

to tell whether the enlargement is a purulent abscess or a *fibrous tumor*. A case of this kind should be lanced and probed, in order to ascertain whether or not pus is present. If even a small quantity of pus is present, lancing and treating as above will result in a cure. But if no pus be present, the swelling consists in abnormal growth of fibrous tissue, called a *fibrous tumor*, and the only successful and reasonably quick treatment is dissection. It must be carefully dissected out, the wound stitched, with the exception of the lowest part, which must be left open for the escape of pus, and the treatment already noted adopted. In all these cases, of course, rest is imperative, or if necessary to work the patient, a heavy breast collar should be used.

#### Sit Fasts.

What are called "sit-fasts" are those cases where the shoulder becomes sore, the diseased skin becomes detached in a circle from the healthy skin, but a section about the centre remains healthy and attached to the muscles. The attached portion must be dissected and the raw surface then treated as for ordinary sore shoulder. It is not uncommon to notice little hard lumps of different sizes apparently just under the skin. These, in many cases, are not very sore and do not become raw but cause more or less distress. During work the surrounding tissues become enlarged and more or less hot and sore, but after a few days' rest the swellings disappear, with the exception of the small lumps, which may not be very sensitive, but when the animal is again put to work the trouble re-appears. These are little fibrous growths, and the only successful treatment (where pus does not form) is dissection.

Sore necks are usually harder to treat, and more painful than sore shoulders. In many cases they appear as small, fibrous growths which cause recurrent appearance of boils. In such cases a free incision should be made, the fibrous growth removed and treated with antiseptics as above.

WHIP.

#### Our Scottish Letter.

March came in like a lion. The early days of the month were cold to a degree. The Tuesday and Wednesday at the close of the first week of the month were two of the coldest days experienced in the West of Scotland for many years. Snowstorms have been frequent and serious in the Northeast, the Midlands and the South and Southeast of the country. At present the frost has gone, but there are still snowfalls in diverse places. Farm labor has seldom been so backward, and there was never a season in which there was greater need for it being forward. Ploughing is much in arrears, and yet there is on all hands a great outcry for more extensive ploughing. How the two things are to be reconciled is a problem for enlightened statesmanship. In spite of all drawbacks farmers are fairly cheery. They are, of course, receiving unprecedented prices for almost everything they produce, and, except in the case of whole milk produced in winter, they are making substantial profits. The position of the producer of whole milk for city consumption during winter is in no sense an enviable one. He has no equipment for cheese-making, otherwise, like his neighbors in the Southwest whose staple product is cheese, he would have been coining money since the beginning of February. Usually cheese-makers did not begin to make cheese until April. If they had cows calving early in the year it paid them to produce milk for the cities and send it by rail. But this year it paid them much better to make cheese, which was selling up to 17d. per lb. or 160s. the cwt. of 112 lbs.

The farmer who has not cheese equipment had to slave on producing milk at a price restricted by the Food Controller, while there was no restriction put upon the price of all the feeding stuffs he was compelled to buy. He has not made much out of the war this man, and small wonder is it that milk is scarce. One thing a Food Controller, however autocratic, cannot do: he cannot compel a man to continue slaving in the dairy trade after that trade ceases to be a remunerative calling. This is a view of the question which Food Controllers, with very tender hearts for the well-being of the middlemen, do not seem to realize. What could be more fatuous than to fix prices so that the distributor of milk was guaranteed as high a reward for his labor as the producer? The effect of much of the control work that is going on is bewildering, and it is doubtful whether the nation is benefiting to any great extent from interference with the free play of commerce.

March has been a month of stock sales and horse shows. Great sales of Shorthorns have taken place at Birmingham, Penrith and Darlington. The North of England has long been famous for the breeding of the red, white and roan. The great names of the Shorthorn are in Teeswater and Northumberland. Barnpton and Ketton, where the two Collings flourished in the early days of the Shorthorn; Kirklevington, where Thomas Bates practiced his great principles and bred cattle, which, in spite of their comparative eclipse in the closing quarter of the nineteenth century, nevertheless influenced the breed of Shorthorns with an influence that endures; and Warlaby and Killerby, where the Booth family made history, but in another direction.

These great centres are all in the northeast corner of England. And in that same northern part of England there is to be found still, as nowhere else, a variety of Shorthorns, combining the two great features of Bates' cattle—milk and style. The cattle of the dales and fells of Cumberland, Westmorland, and the North Riding of Yorkshire are magnificent specimens. They are known as unpedigreed Shorthorns. They have been reared from generation to generation true to a given type, yet without the aid of recorded pedigree. Bulls have been selected, not because they were bred along certain lines, but because they were true to a certain type, and so it has come to pass that only now in these northern counties a movement in favor of registration is in vogue, and a great part in it is to be played by milk records. This, however, has very little to do with the bull sales referred to. They have been highly successful, and at Birmingham the highest average was made by one of these northern breeders, John Gill, Stainton, Penrith, who had an average of £311 17s. 0d. for five bulls. Mr. Gill is a splendid judge and knows the kind of Shorthorn which captures the market. The second highest average at Birmingham was made by W. Montague Scott, Nether Swell Manor, Stow-in-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, who had £289 9s. for three. Mr. Scott works with the Scottish variety. He has generally bought his stock bull as a calf at the Aberdeen autumn sales, and he has been fortunate in securing some ideal specimens. The Penrith average overhead was £62 8s. 3d. for 229 bulls—very fine business.

The horse shows this year have been remarkably successful, all things considered. A deputation from the Clydesdale Horse Society visited the Shire Horse Show at London in order to confer with Shire horse breeders regarding proposed legislation regulating the soundness and merit of travelling stallions. The subject is one of great difficulty, mainly because of the tremendous power which the legislation proposed is likely to put into the hands of veterinary surgeons. As a rule, horse owners are not impressed with the infallibility of members of the veterinary profession. They are dogmatic and self-assertive, but they really



Craigie Excelsior.

First-prize three-year-old Clydesdale stallion, Glasgow, 1917.

know very little more than an experienced layman about the practical soundness of a horse. There are certain diseases in respect of which the professional verdict is indispensable, but there are others in regard to which the man of wide experience is a safer guide. It is really this fact that makes so many horse-owners unwilling to stake the reputation of their horses on the verdict of professional men. On the other hand, there can be no doubt that the great majority of breeders, as distinguished from stallion owners, favor the idea of legislation as an auxiliary in eliminating the unsound stallion. The two Cart-horse Breed Societies are absolutely at one as to what is wanted. They do not object to legislation, but they ask that the final court of appeal be a bench composed of nominees of the breed societies and veterinary surgeons—the former to constitute the majority. The suggestion in favor of legislation is meanwhile in embargo, but the powers that be are anxious that the breed Societies should be at one with them in their efforts.

The deputation from Scotland had an opportunity of leisurely inspecting the Shires. The Show was quite a good representation of the English breed. The supreme champion stallion was Sir Arthur Nicholson's Champion's Clansman 29221, from Highfield Hall, Leek, Leicester. He is a typical Shire of great power and substance, and was a popular winner. The London Hackney Show was held a fortnight later, and in spite of depressing conditions lasted three days. There was quite a fine display of the great English harness horse, and the winning sire was easily Mathias, which is owned by Robert Scott, Thornhome, Carlisle, Lanarkshire. Mathias is a son of the great mare Ophelia, herself a London champion, and the Hackney breed to-day is really what Ophelia has made it. An earnest effort is being made to revive the old Norfolk nag—the original type of Hackney for general utility work. A class was opened for stallions of the type, and although he did not win first prize, a grey horse named Findon Grey Shales, exhibited by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales, was regarded as the best representative of the class on show. The successful sire of the stallion group was John Mackeague's King Proctor, himself a London champion, and a grandson of Mathias.

The Glasgow and Aberdeen spring shows have passed, and by universal consent the display of aged Clydesdale stallions at Glasgow was the best seen for perhaps thirty years. These are likely to be the only great shows held in Scotland this year. All other events of the kind are off. The most successful breeder of the season is John P. Sleigh, St. John's Wells, Fyvie, Aberdeen. He won both the Cawdor Cup and the Brydon Challenge Shield at Glasgow with his first-prize, four-year-old stallion, Kismet 18417. Mr. Sleigh has immense credit with this evenly-balanced horse, which has been hired for 1917, 1918, 1919 and 1920. He bred both the horse and his dam, and, at the Aberdeen Show, a week later than the Glasgow event, he won first, second and third prizes with yearling fillies bred by himself, and first and champion honors with the two-year-old filly Gaya. Both she and the first-prize yearling filly are own sisters to Kismet, whose sire was Dunure Footprint. Mr. Sleigh has another full sister, a three-year-old, which is said by all who have seen her to be the best animal in the St. John's Well's stud. Both she and Moira, the dam of these four great animals, are to be mated this season with Mr. Kilpatrick's celebrated stallion, Bonnie Buchlyvie 14032, a remarkably fresh and active eleven-year-old horse, and winner of both the Cawdor Cup and Brydon Challenge Shield, the former when he was three years old and the latter when he was ten. At the Aberdeen show both the champion and the reserve champion stallions were got by him. These were George A. Ferguson's Phillipine 18044 and Ardendale 18993, respectively second and third in their respective classes at Glasgow. Phillipine was second to Kismet at Glasgow and first at Aberdeen, and Ardendale was third at Glasgow and first at Aberdeen as a two-year-old. He has already been hired for 1918, 1919 and 1920. He is a colt of great cart-horse size and proportions, and gives promise of being altogether one of the best horses the breed has produced for a long time. He was bred by Mr. Young, Thrupwood, Galston, Ayrshire, and is very well bred. Phillipine was formerly owned by Robert Brydon, and was bought at the Seaham Harbour dispersion sale for 2,300 gs. He also has been hired far ahead. The third aged horse at Glasgow was Thomas Clark's Rising Tide 17454, a fine big horse by Auchentower 12007, one of the best sires in the breed to-day. The fourth was John Pollock's Excelsior 18353, a dandy horse bred by Mr. Sleigh, and got by Dunure Footprint, the sire of Kismet. Mr. Matthew Marshall's Masaniello 17380, winner of the Glasgow Society's district premium for 1918, was fifth; Purdie Somerville's Hiawatha horse Lothario 17986, also bred by Mr. Sleigh, sixth, and G. A. Ferguson's, Dunure Realization 18338, another son of Auchentower, seventh. Before leaving this it may be worth while to note the success of Mr. Sleigh's Baron's Pride mare Moira. She was first, and won the Cawdor Cup at the H. & A. S. Show at Aberdeen in 1908. In 1911 she produced Lothario; in 1913 Kismet; in 1914 his unbeaten own sister; in 1915 another unbeaten own sister Gaya, and in 1916 the first-prize yearling filly at Aberdeen. This is a record very hard to beat. In the three-year-old stallion class at Glasgow James Kilpatrick was first with Craigie Excelsior 18664, and Mr. Marshall was second with Mondego 18842—both sons of Bonnie Buchlyvie. Craigie Excelsior has been hired for 1917, 1918 and 1919. The third horse was John Pollock's beautifully-balanced Hiawatha horse, Royal Raeburn 18900, whose dam was a fine mare named Daisy Primrose by Baron's Pride. A promising young horse named Golden Wonder 19138, a son of Dunure Footprint, and owned by Pat Dewar, Arnprior, Kippen, was fourth. Dunure Crest 18702, by The Dunure, a specially nice true colt, was fifth; George Alston's Dunure Chorus 18701, by Baron of Buchlyvie, was sixth, and the seventh was Dunure Purpose 18716, owned by James Clark, Netherlea, Cathcart, and got by Dunure Stephen, out of a mare by Montrave Mac 9958. This colt is the Glasgow premium horse this year. The two-year-olds were even a greater class than the three-year-olds. Mr. Kilpatrick again won, this time with Craigie Litigant 19071 by Baron Buchlyvie. This is an exceptionally "classy" colt, with faultless feet and legs and very close movement. He has been hired for 1918 and 1919. Another son of Baron of Buchlyvie, James Gray's Botha 19026, was second. Ardendale, already referred to, was third, and at Aberdeen in the following week was preferred before Botha—which was second there. A great colt named Craigie Masterstroke 19072 from Mr. Kilpatrick's stud, was placed fourth. He was got by Auchentower. Purdie Somerville's Scotland's Perfection 19267, which on the previous day had been awarded the Glasgow district premium for 1918, was placed fifth. Alex. Murdoch's Raeburn 19237, by Royal Favorite, was sixth. Perhaps the best animal shown was the first-prize yearling colt Doura Gaiety, bred and owned by J. Young, West Doura, Kilwinning, and got by Dunure Footprint, out of Nancy Blacon by Pride of Blacon 10837. This colt has become the property of John Johnston, Oarbrook, Mains, Larbert. He is a dandy in every sense of the word.

A great sale of surplus stock from William Dunlop's famous Dunure Mains stud was held on Tuesday, March 6; 47 Clydesdales of both sexes and all ages made the great average of £323 18s. 8d. Ten hired stallions made an average of £677, the highest prices being 960 gs. for Dunure Tower, 900 gs. for Dunure Recollection, and 880 gs. for Dunure Footline. The first is by Revelanta, the second by Baron of Buchlyvie, and third by Dunure Footprint. Altogether Clydesdales are on the crest of a great wave of prosperity and popularity. Prices and terms are ruling high, and the eagerness to hire horses of size and weight for years ahead is unprecedented.

SCOTLAND YET