she is all right for months, and then again she is very bad."

[1. The sheep dips advertised in the columns of FARMER'S ADVOCATE are good for the purpose you ask. 2. This condition is due to indigestion, and can be remedied by careful and regular feeding and vegetable tonics. Feed clean bran, oats and hay, and give equal parts of powdered gentian and soda in teaspoonful doses twice daily in the feed.]