

THE HORSE.

Keep the collar and harness clean; it prevents many sores.

Be on hand when the mare foals but do not interfere unless assistance is necessary.

See that the in foal mare gets some grass; it is a gentle laxative and a good tonic for the digestive system.

Assist the young foal to get the first milk of the dam; it is necessary to start the digestive system of the foal functioning properly.

Use a fly repellent on the horses several times each day. Fighting flies is more wearisome than drawing the implements.

Feed Colts Well to Make Big Horses

Exercise is very necessary for the brood mare right up to foaling time, as it makes parturition more easy, and my belief is that a stronger foal is the result.

Immediately at birth take measures to prevent joint ill, the worst plague of foals, by using a disinfectant. A good treatment is to paint the navel with iodine to kill germs that may happen to be there, then dust with a drying powder daily for a few days. Watch the colt for constipation or diarrhoea. Give castor oil, one tablespoonful, also an injection of warm water, for constipation. Reduce the amount of milk the colt is getting and give it a dose of castor oil, which will remove the matter causing diarrhoea.

The mare and foal should run on pasture when the colt is two days old, and should be brought in at nights off the damp ground for at least two weeks. If the mare is not wanted for work, leave them on the pasture and feed, morning and night, a ration of bran and oats to the mare. At four weeks the colt will show signs of eating, and when brought in off pasture, should be given a box of its own to eat out of. Gradually increase the amount of feed until half a gallon of oats and bran is reached; also provide a little hay.

A colt should not be weaned until four months old, and if it has been getting such feed as is mentioned here it will not be checked in its growth. Weaning should take two weeks at least and then turn him out on pasture with other colts if possible, but not with its mother, for sometimes they will let them suck, and it is very hard to break them of the habit.

Never stop feeding a colt, because that is what makes the horse. When cold weather comes put them in at nights in a roomy, well-bedded box stall. Some people never think of bedding but it is very important.

I disagree with people that advise tying colts up. They should not be tied until the second winter, even though a little harder to handle. Turn them out always if the weather is fit for exercise—Nature's best medicine for growing colts. Give them plenty of clean, fresh water at least three times a day. Oat sheaves at noon, hay at five, and about one-half gallon of whole oats mixed with two handfuls of bran at night, with a big forkful of oat straw. In the morning feed them their ration of grain and some hay.

Try to breed mares in June to have May colts, as green grass is the best feed both for mare and foal.

Man.

C. W. M.

Watch for Navel Ill and Diarrhoea.

To those farmers who are in such a position that they do not require the services of their mares for summer work, little advice need be given, provided, of course, that the mares are in good condition at time of foaling, i.e., neither too fat nor too thin, and that good pasture and water are abundant. In any case, however, a liberal feed of oats to the mare, once or twice a day, to keep up her flesh and stimulate the milk flow, is an added advantage, even though not imperative. The majority of farmers, however, who have only a limited number of horses, and wish to derive the greatest amount of usefulness and profit from them, are obliged to work their brood mares. To my way of thinking, early in June is the ideal time for the average working mare to foal. The rush of seeding is past then, and we should be able to give the mare a few weeks' well-earned rest. The pasture is also at its best then, providing the best milk-producing ration for the mare, as well as providing roughage for the young, growing colt. By all means, give the mare a few days' rest before foaling, and let her run at pasture; it makes an ideal place for the mare to foal in, and the green grass will act on her as a gentle laxative and put her internal organs in good condition for the coming ordeal. Assuming the colt to have been safely born—and it is good practice to be around at foaling time or soon after, in case of possible trouble—the first thing to do is to prevent infection of the navel. If at pasture, trouble is not liable to occur, but if in a stable, treatment is advisable. The navel and surrounding parts may be painted with tincture of iodine, or if it is not available, with oil of tar or a solution of creolin (2 or 3 per cent.). Treatment to be effective should be continued till the navel cord is quite dried up. Secondly, watch for constipation or diarrhoea. If the bowels are not moved, say, before twenty-four hours, give a dose of castor oil, about two tablespoonfuls. The same amount of butter will do if castor oil is not available, and each should be accomplished by a warm water injection. For diarrhoea give the same dose of castor oil and reduce the quantity of milk received.

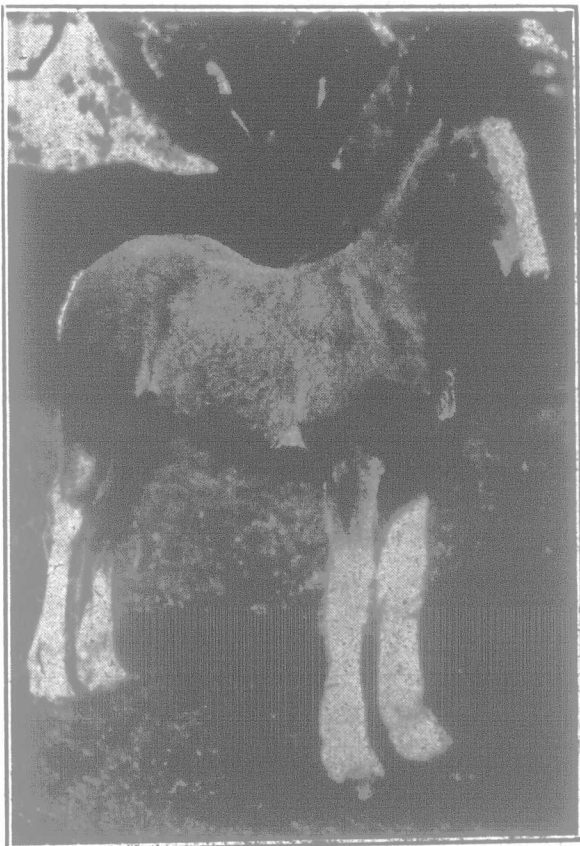
After a few weeks' rest the mare may be put to light work, the colt being kept in a box stall. Make a point

of taking the mare to the colt in the middle of the forenoon and afternoon, whenever possible, for the first few weeks, being careful not to let the colt suck till the mare cools off. Provide an extra large oat box for the mare, and feed her a little extra; the colt will soon learn to feed with her, and her ration may be increased as the colt gets older. Unless absolutely necessary, do not wean the colt until winter sets in, and then wean him gradually. Feed the colt liberally with hay, with a little green sheaf, too, if you have it, and give him a fair amount of oats and bran—two parts of oats to one of bran. Let him suck only twice a day at first, then only once, and gradually accustom him to do without any at all. Liberal feeding of grain will do him no harm, as a colt will seldom eat too much, and if weaned in the above manner, his growth will not be checked very much.

With regard to exercise, let him have an hour or more outside every day, if the weather is not too severe. Inside, let him have the run of a large box stall. Watch carefully for any sign of lice, and treat them to a dose of 5 per cent. creolin if they appear, and if at all possible, don't have him in a stable alone. Company helps to keep him both lively and interested, and if you have colts about his own age, by all means keep them together.

Sask.

H. J. Y.



A Strong, Sturdy Foal.
Indicating good parentage and proper care.

LIVE STOCK.

If you intend exhibiting stock at the fairs this year it is none too early to commence training and fitting it.

Spray the hog pens occasionally with lime and a good disinfectant. This will help keep vermin in check.

Improve the quality of live stock and grain and you greatly increase the value of the returns per acre of the farm.

At McCray's Hereford sale twenty sons of Perfection Fairfax sold for \$149,950, and the herd of 120 head averaged \$2,749.

No matter how good a feeder a man may be he is not the one to look after a herd if he is rough and boisterous with stock.

A record of dates of service, birth and name of sire used is important and should be kept with a grade herd as well as with one that is pure-bred.

The scrub bull never helps anyone to rise on the ladder of successful stock raising. His presence in the herd has a detrimental effect. Boost for better bulls.

We understand that wool growers are standing by their own wool selling and grading organizations. A large amount of wool has already been consigned to the grading station at Guelph.

The cattle usually respond to kindness more readily than to cuss words and a whack from a stick. Keep your temper in check when around stock. Go to the woods if you must give vent to surplus energy.

When purchasing pedigreed stock consider the quality and character of the top bull in the pedigree. Very little of the blood of ancestors below the sixth generation courses in the veins of the individual. Then, why lay so much stress upon the dam ten or twelve generations back and ignore the top bulls?

According to reports, considerably fewer stockers and feeders have been moving to country points in Canada as compared to last year. This may influence the price of finished cattle in the fall.

Holding cattle and hogs after they are finished sometimes reimburses the owner, but in many cases it pays best to sell when the animal is conditioned rather than holding for something better. That higher price may never come.

At a wool sale in Boston recently only twenty-five per cent. of the offerings were placed, and then at ten to twenty per cent. below April sale prices. A combination of conditions is depressing the wool market for the present at least.

Is it profitable to pay five hundred dollars for a bull whose progeny are worth ten dollars apiece more at one year than the progeny of a one-hundred-dollar sire? There is oftentimes more than ten dollars difference in the value of the progeny.

Many men first started on the road to success when they borrowed money to buy good stock. It is much easier to borrow money for breeding stock now than it was a couple of decades ago. What is keeping you from having a better herd of stock?

Young pigs do better in the open than when confined to a small, dirty pen. A few boards in the corner of the paddock to give shade and turn the rain so that the sleeping quarters will be dry, is all the pen needed for the sow and litter during the summer.

The Live-Stock Commissioner informs us that there has been a falling off in exports of cattle to United States during the present year amounting to 63 per cent. as compared with last year. The chief factors influencing this reduction in trade is high costs and interference with the movement of rolling stock on account of strikers.

The present unsettled condition of things the world over is no logical excuse for breeders of pure-breds or commercial stock marking time. Improve the quality and then improve some more. There are altogether too many mediocre animals on Canadian farms, which lose money for their owners, and are a poor advertisement for the industry.

Those attending to stock should remember that attention to details is very important if success is to be attained. The old proverb illustrates this:

"For want of a nail the shoe is lost,
For want of a shoe the horse is lost,
For want of a horse the rider is lost,
For want of the rider the battle is lost."

Just because of a little carelessness many a valuable animal is lost.

The 1920 Wool Situation.

The wartime prices for wool have had a tendency to make sheep owners forget what wool actually sold for in pre-war days, and has spoiled them for the lower prices which they may have to accept for the 1920 clip. Wool dealers are being called in or advised to buy sparingly at prices low enough to play safe. At wool sales, in markets like Boston, the price has been anything but encouraging; in fact, manufacturers have been so reticent about buying that the May sales were disappointing, much of the wool offered not being sold even at prices considerably lower than those paid for April sales. It seems that there is a large surplus of last year's clip on hand, especially of the coarser grades of wool, and now that the present clip is finding its way to the market there is some difficulty in getting what is deemed by the producer to be a reasonable price. It is another case of supply and demand ruling the market. However, with the present price and the minimum amount of wool incorporated in even the high-priced cloth, one would wonder that there would be a surplus of wool on hand. With the cotton crop none too promising, and the price of that commodity soaring, it is but reasonable to expect that a larger percentage of wool will be utilized in clothing material in the near future. While trade as a whole is very dull and listless, and there is no activity such as was shown at this season in other years, one should not become too pessimistic as regards the future of the sheep industry. There is no class of farm stock which can be reared as cheaply or housed as inexpensively as sheep. With mutton at the present price, and wool at figures quoted this spring, the flock is remunerative, although not to the same extent as during the past two years. The stock of last year's clip on hand, and the apparent impossibility of realizing on it at the moment, is one reason for the present state of affairs. Another very potent factor is the tightening of the money market in Canada, United States, and Great Britain. With large loans rather hard to get, and the uncertainty of conditions, men are loath to take a chance on future changes. Some predict that there will be a strengthening in the demand for wool in the course of a few months, although one is not safe in making any predictions in these abnormal times.

It is quite possible that the grower who consigns his wool through his local sheep breeders' association so that it can be held until such time as the market takes on a healthier tone will benefit. Then, too, by selling on a graded basis each grower realizes full value, not only for his flock, but on his effort toward improvement and establishing proper business methods.