

Horticulture and Forestry.

Care of Seedling Apples.

Kindly let me know, through the "Advocate," the proper method of caring for small apple plants. The seeds were sown in May last.

Langenburg, Assa.

J. A. M.

Seedling apple trees sown last May should now be six or eight inches in height, and the average snowfall should be sufficient winter protection for them. In order to ensure the retention of the snow, it would be advisable to spread over the bed a light covering of tree branches, the best time to do this being just previous to freezing up. The seedlings should have been pinched back (that is, the tips removed) a month ago, in order to conduce to the thorough ripening of the wood, otherwise, they will go into winter quarters in a green state, and the chances of successful wintering will be much reduced. They should be left in the seed-bed for at least another year, before planting in permanent location, and two years would be preferable. At the expiration of this period, you will be able to judge of their hardiness, and as to whether it will be worth while to continue their cultivation further. If the seed has been taken indiscriminately from Eastern-grown apples, your chances of success will be slight; in fact, I would not advocate this method as a commencement in apple-growing for Manitoba and the Northwest. The better plan would be to procure some seedlings of the *Pyrus baccata* (the berried crab of Siberia), which makes a thoroughly hardy and reliable stock, and, when these are two years old, root-graft them with scions procured from some of our Manitoba nurserymen, such as Mr. A. P. Stevenson, of Nelson, or H. L. Patmore, of Brandon, from varieties which these men have successfully fruited here. This plan I consider to be the most promising avenue to success in apple-growing in Manitoba and the Northwest.

The *Pyrus baccata* seedlings will be supplied free, on request, from the Experimental Farm, and for the manner of planting an orchard, refer to a previous article of mine in the "Advocate."

HARRY BROWN,
Horticulturist Exp. Farm.

Siberian Crab and Astrachan.

A sample of a new apple obtained from crossing the Siberian crab with the Red Astrachan has been received at this office from the Brandon Experimental Farm. In color they resemble the Astrachan very much, while in size, texture and flavor they are not unlike the Transcendent crab. This is the first year the tree has fruited, and result must be regarded as satisfactory. Evidence continues to multiply that the day is not far distant when Manitoba will have an apple of reasonable size that may be successfully grown.

Questions and Answers.

1st.—Questions asked by bona-fide subscribers to the "Farmer's Advocate" are answered in this department free.

2nd.—Our purpose is to give help in real difficulties; therefore, we reserve the right to discard enquiries not of general interest, or which appear to be asked out of mere curiosity.

3rd.—Questions should be clearly stated and plainly written, on one side of the paper only, and must be accompanied by the full name and address of the writer, as a guarantee of good faith, though the name is not necessarily for publication.

4th.—In veterinary questions, the symptoms especially must be fully and clearly stated, otherwise satisfactory replies cannot be given.

Veterinary.

[Answered by our Veterinary Editor.]

Subscribers are kindly requested to read the conditions at the head of this department before writing or mailing their enquiries.

SWAMP FEVER.

Will you kindly favor me with your advice in the following case: Yearling colt, stabled last winter, but let out often for exercise. Has been running with other horses in pasture all summer. About two weeks ago I noticed him very listless, lagging behind the other horses as they travelled. Brought him in and examined, diagnosing the following symptoms: listlessness; slight cough; pulse full and about 65; temperature rather high; gums and tongue rather pale; slight, hard swelling of the glands between the lower jaws. In other respects he seemed all right; ate and drank well, etc. I have kept him in a good box stall, and am feeding him Herbageum with his oats, of which he gets about a gallon a day. He is in good condition, and out of a light mare from a Percheron horse. His temperature is now about normal, and the color of his tongue and gums is slightly pinker, but in other respects the symptoms remain unchanged. Yours truly,

S. Qu'Appelle, Assa.

DEXTRA.

Ans.—The symptoms you have mentioned are indicative of the so-called "swamp fever." This disease is often observed to be of an intermittent character, there being at times apparent convalescence, and again a relapse. See answer to "A Farmer," in this column.

SWAMP FEVER.

Have examined the mare, along with a healthy one, and find her mouth more of a pinky cast than that of her healthy mate. It appears very dry, as if feverish, and the veins in tongue and under it are very distinct. The under surface of the eyelids are of the same pink cast. She appears to be better able to walk when the weather is cool. You think it is impossible to bring her around again?

Iowalta.

READER.

Ans.—Your mare is evidently suffering from "swamp fever," and the treatment of it is often very unsatisfactory. Give, three times daily, two tablespoonfuls of the following mixture: Fowler's solution of arsenic, fourteen ounces; tincture of ferri. chlor., six ounces; quinine sulphate, two ounces. Have a druggist prepare the prescription.

RHEUMATISM IN MARE.

I have a mare, four years old, that I drove to town, fifteen miles away, and back the same day. Noticed her a little stiff or tender on one front foot when I left town. Next morning she was scarcely able to get out of stall; seems all stiffened up in front legs and feet. Cannot feel much heat anywhere. Looks like founder, only chest has not fallen away. Gave her a good physic, poulticed her feet, and now have her on good grass. Can you prescribe for her?

De Winton, Alta.

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—The case seems to be of a rheumatic nature, but you fail to mention the date on which you drove to town, which would have materially assisted me in diagnosing and prognosing (concluding what to do with) the ailment. Would advise you to place the animal in a comfortable box stall, clothe with blanket, and give, morning and evening, in warm bran mash containing a teaspoonful of flax seed, salicylate of soda, two drams. Continue treatment for two weeks.

BLEEDING FROM NOSE.

My mare seemed to go a little off her feed. After being idle for a couple of days, she bled at the left nostril. A blood clot four inches long and one inch wide formed from the discharge. The clot was thick and liver-colored. In a couple of days the other nostril bled a little, but I do not think there was a great discharge of blood. She had a cough with which she discharged blood. She ceased to eat, and in a couple of days she dropped dead, without a struggle. Two days before, we let her out and she ate grass pretty well. The veterinary surgeon said she must have got a knock on the head at some time. I had the mare three years, and never knew her to get any injury to her head. Can you tell the cause of death?

Swan River, Man.

J. B. Mc.

Ans.—There being no history of any remote, nor any sign of any recent, external injury to the head or any other part, the cause of the hemorrhage was evidently internal. The fact that blood was discharged in coughing would point to the lungs as being the seat of the lesion. From the description of the case, I am disposed to believe that there was a rupture of a blood vessel in connection with the pulmonary apparatus. A post-mortem examination would likely have revealed the cause of death.

ERYSIPELATOUS SORES.

I have a two-year-old colt which was hurt in the off front leg while running in the pasture. I do not know how it was done, but the leg is swollen as large as a stovepipe, and the skin is broken in a dozen places and running pus. The colt eats and drinks well and seems all right in every other respect. Please give cause and treatment.

Binscarth, Man.

SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—The sores on your colt's leg are of an erysipelatous nature. Give two drams hyposulphite of soda in food, morning and night for ten days, and give at noon, for the same period, two drams tincture of iron chloride. Wash the leg well with warm soft water and carbolic soap, dry off and paint the leg as far as the swelling extends with compound tincture of iodine. Repeat the iodine application every three days.

CHOREA IN DOGS

Please let me know through your valuable paper if there is any cure for the following: Scotch collie, one year old, had distemper, and ever since his head keeps up a continual nodding, also seems weak in the front legs, otherwise healthy?

East Selkirk.

E. P. H.

Ans.—This is a form of chorea met with in dogs as a sequel to distemper. There is no "positive cure" for this condition, and treatment to be of any use must be continued for some time. Would advise you to try the following: Give of potassium iodide five grains twice a day, and procure mixture as follows: Fowler's solution of arsenic, tincture nux vomica, of each one ounce; water, six ounces. Give one teaspoonful three times a day.

AILING BULL.

I bought a bull at the College, Guelph, two years old. Bought in January, arrived in Lumsden in June, when the stock was brought up by the Government. On arrival, he seemed very dull and from the first would not feed. Did not seem to care for anything. At first, I gave him a purgative, and then some medicine for indigestion, and he seemed to get a little better. I then turned him on the grass in the daytime, and in the stable at night. I turned him with the cattle about the 15th of July, and after being there a few days he left the cattle and lay in the bush. I took him to the stable and gave him some more medicine for indigestion, and gave him a lot of boiled flax and flax meal. His head commenced to swell and one eye was inflamed and protruded and run water. One morning I found everything near him bloody, and he was then bleeding out of both nostrils in quantities as if an artery had been severed, and continued to bleed for three days, then stopped. The swelling went down a little, and he seemed some better for a few days. He will eat roots, and nothing else. His head is swelled yet and his eye bad, and hangs his head. Would like to hear from you re same. I had an idea there was a gathering in his head, and, on breaking, severed an artery. It seemed like pure blood, no matter or pus being in the discharge. I expected he would bleed to death from the quantity lost. He drinks some—once a day. The front of his head seems as if the frontal bone is pushed out.

SUBSCRIBER FOR THIRTY YEARS.

Lumsden P. O.

Ans.—There is evidently something seriously wrong with your bull, but, even with the fairly full description of the case you have given, it is rather difficult to form an approximately correct opinion as to the true nature of the ailment. It is a case which would require the personal examination of a good veterinarian. The head symptoms in connection with the profuse hemorrhage from the nose are peculiar and might be diagnostic of an external injury, or of some disease of the sinuses of the head or face, which might or might not be removed or relieved by a surgical operation. As your bull is valuable, I would strongly advise you to secure the personal services of a skillful veterinary surgeon.

MARE PUTTING OUT FOAL-BED.

My six-year-old mare had her first foal this spring. She put out what is commonly called the foal-bed. On its being replaced she appeared well at once. She appears healthy, and comes in season regularly. Would it be safe to breed her again, and if so, how long should she go before putting to a horse?

Strathcona, Alta.

"FARMER."

Ans.—The cause of your mare putting out her foal-bed may have been a local one, and it may not occur again. Experience has been very varied in the matter, and most farmers prefer not to risk breeding a mare that has put out her foal-bed in foaling. There are others, however, who treat the matter lightly, and they maintain that there is little danger of a repetition of the trouble. In some mares the cause is a constitutional one, and when that has been shown it would be best both for present and hereditary reasons not to continue breeding her. From your description of your mare's healthy actions we are inclined to think the matter was due to some temporary cause. Should you decide to breed her again, it will be as safe to put her to a horse next spring as at any future time.

ABORTION IN SOWS.

Would you be so kind as to inform me as to what is the cause of my sows losing their pigs about nine or ten weeks after being bred? I have twelve of them, and about nine of them lost their pigs. They all had pigs in April and May (first litters) this spring, and had extra good luck. They were fed for about one month after the pigs were weaned, light, on barley, and let run on the grass, running on two hundred acres of grass; then we quit feeding them altogether, and they got nothing since except grass; but had been getting into the wheat for one week, about one month ago; the wheat at that time was about full, but very soft. Please answer through your valuable paper.

Reston, Man.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—The causes of sporadic abortion among animals are numerous, but in the case of young sows, and in the absence, perhaps, of any other cause, the abortion may be attributed to the eating of immature wheat, especially if it was to some extent ergotized. (Ergot has a peculiar effect upon the uterus or pig-bed, causing an expulsion or throwing out of its contents.) There are several other kinds of food which undoubtedly has a relaxing effect upon the pregnant uterus.

URETHRAL

1. I have a every time he ma feet, switches his were in great pain making his urine got him up this the east. Would of it? He is se the stable all the Could you give saddle horse?

Lamerton, Alta.

Ans.—1. The i by a calculus, wh and become lodge case, relief can o which, owing to of the bull, is oft sible that the cal be expelled throu advise giving, n weeks, in drinking acid, one ounce.

2. Firing and ment.

1. I have a h cough, mostly wh 2. Another, ni charges at nostril sound in head wh ing about a year.

Ans.—1. You o stated case has b month or so, try morning and even been coughing for give one dram of same length of ti

2. Case No. 2 called nasal glee tedious. Give hi of sulphate of co Keep the nostrils in a well-ventilate times caused by teeth examined, a have them remove

Calf about four Sometimes it will and at other times thin.

Ans.—The call ness of the digest curable disease or able it will live. sulphate of iron a as a drench, night milk it drinks abo

STEAM ENGINEER

1. I am a steam Dakota, where eng consequently I ha take to secure a l west Territories? pert work, such a license?

2. Can any ro allowance and lai being taken from farmers without a permit from the G Red Deer, Alta.

Ans.—1. Exam steam engineers a direction of the Regina, from who tained. Good eng generally little dif examination.

2. We do not q by the road allo line. No one h regular road allow cil.

DRIVING

Would you kindl piece of land (quar right to drive off l on the full run son is the landowner l the cattle? State Edmonton, Alta.

Ans.—The owner the right to drive great distance beyo also be liable for the cattle.

Where can maps Wyndall, Minn.

Ans. Write the migration, Winnipe