

**Azoturia**

W. L. Bopel, Veterinarian

At this time of the year, azoturia is a rather common disease among farm horses. Horses that are kept in badly ventilated stables and fed on rich nitrogenous feeds without being allowed to exercise are the ones most often affected. This disease has been termed or called spinal meningitis by a great many people, but this name should be discarded as the spinal cord and its coverings are not affected. Azoturia is primarily a disease of the muscles, usually affecting the muscles of the hind parts, but may at times attack the muscles of the front limbs. As the disease progresses the kidneys become overworked in the attempt to throw off the poisonous material from the blood stream.

If this process is continued for a certain length of time the kidneys

Azoturia may be prevented by reducing the animal's feed while he is at rest. Bran mashes should be given occasionally in order to keep the contents of the bowels from becoming dry and hard. The animal should be allowed to exercise in a lot or paddock for one or two hours during the warmest part of each day.

**Clipping the Work Horse**

Jas. Armstrong, Wellington Co., Ont.

It is becoming a general practice nowadays to clip the farm horses in the spring. The plan has many advantages. There are few farmers who bother their horses winter, or during the spring either for that matter. Consequently, the coat is thick and heavy and the horses must suffer very considerably during the hard work of the warm spring days.



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### He Should Do Much for Horse Stock in Peterboro County

This grand Clyde-dale stallion, Baron Murray, owned and standing for service on the farm of W. J. Cox, Peterboro, Ont., is a son of the greatest sire of the Clyde-bred, Baron's Pride. This will be his second season in the district. Something of his breeding is given on page 25 of Farm and Dairy this week.

—Photo by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

will become inflamed, greatly reducing the chances of the patient's recovery.

**SYMPTOMS**

The first signs of azoturia may appear soon after the animal is taken from the stable or they may fail to appear until the animal has exercised for several hours. Sudden lameness is usually the first sign to be noticed by the driver; this is seen by the knocking over of one or both of the fetlock joints. The horse is inclined to hold back and is soon snorting profusely. If he is encouraged or forced to go further he soon loses control of the hind limbs and falls to the ground, being able to rise again only with difficulty. The paralysis may be so severe as to lay the animal from getting to its feet again during the course of the disease. The most characteristic symptom of azoturia is the coffee-colored urine which has a very peculiar odor.

**TREATMENT**

When this disease occurs while the animal is on the road he should be stopped immediately and if possible taken to the nearest stable. He should be well blanketed, as the cold will aggravate the disease. At times it will be necessary to use a stoneboat of shelter. A veterinarian should be called as soon as possible as the medical treatment should be begun early.

From a humanitarian as well as a practical standpoint clipping is advisable. A few precautions, however, are necessary.

The early spring work, such as the handling of manure, requires much standing. The days are apt to be chilly and the clipped horse will suffer much discomfort, if, indeed, it distemper. Clipped horses should never be left standing for any length of time, even on a day that is only slightly cool, without being covered.

A plan that I advocate and practice is the clipping of the body but leaving the legs unclipped until later in the season. I believe this plan is advisable as a preventative of cracked heels.

Wm. Templer, otherwise known as Bill, still lives at Copetown, and is running his old 300 acre farm and silo. He is shipping all his cream to Toronto Dairy Co., having made connection through the ad. in Farm and Dairy. Bill is an old O.A.C. boy, and when the Farm and Dairy saw him in Hamilton, he was well and hardy. He had a few fine stories for the Farm and Dairy, but we won't print them here. Ask Bill about the stories that he told Farm and Dairy. Bill wishes to be remembered to Valentine and the bunch.

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