

commonly throughout Wellington County, Ontario, and apparently did not breed in any other part of Central or Southern Ontario. All through the winter of 1904-5 they had been abundant in flocks of from forty to a hundred and fifty, feeding chiefly on the seeds of the cedar and the yellow birch. Early in April the flocks broke up, and they were generally distributed over the country in pairs and groups of three and four individuals. On April 6th John Allan, jr., saw a pair carrying pigs' bristles from his barnyard at Alma, and on April 7th he saw two pairs carrying nesting material. On April 20th Howard Skales found a nest near Mt. Forest, and on April 25th another nest. From May 7th to June 2nd F. Norman Beattie, Mr. Klink and the writer found a good many nests in the vicinity of Guelph. All the nests were placed in spruce trees. They were composed exteriorly of spruce twigs, grass and grass roots, and lined with wool and an inner lining. The skins were last seen in the county on June 21st.

In the Bruce Peninsula I have seen siskins during many springs until the end of June, but have never found them breeding.

## THE HORSE.

Swine are good in their place, but that place is not near the horses.

If the horse can be excluded from the atmosphere breathed by all other animals, so much the better for the horse.

Do the horses have a salt box in their manger or piece of lump salt they may lick at any time? They will appreciate it, and suit their own taste as to the amount they must consume.

When training the colt this fall do not deprecate it on account of a little nervous temperament. This character, when recognized and discreetly handled, makes for intelligence and stamina in the animal.

The time will soon be here again when lovers of horseflesh and action will have an opportunity to see Canada's winners in various shows brought together. Expositions and winter fairs are a timely conclusion to a season's showing circuit and they hold up to the breeder of young stock, the ideal in male and female. See the best and try and beat them.

### Silage Ration for the Horse.

Many enquiries come to hand regarding horses and silage, but recently considerable information has been circulated through the United States farmers' bulletin No. 556. Whether it is safe to feed silage to horses is a question often asked and it will continue to be asked because, although good silage is excellent for the horse, mouldy or impaired silage is unsafe and fatalities will occasionally occur. In tolerably well-tramped silos little pockets or recesses sometimes exist and mould will establish itself there. If this is watched and rejected no harm results, and a ration for idle or growing stock may well include silage. Horses in active service should not have too much, for the same reason that large quantities of grass are unsuitable, but young colts or idle horses and mares will thrive on 20 lbs. silage and 10 lbs. of hay daily for each 1,000 lbs. live weight. Horses should receive about five lbs. on the start, and increase the amount from time to time as the grain allowance is cut down. If the corn is somewhat immature, with little grain on the cob, one pound old process oil meal ration for each 1,000 lbs. live weight of the animal will tone up the ration.

### Common Fall Ailments of Horses.

(Continued.)

Strangles or distemper is not peculiar to the fall, but is more frequently met with during the late autumn and winter months than in other seasons. It is usually seen in young horses, hence is commonly known as "colt distemper," but may occur in a horse any age, and while most horses suffer from it at some age a few escape. It is an eruptive fever peculiar to the horse and occurs in two forms: First, the most common form called "regular strangles"; second, an irregular form called "irregular strangles." It is due to a specific germ, hence is contagious, but it is often very hard or impossible to determine where a horse received the contagion.

Symptoms.—In the regular form there is general unthriftiness, cough, fever, more or less inability to swallow, a watery discharge from nostrils, they soon become yellow and purulent, swelling between the jaws or of the throat, which is painful, soon becomes soft in the centre and will usually burst and discharge pus in a few days.

The irregular form may appear as a sequel to the regular or may appear primarily, there being the same systemic symptoms, but abscesses form in different parts of the system; abscess after abscess may form in any part of the body, the symptoms presented, and the result depending upon the importance and function of the parts attacked. When abscesses form on the internal organs, their presence can be only suspected and they frequently prove fatal.

Treatment.—Keep patient comfortable in a well-ventilated stall, give soft laxative food, steam the nostrils by holding the head over a pot of boiling water to which has been added a little tincture of benzoin or carbolic acid, apply hot poultices to the throat or rub twice daily with a liniment composed of one part liquor ammonia fortier and three parts each of oil of turpentine and raw linseed oil, and keep wrapped with flannel bandages. Give internally two to four drams of hyposulphite of soda three times daily. If the patient will not eat the drug in damp food, nor drink it in water, place it well back on the tongue with a spoon. Do not attempt to drench as the throat is so sore it is difficult for the animal to swallow, and there would be great danger of graver complications and probably suffocation by the liquid passing down the windpipe. Feed and water out of elevated mangers, as the difficulty in swallowing is increased if the patient has to get the head down. So soon as the abscess or abscesses begin to soften they should be lanced freely to allow all the pus to escape, and then flushed out well twice daily with a five per cent. solution of carbolic acid. In some cases the pus is deep-seated beneath considerable hardened tissue, and if in the throat it may cause labored breathing. In such cases it should be liberated by lancing before it becomes soft, and in some cases there is danger of suffocation unless an operation called tracheotomy be performed. In either case it will be wise to send for a veterinarian, as there are some important blood vessels in this region and it would be dangerous for an amateur to operate, and he could not perform the operation mentioned if required. Many cases of regular strangles do not cause serious symptoms, and recovery takes place in a week or ten days. When convalescence occurs the patient should be well cared for, and well fed and given gentle exercise. In irregular strangles the treatment is practically the same, and when the abscesses are exist in some of the internal cavities it is often visible usually results in recovery, but when they differ. In very rare cases do horses suffer from a second attack.

Influenza is also not peculiarly a fall ailment, but, like strangles, is more frequently met with in the fall and winter than in other seasons. It is an infectious disease due to a specific virus. Changes in conditions, exposure to drafts, etc., in many cases appear to act as exciting causes. It occurs in a stable without appreciable cause, and, in many cases, all the horses in the stable are attacked. One attack does not render immunity from others.

Symptoms.—The early symptoms are much the same as those of strangles, so much the same that it is very hard and sometimes impossible to tell which disease is developing. There is a marked increase in temperature, a cough and nasal discharge, infection of the mucous membranes, sometimes a watery discharge from the eyes, a soreness of the throat with more or less inability to swallow. In some cases the nasal discharge does not take place, but a free discharge is usually looked upon as a favorable symptom. There is frequently an evident soreness of the joints with unwillingness to move; this may or may not be accompanied with swelling of the legs. There is an absence of enlargement between the jaws or on the throat as in strangles. When these swellings do not appear within a couple of days, we may decide that it is a case of influenza. It is seldom that a

horse suffering from this disease will lie down. In fact, in most diseases of the respiratory organs, the animal persists in standing.

Treatment.—The general treatment in the early stages is the same as for strangles. Make comfortable in a well-ventilated stall excluded from drafts. Feed laxative and easily digested food out of a high manger. Give all the cold water he will drink. If legs be stiff or swollen hand rub and bandage them, apply hot poultices or liniment as for strangles, to the throat. Give two drams chlorate of potassium and 30 grains quinine three or four times daily. Give the medicine by a spoon. Do not attempt to drench. If constipation is threatened give one-half to one pint raw linseed oil by the use of a syringe. If the breathing becomes labored or other complications set in, send for a veterinarian promptly. It is a disease that is liable to almost any complication, hence the patient should be carefully watched for fresh symptoms.

Purpura haemorrhagica is a disease that sometimes occurs as a sequel to any of these respiratory troubles after the patient has recovered from the primary disease.

Symptoms.—A few days after convalescence has commenced and the animal is apparently doing well, he will be noticed to be sore and not care to move. An examination will generally reveal a swelling of one or more limbs, and this swelling is characteristic. It will cease suddenly as though a string had been tied around the leg and the swelling could not get any higher. This swelling gradually extends up the limb, but always terminates abruptly. If the skin of the leg be white, little purple spots can be noticed. The head is sometimes involved, and in such cases purple spots can be noticed on the mucous membrane of the nostrils or mouth or both. In a variable time these spots begin to discharge a fluid of a well-marked purple color. The patient will not move unless forced to, and the appetite is more or less impaired. When the nostrils are involved, the swelling and discharge sometimes increase until the patient presents a disgusting appearance, and may die of suffocation.

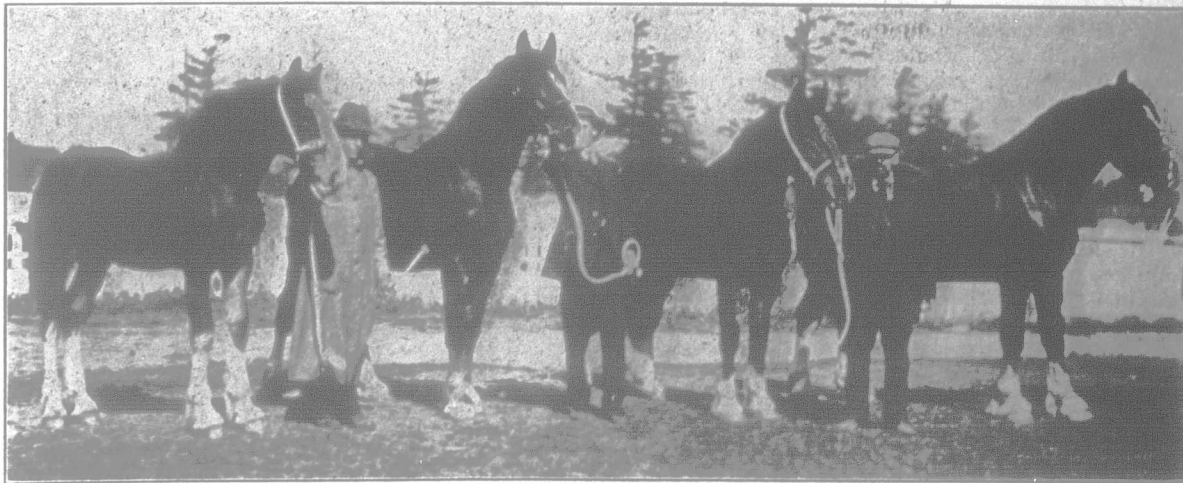
Treatment.—Make comfortable as possible and give one pint raw linseed oil with two ounces of turpentine, and unless the bowels become too lax repeat this dose once daily. If there is danger of purgation, lessen the amount of oil but give the turpentine as above. In addition give three drams of chlorate of potassium three times daily. Medicines can be given as a drench, as there is an absence of soreness of the throat. Keep nostrils well washed out if they become dirty. Feed on laxative feed, and attend to general surroundings. If the case does not yield to treatment it will be wise to send for a veterinarian before it gets too late, as he will give specific treatment that cannot be given by an amateur.

WHIP.

## LIVE STOCK.

### Abortion in Swine.

Cases have been reported from two different breeders which suggest the occasional appearance of infectious abortion among swine in the Northwest. Evidently it is quite rare but may easily spread if it exists, as suspected. One man reports the purchase at a certain fair of a fall yearling gilt. The sow was bred but lost her pigs after about six weeks. She was bred again, and aborted again in a similar period. About six of this man's older and better brood sows developed the same trouble. He believed that the older sows were infected from the boar that had previously served the young sow. The other breeder reported a somewhat similar experience. This item is published with a view to putting breeders on their guard against a possible source of trouble.—M. H. Reynolds, Veterinarian, University Farm, St. Paul.



Four of a Kind.

All prizewinners in the Clydesdale sections at the Western Fair, London, 1913. Shown by R. B. Pinkerton, Essex Co., Ont.