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so far superior to those bred in other countries that the best of our English stock, whether horses, cattle, sheep, or swine, are purchased, at 'fancy prices,' to improve their kind in every civilized part of the world; and breeding industries would not benefit were the independence of the individual undermined by Government help which relieved him from the necessity to exercise his own energies and judgment."

While the present aspects and prospects of the business of breeding horses are favorable, and there is every encouragement to produce the best class of saddle and harness horses, it should not be forgotten that good judgment is required in the selection and mating, in order to breed the proper type to bring the best prices, and that, with the mixed classes of mares in this country, unless great care is exercised in this regard, we may look for a very large percentage of misfits, which must be sold at low figures: so that while men who have studied the needs of the market for the best class of light horses may, with a fair degree of success and profit, engage in producing that class, the rank and file of farmers will find themselves on safer ground by breeding and raising a good class of heavy drafters, for which there is always a fair demand at good paying prices. In this class there are fewer failures, and a slight unsoundness or blemish does not so heavily discount their value. These are needed in times of peace as well as of war, while the army horses bred this year will not be available for sale for five years to come, and there is no certainty what the demand may be at that time.

Mr. C. W. Peterson, Secretary of the Northwest Horse Breeders' Association, proposes that the Dominion Government for five or six years buy horses periodically, and when enough are collected at points in the Territories, have an Imperial remount officer select those up to the army standard, and the culls be sold in Toronto, Montreal or Ottawa.

An Imperilled Industry.

The acute form assumed by the now thoroughly discredited tuberculin test required by Government regulations to be applied in the case of cattle imported for breeding purposes calls for heroic handling, and being fully persuaded that the stockmen have, in this connection, a genuine grievance, we have had no hesitation in declaring ourselves fully in sympathy with them in their fight for freedom from the galling yoke which has been forced upon them by a despotism which subjects them to unreasonable inconvenience and expense, seriously hampering their trade, and from every point of view doing vastly more harm than good.

If it is necessary as a protection to our cattle from disease to enforce this test, why should it not be required in the case of animals passing from one Province to another, and to be logical, why not apply it to cattle going from one county to another, or from one farm to another. There is no hypodermic campaign against the ordinary milk herds of the country—no city or town in Ontario, so far as we know, enforcing such regulations—and none are compelled to submit to the test but the enterprising importers, who invest large sums in the very best pure-bred animals they can find to improve the stock of the country, and who surely are not going to put their money into unhealthy animals.

The fact is that the people do not believe there is any more of this disease among cattle than there was thirty years ago. There are no evidences that it has increased. There is no healthier country for stock under the sun. It is a very rare thing to see an unhealthy-looking animal on the farm or in any of our herds of pure-bred stock, and, as a matter of fact, very few are lost from disease that has any similarity to tuberculosis. In fact, the attempt to fasten this test upon the stock interests of the country has diverted attention from all the reasonable sanitary precautions which should be pursued in order to the maintenance of sound health. As the English *Live Stock Journal* points out, it has not helped, but rather hindered, the reduction of bovine tuberculosis, because, but for the very high claims made by its advocates, there can be little doubt that long ere now a law would have been passed in that country for the compulsory slaughter of animals visibly diseased, with compensation to their owners, and by that means any really dangerous cases would have been got rid of. Instead of this, nothing has been done, and nothing effectually will be done until the test is given its proper place—that is, to be used at the option of anyone who believes in it and chooses to put in into operation.

Furthermore, we have ample evidence that it has done much harm to healthy animals, causing in some cases blood poisoning, impotence in male animals, and other derangements of the system from which they have not in all cases recovered, and, in many instances, when applied to pregnant cows, both young and old, has caused abortion, which is beyond question the most serious and alarming disease with which the stockmen of this country have to contend. The experiments of Maffucci, as early as 1879, indicated that sterilized cultures of the bacillus in the animal body exerted such a marked influence on the tissues that they induced emaciation, atrophy of the liver cells and of the cells in the different parts of the spleen, and that they set up certain changes in the circulation, the result of which was seen in marked congestion of the lungs, kidneys, spleen, etc. United States breeders want our cattle, and want them badly, but are hampered by the test, for which they have no respect, and have repeatedly declared that they would far rather have them without the test, which is liable to have an injurious influence on them.

That there may be grave doubts as to the fluid "lymph" called tuberculin prepared from cultures of the tubercle bacillus itself, one might gather from an official report of the Quarantine Department, in which breeders are advised to study the test and see that "reliable tuberculin only" is used; and it is further claimed that the product is sterilized, and by a new crushing process the living organisms of tuberculosis are eliminated (?) One need not be surprised, therefore, at the vagaries of the test, and men cannot be too cautious in taking the hazards of injecting this dubious substance into their animals, either in weak or strong doses.

While the contention that the test as an agency for the discovery of the existence of tubercles in cattle, when reliable and properly applied, may have been reasonably well sustained, yet, as applied in Great Britain and Canada, evidence accumulates

showing its unreliability. There is no middle way. It must be either reliable, or not reliable. As evidence of its unreliability, we have the statement of one of the most reliable of Canadian importers that of 12 animals tested for him by a British veterinarian, nine were declared to have reacted to such an extent that they could not be passed as free from tuberculosis. They were all sent back to the country, and in five weeks re-tested, when all of the nine formerly rejected were passed as free from any traces of the disease, while one of those passed at the first test was condemned.

Another equally honorable breeder and importer states that in a bunch of cattle tested, several showed the reaction, and yet in six months' time all the condemned ones passed, while one of two that passed the first test reacted under the second trial. According to experiments carried on at Dublin, Ireland, it both condemns the innocent and lets off the guilty, the extent of error amounting to 17½ per cent. Even the European expert, Nocard, will not say that reacting animals are always tuberculous. He carefully qualifies it by using the word "almost," and in another place states that "at least 90 per cent. of those that show no reaction are free from tuberculosis." Hence, the remaining 10 per cent. afford the opportunity of introducing the disease, despite this unreliable test, which is therefore of no real protection to the breeder. Surely this sort of thing is not to be palmed off upon the public under the guise of a scientific test!

The people are not now, and never have been, asking for the imposition of this alleged protection in the absence of direct proof that tuberculous contagion is carried or conveyed from animals to man, and in the face of the differences noted by bacteriologists existing between the bovine and the human tubercle bacilli. In a recent treatise on this subject, Prof. Marshall says: "The study of the tubercle bacilli in man and animals, comparatively, may lead to far-reaching results, and may also lead to an elucidation of many features of tuberculosis which are little or unsatisfactorily understood at the present time."

The fear that contagion to the human being might develop by being conveyed through milk from a tuberculous udder has excited attention in England and elsewhere. Recently, the Medical Office of Health of Manchester has had all the cows from which milk was sent to Manchester examined critically for tuberculosis. Professor Delpiere, with T. S. Lloyd, M. R. C. V. S., made a most careful examination and have submitted their report. In the city itself, amongst Manchester cow sheds, of 603 animals reacting and examined, 12 were found with diseased udders, and of these 12 only one was found to be tuberculous. Of those outside the city boundaries, 555 were examined, and of 39 udders, only two were tuberculous. The final examination included 2,000 cows on 108 farms, the milk from which came by railway. Of the large number tested, only 12 were found tuberculous in the udder. The significance of these figures is great. One may accept all that has been said about reacting dairy cows and see with it all how small a ground there is for any danger to the health of the general public from the milk supply. Three thousand two hundred and eighteen cows, carefully examined by experts, gave 15 cows whose milk, if used alone, would be suspicious. The report has given great satisfaction to the general public in England.

The number of deaths from human tuberculosis, or consumption, as it is called, is deplorably large in Canada, and yet it is lamentable the indifference of the public, and even medical men, to the precautions that should be taken to prevent the spread of the disease from one person to another, or to induce the observance of those reasonable precautions that will fortify the system against it. Only lately has the idea of consumption hospitals or sanitariums received any proper degree of attention. Scientific men brand the disease as contagious, and yet, while other ailments that claim not one quarter as many victims are scheduled and the houses placarded, no ban is placed upon the great "white plague." What physician raises a voice in protest while one member of the family contracts it from the breath or sputa of another? Said a leading physician and medical health officer to the writer: "We dare not: there would be a howl of indignation if we attempted to placard consumption. The law does not warrant us in so doing." And while this negligence little short of criminal goes on, the inoffensive cow is made the scapegoat, and, by means of an unreliable and injurious test, the great live-stock industry of the