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Write to-day
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BOX STALL FOR BULL—OIL CAKE FOR HORSES.

1. In building a box stall for a bull in the corner of a cow stable, would it be wise to have the partitions of the stall high enough that the bull could not see the other cattle over them?
2. Is the oil-cake meal a satisfactory food for horses, or should they be given pure linseed meal, or else the raw linseed oil? Which of the two latter is the more economical? Should like to hear the opinions of experienced readers on either of these subjects.

P. E. R.

Ans.—1. Many herdsmen think a bull is more likely to be contented and even-tempered if kept where he can see and hear the cows, and if arranging a bull-box we would be inclined to construct it so the bull could see the cows.

2. We should prefer oil-cake meal as being the safest feed, and we would not use very much of it. Raw oil is used as a laxative or purgative, not as a feed.

BARBED WIRE WOUNDS.

Filly got cut with barbed wire. Two of the wounds are about two inches long. How can I treat them so as to leave no scars? I have been bathing with carbolic water and filling with powdered charcoal.

A.

Ans.—In most cases it is impossible to prevent scars from wounds, especially from barbed-wire wounds. In order to prevent scars, wounds must heal by what is known as "first intention," that is, without the formation of pus, which is practically impossible, except the wound is clean cut and treated promptly. Keep these wounds clean by bathing as you have been doing, but instead of using charcoal dress three or four times daily with a five per cent solution of carbolic acid in water. Keep her as quiet as possible in a partially darkened stall, where the flies will not torment her.

IMPOTENT BULL.

Three year old bull has been bred to 40 cows, and there are few, if any, of them in calf. Some return in 3, some in 6, some in 9, and some in 12 weeks. He suffered from indigestion last winter. Would that effect his potency? He is in good condition.

J.

Ans.—Males sometimes become impotent without apparent cause, and in such cases practically nothing can be done more than good care and cessation of breeding for five or six months. In some cases they regain their potency, and in others they do not. Their regular appearance of oestrus indicates that the cows abort, but it is probable if there was infectious abortion in the section, some of the cows would carry their calves so long that the accident would be noticed. It is not possible for me to say whether or not the cows abort. If by careful observation, you can determine such is the case, no doubt the bull is infected and, in all probability will infect all the cows to whom he is bred, and it will be necessary to cease breeding operations with him for five or six months, and in the meantime you will need to inject his sheath about every third day with a solution of corrosive sublimate, 50 grains to a gallon of water, and heated to 100 degrees Fahr., and when he is bred again, his sheath should be flushed out before and after breeding. As regards the cows, all aborted fetuses and afterbirths should be burned, and the womb of aborted cows flushed out daily with the solution, as long as the nozzle of the injection pump will readily enter the neck of the womb, and afterwards a little injected into the vagina and the tails and hind quarters washed with it daily until all discharge ceases. Both bull and cows should be given 30 drops carbolic acid mixed with a pint of cold water and sprinkled on their food three times daily, and cows should not be bred for at least five or six months after abortion. All affected cattle should be isolated, and, as the disease is due to a germ, that is readily carried on clothing, pails, brooms, etc., great care should be taken to avoid infecting healthy cows. The premises in which affected cattle have been kept must be thoroughly disinfected by giving at least two coats of hot lime wash with five-per cent carbolic acid in order to destroy the germ and avoid reinfection.

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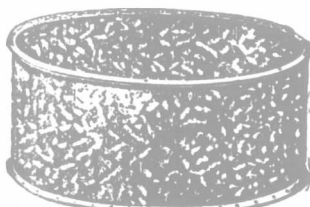
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