

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.

LUMP ON COW'S JAW.

F. E., Grey Co., Ont.:—"Would you oblige me with a remedy for a lump on cow's jaw. It is pretty well back on the throat, and about size of small hen's egg? The same cow has white scum over right eye. Can it be taken off?"

[1. See reply to lump jaw in cow in this issue.
2. The white scum referred to is a provision of nature to protect the eye from light and exposure while ailing, and the treatment should be in the direction of dealing with the cause of the scum, and not the scum itself. Keep the cow in a comfortable stable and bathe the eye with warm water, with a little milk added, twice a day before applying the following lotion: sulphate of zinc, 12 grains; fluid extract of belladonna, 15 drops; boiled water to make two ounces.]

LUMP JAW IN COW.

J. N. F., Ohio, U. S. A.:—"I have a cow with a swelling started under the jaw; it is now quite large, and hard on the side of the jaw. Let me hear right away if anything can be done for it. I tried to blister it, but did not see much difference."

[Since the lump did not break, discharge and show signs of healing after blistering, the trouble appears very much like genuine actinomycosis, a contagious disease that is now believed to spread among cattle. It is caused by a germ that settles in the jaw, or sometimes the tongue. When the disease attacks the tongue, that member becomes swollen and hard, producing the condition known as wooden tongue. When it attacks the jaw, a hard, bony lump forms opposite the roots of the teeth. In time, if it continues, the teeth will drop out, the animal fails in condition and finally dies. With the best known treatment some cases prove incurable, but others respond to treatment. First of all, separate the affected animals from the well ones. Give repeated dram doses of iodide of potassium twice daily, in bran mash, for several days, then miss a few days and repeat the iodide as before. Apply to the surface Fleming's Lump-Jaw Cure, advertised in our business columns, according to directions obtained with the remedy.]

MAMMITIS.

J. C. H. S., Lanark Co., Ont.:—"We have a cow that calved on Wednesday at noon, but did not give any milk after calving; udder very much swollen. On Thursday at noon she lost her appetite and did not eat or drink for 24 hours. Gave her a pound and a half of Epsom salts. On Friday afternoon commenced to eat a little and drank one-half pail of warm water. Rubbed udder well with marsh-mallow ointment, and now, on the seventh day, milk is just beginning to come in small quantities. Cow is in good condition, and was only a few days off pasture, but had not been fed dry food. 1. What was the trouble with cow? 2. What is the remedy?"

[The trouble with this cow was mammitis (inflammation of the udder), often occurring after calving, caused by the change taking place in the lacteal apparatus. In this case there was also a partial agalactia (absence of milk), and you should be pleased to be able to say that she is commencing to milk well, as in many cases such is not the case. Treatment consists in giving a purgative, as you did, bathing the udder long and often with warm water, or keeping warm poultices on and drawing off what milk or fluid there is three or four times daily. I do not think your marsh-mallow ointment has any special action in such cases. Heat to the udder, light food and attention to the bowels, and milking as stated, is the treatment that has been found most successful.]

J. H. REED.]

OPHTHALMIA IN SHEEP.

W. O. Jr., Middlesex Co., Ont.:—"About five weeks ago some of my sheep became blind, one after another, until most of them are having a hard time to get around. They are much inflamed, and some of them have a white scum over the sight. They are in a healthy condition otherwise."

[In this disease the eye is partly closed, the eyelids are swollen, and there is a copious secretion of tears which flow down over the cheek. It frequently appears in successive attacks, each being more severe than the former, the result being blindness in many cases. The cause of the affection so far has not been ascertained, but that it is infectious in character is extremely doubtful. The treatment of sheep with this disease should consist in commencing with a mild purgative, such as four ounces of Epsom salts; then bathe the eyes with cold water, and use the following lotion: Sulphate of zinc, 2 grains; sulphate of atropia, 2 grains; distilled water, 1 ounce. Drop a few drops into the eye two or three times daily, and keep the animals in pen where there is only subdued light.]

PERIOSTITIS IN MARE.

J. E. PETTMAN, Bruce Co., Ont.:—"I have a valuable mare, seven years old, which ran away last March and hurt her right hind leg between hock and fetlock joints, on outside of the leg. The leg swelled and she was lame for a few days. I took her to the veterinary surgeon, and he gave me some liniment to apply to it. I attended to it well and the lameness disappeared. But ever since, the leg will swell from standing in the stable, and as soon as exercised or running in pasture, it will all go down, with the exception of a small ridge, about as large around as a lead pencil, and hard. The veterinary surgeon tells me to bandage it when standing in the stable. This I have done, but does not seem to help it any. She does not go lame at all, just the swelling. Would you kindly advise me what to do."

[The periosteum (the fibrous covering of the bone) received an injury during a runaway, and the inflammation is not yet entirely allayed, and causes swelling when the mare is at rest. Cases of this kind are usually very tedious, and in many cases an immovable enlargement remains after all irritation ceases. Try the following liniment: Tincture of iodine, 1½ ozs.; iodide of ammonium, 1½ ozs.; alcohol, 12 ozs.; water sufficient to make 1 pint. Rub a little of this on, with smart friction, twice daily, and have patience. If necessary, get the second bottle of liniment, and you will eventually allay the inflammation and probably cause absorption of the enlargement. Bandaging is good practice, but do not apply the bandage in less than an hour after applying the liniment. If the liniment should blister, stop its use for a few days. J. H. REED.]



THE LATE JOHN I. HOBSON.

LUMP ON STIFLE.

N. B.:—"I have a colt, one year old, which has a lump on the stifle joint the size of a hen's egg, which causes it to be very weak on the joint. I had a veterinary see it in June, and he pronounced it excessive joint water. He has been treating it ever since, but without any improvement. His method of treatment is blistering. Do you think there is any hope for its recovery, and if so, what steps should I take?"

[You do not state the nature of the lump, whether it is soft and fluctuating or hard and unyielding, or whether it is tender to pressure, etc. From the meager symptoms given, I am of the opinion that it is a soft, fluctuating tumor, just below the stifle joint, and that it is not sore to pressure; but the colt shows defective action—not exactly lameness, but a weakness in the part, especially if going through soft ground, snow or the like. If so, it is what is known as a porcelaneous deposit, the result of partial dislocation of the patella. The treatment adopted is all that can be done—that is, repeated blistering. Keep in a box stall, and do not allow free exercise in the yard or field until spring. Keep on blistering, and you will probably have a useful animal, but not all right.]

J. H. REED, V. S.]

STOCKING OR FILLING OF THE LEGS IN HORSES.

READER, Middlesex Co., Ont.:—"A year ago I had a pair of mares, graded Clydesdales, that worked hard, and were well fed all season up to freezing-up time. Soon after idleness commenced

they began to stock up, look hard and feel cranky. I slackened off their feed, but it took several weeks before they became all right. I wish to know how to prevent a recurrence this year, and would appreciate instructions from you, both as to the cause and treatment of this trouble, which I believe is a general one at this season."

[There is a predisposition in many horses (especially those with what are known as round, fat or beefy legs) to stocking during idleness, following a season of steady work, and good feeding. The cause is a plethoric condition of the system and want of sufficient regular exercise. The animal is plethoric, or in high condition (though not necessarily fat). During idleness the circulation becomes sluggish, and there is a congestion of the capillaries (the very small blood vessels), especially of the extremities, and a consequent swelling or filling of the parts. Exercise increases the circulation, stimulates the capillaries and forces the blood outwards, and we have a consequent decrease of the swellings, only to reappear when the horse again stands, even over night. The general appearance and spirit of the animal become affected. Her hair looks dry and stands, and in many cases the heels, and sometimes higher up the legs, become inflamed, sore, and crack. Horses with clean, flat bone, with an absence of beefiness, seldom or never are affected in this manner. The best way to prevent the trouble in horses predisposed to it, without medical treatment, is to gradually decrease both the amount of work done and the qualities of grain fed to the animals, and when no work can be done, decrease still further the grain, and give regular exercise. Treatment for existing cases should be as follows: Feed nothing but a little bran from 12

to 15 hours, then administer a purgative, from 6 to 10 drams Barbadoes aloes (according to the size of the animal) and 2 drams of ginger; mixed with soap or treacle, and made into a ball. Allow nothing to eat but a little bran, and give water in small quantities until purgation commences (generally about 24 hours), then feed hay and bran, and it is good practice to give a little roots, as a couple of carrots or a turnip once daily. When purgation ceases, give one of the following powders every night in damp food: Soda bicarbonate, 6 ozs.; powdered nitrate of potassium, 3 ozs.; powdered resin, 3 ozs.; arsenious acid, 4 drs. Mix, and make into 24 powders. We sometimes get stocking in horses that are lean and in poor condition. In such cases, good food and regular exercise and tonics will usually effect a cure. In these cases much the same symptoms are produced by entirely different causes. J. H. REED.]

Miscellaneous.

SICK CHICKENS AND TURKEYS.

L. E. J., Elgin Co., Ont.:—"We have been losing our chickens for nearly a year. They get diarrhoea, and get lame; combs get dark, and the chickens get very dumpy. Some die in a few days; others lie around for a month, and then crawl off some place and die. The disease is now among our turkeys. We have tried a number of remedies, with no good effect. Can you diagnose the disease and advise a remedy?"

[From the description given, I cannot say what disease you have among your flock. If they were troubled with cholera, the symptoms would be much the same, but, in addition, the birds would have intense thirst, drinking almost constantly, and further, the droppings would be of a greenish cast. Death usually results in the course of three or four days. If you could send a sick bird to the Bacteriological Department of the College, they would be only too glad to examine the bird for you and diagnose the disease. The following treatment I have found very useful in cases of diarrhoea: Sweet tincture rhubarb, 2 ozs.; paregoric, 4 ozs.; bicarbonate of soda, ½ oz.; essence of peppermint, 1 dr.; water, 2 ozs. Mix well, and give one tablespoonful of mixture to one quart of drinking water, giving them no other drink until cured. We have also found common salts a good remedy, giving about a teaspoonful to four birds.]

W. R. GRAHAM, Manager.

Poultry Dept., O. A. C. Guelph.]

TREATMENT OF YOUNG TURKEY HENS.

B. M., Grey Co., Ont.:—"1. Which make the best turkey hens for next year—those hatched last spring, or older birds?"

"2. Will it injure young hens for breeding purposes to have them fed heavily along with fattening turkeys this fall, provided they are moderately fed afterwards during the winter season?"

[1. Well-developed young hens are preferred to older ones, since they lay earlier, and lay less soft-shelled eggs.]

2. Breeding birds should not be allowed to become fat, and should therefore not be closely confined nor fed on corn or other fattening foods. Best results are obtained when the breeding birds are allowed to rough it and largely gather their own living while the ground is bare. Oats and wheat in moderate quantities are the best grains for breeding turkeys.]