

tact will depend upon which articulation is ankylosed.

Treatment for this trouble depends upon the progress the disease has made when treatment commences. If before alteration of structure has occurred, rest and hot poultices or fomentations, with cooling lotions, as one composed of one ounce each, sulphate of zinc and acetate of lead to a pint of water, will usually succeed in allaying the inflammation and effecting a cure; but if the disease has reached that stage in which the articular cartilage has become destroyed, it is not possible to effect a perfect cure, as this structure cannot be reproduced, and treatment must be directed to hasten on the process of ankylosis. This is done by counter-irritation, either by blistering or the actual cautery followed by blistering. The latter is the most satisfactory, but should be employed only by a veterinarian. In the meantime the animal must have rest, else the whole joint may become involved. It is usually necessary to give at least two months perfect rest, longer if possible.

I will speak of other bone diseases in future issues. "WHIP."

Stock.

The Ranching Outlook.

Prominent among the subjects for comment in the agricultural press of late has been the outlook for the rancher on the plains of our great Northwest. Speaking from the standpoint of a resident of the rich and thriving territory of Assiniboia, I venture the assertion that there is not only room for extensive development in the range industries already established in this portion of the West, but a sound prospect of profitable business for a large number of newcomers into the ranching field.

Instances are sometimes cited, to the detriment of this most important branch of agriculture, where the rancher is being crowded back from his former grazing grounds on the prairie by the grain and mixed farmer and compelled to take refuge, as it were, in the nearest hills. True, there have been cases where the rancher, for the sake of convenience or for some temporary reason, has grazed his herd in and around the sloughs adjoining wheat land, and in some of these cases he has had to retire before the steady advance of the plow and the steady sweeps of the self-binder. True, also, that he repaired with his herd into the hills. But he would surely not have been a rancher worthy of the name had he erected his shack and corral anywhere but in close proximity to those very hills.

Easterners there are, and others also, who seem to labor under the impression that this vast

Western prairie is one level, unbroken wheat field. Others, who have crossed the wide belt and have seen the numerous ranges of rolling, gravelly, and sometimes stony, hills and miniature mountains which here and there break across the level expanse, are apt to look upon these districts as being a huge amount of territory useless except as a means of increasing the business of the transportation companies. Yet, often, concealed in the hollows among these barren-looking hills can be found some of the best-bred, largest, fattest, sleekest and most profitably-raised herds of horses, cattle and sheep in the world.

While it would be useless for the rancher to attempt to hold wheat land against the advance of the wheat farmer, so would it be utter nonsense for us to think of the wheat farmer driving the rancher out of business by invading his birthright, the hills. While fertile spots are not unknown, yet wheat could not be grown in sufficient quantities in or transported with sufficient ease from the hill districts to make it a paying venture. But down among the gravelly, round-topped peaks are thousands of little fertile "sloughs," which in dry seasons are filled with water in the larger ones and with tall, rank grass in the smaller ones, and in wet seasons with water in nearly all, while an almost unlimited supply of "prairie wool" grows on the hills around them. Year after year, millions upon millions of tons of these nutritious fodders grow up, wither and lie down to rot on the hundreds of thousands of acres of unoccupied ranch land in these Territories; yet, prospective ranchers hesitate to launch into the business for fear of being "crowded out" in the near future by the man with the plow.

Sufficient has been said by competent writers on the subject to prove what large profits can be reaped from this branch of agriculture in the West, and it remains for the prospective rancher to load his cars and direct his course to the ranch country without delay, the sooner to appropriate the large and certain revenue which awaits him in the hill districts of our great Canadian Northwest.

Assiniboia.

CHAS. J. GREEN.

A Heavy Crop of Lambs.

Mr. W. A. Treewecke, an English breeder of Oxford Down sheep, reports, in the Live Stock Journal, the following remarkable fall of lambs from the first 100 ewes in his flock having lambed this winter, viz., 194 lambs from the 100 ewes, made up as follows: 9 triplets, 76 twins, 15 singles, one ewe had three dead lambs, two others had two each, and five lambs have since died from different causes, two ewes have died since lambing. With the 98 ewes there stands to-day 182 lambs, as follows: 5 triplets, 74 twins, 19 singles. The ewes are all in very fine condition with plenty of milk, and both ewes and lambs are doing first-rate. So far not a gallon of cow's milk altogether has been used.

The Range Steer Experiment.

Readers of the "Farmer's Advocate" who are engaged in ranching may be interested in the progress that is being made by the range steers which were sent from the Territories to Ontario to be fattened and prepared for the spring market. These steers, 24 in number, were sent east last December and exhibited at the Guelph Fat Stock Show, where many commented upon their lack of quality and poor condition, and said that they would never do well as feeders. However, the steers at the time had just come off the train and could not be expected to compare favorably with the best Ontario stockers.

It was arranged that ten should be fed at the Experimental stables at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, and the remaining fourteen by Major Hood, a cattle feeder about two miles north-west of the city. However, in removing the animals from the Fat Stock Show building to the Ontario Agricultural College, one of them managed to get away and had to be shot and butchered. The remaining nine were safely stabled, five running loose in one pen and four in another. At first they seemed somewhat averse to eating much, and for some time made very little gain. They got nothing but hay for a couple of weeks. Then they were given some pulped roots, and later on meal was added to their diet. Thus, by degrees, these wild range steers were taught to eat and relish stable food. The five are now apportioned 60 pounds of hay, 80 pounds turnips and 20 pounds of meal per day, while the four in the other pen get 50 pounds of hay, 75 pounds of turnips and 16 pounds of meal per day. Their average weight on the market scales in Guelph last December was about 975 pounds, but their gains are not known, as they are rather too wild to admit of regular weighing. However, judging from appearances, they have done as well as ordinary Ontario steers would do since the beginning of the year. Some of them are rather rough-looking, and not of the build desired by feeders, but taking them on the whole, their general conformation is good.

There are some points which are detrimental to their progress as feeders, and which it seems could be overcome. For instance, they should be taught to eat some meal before being shut in a stable. Then, again, they should all be dehorned before leaving the ranges, because in any bunch of steers there are always two or three which persist in knocking the others around and cheating them out of their share of feed. With more attention to these points, and care in selecting the steers, it is thought that it will pay to finish the range steers in the Eastern Provinces and make them of export quality. However, when this experiment is completed we will know more definitely regarding the success of such a business.

Agricultural College, Guelph.

A. J. H.

Profit in Hogs.

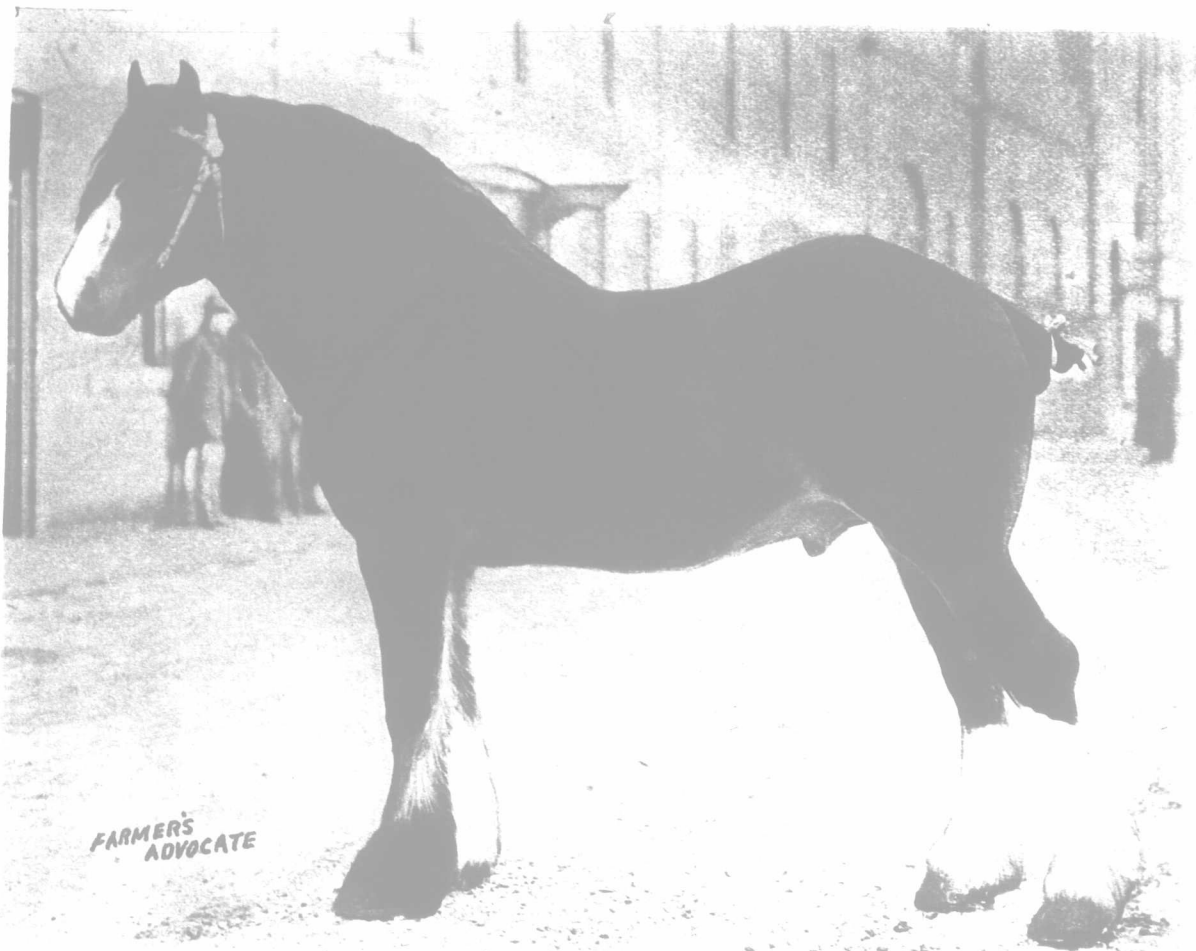
It is very evident that all farmers of the West are not fully awake to their privileges, when our packing-houses have to bring in hogs from the East to keep them running. Many farmers have gone in extensively for hog-raising, but it is surprising how many have "no use for hogs," especially when we consider the remuneration which hog-raising offers. It has been the experience of many successful farmers, with whom wheat has been a specialty, to find hogs more profitable than cattle. Where wheat is the main product of the farm, cattle are kept on a plot of land for pasture. This after a time becomes run out. Cattle will not do well unless some provision is made for renewing their pasture from year to year.

Hogs, while they require fresh pasture from time to time, do not need such a large acreage. They require less labor and less room for winter quarters than cattle. They mature in seven or eight months, therefore there is less risk connected with them. Pigs that are farrowed in April, if properly handled, may be marketed at 200 pounds without having any more expensive accommodation than a cheap outhouse or shed shelter.

Farmers who have poor luck with pigs are usually those who think they have done all that is necessary when they have thrown them enough chop to stop their squealing. But it is care in the details of management that brings the profit. The sow should be prepared for nursing the little fellows before they are farrowed. She should have room for exercise, to keep her in a healthy condition, and should get a liberal allowance of bran, so that she will have a good supply of milk. Points of prime importance after farrowing until maturity are: Selection of feed to suit stage of development; care in not over-feeding; regularity in feeding; good supply of pure water; no sour swill; cleanliness in accommodation; plenty of sunlight and good ventilation in piggeries; good pasture and room for exercising. Care in these details of management add little or nothing to the expense, and add everything to the profits.

Mackenzie, Man.

C. L. S.



LORD ABERDEEN [2616].

Clydesdale stallion, 5 years old. Winner of second prize in Canadian bred class, Spring Stallion Show, Toronto, 1903. Sire Hurworth (imp.) [240]; dam by Hard Times (imp.) [1169]; grandam by Spot-man (imp.); great-grandam by Netherby (imp.).

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