

Things Worth Knowing.

A.—Keep horses shoulders well by carefully fitting the collar, and hardening the skin gradually to the pressure of the collar. After a winter's comparative idleness, the shoulders are naturally tender and will not stand the pressure of severe work unless hardened to it. This may be accomplished by giving a little collar work for this purpose a few days before regular hard work begins. Also by bathing the shoulders with an astringent lotion, such as two drachms of tannic acid dissolved in a pint of water. This is applied to the shoulder twice a day when the collar is taken off and toughens the skin considerably.

Q.—My horse at the commencement of hard work has a puff or swelling just above the point of the shoulder, no matter how I arrange the draft. The puff, as it increases in size, throws out a fluid matter, which sticks to the sweat pad, which in turn irritates the swelling. In winter can be felt under the skin, just like a rough spot.

A.—Apply the following lotion frequently :—Sulphate of zinc, one ounce ; acetate of lead, one ounce ; soft water, forty ounces (1 quart). Wet the part with this immediately after work.

Q.—Horse had sore shoulder, but is healed, leaving a small lump. Can it be taken out by blistering, or will it be necessary to have it cut out by a veterinary surgeon ?

A.—This is a case for surgical interference. Such callous enlargements of the shoulder can only be removed by the knife.

Q.—Large soft swelling came on point of mare's shoulder some time ago. I opened it at bottom and a quantity of thin watery blood came out. I kept it open over a week and syringed with weak carbolic and then let it heal, keeping it greased. It has left a hard lump (as hard as bone). Edge of sweat pad just covers it and does not appear to interfere with her drawing a load.

A.—External remedies are generally useless in such a case and the growth must be removed with the knife. Unless the swelling is where the pressure of the collar will not reach it you are sure to have trouble from it when hard work begins.

Dislocation of Patella.—Stifle Lameness.—In front of the stifle joint there is a small bone called the patella, which corresponds to the knee-cap of man. It moves freely up and down in front of the stifle joint when the leg is flexed and extended, but its movements from side to side are limited by the ligaments which bind it to the other bones. In spite of the strength of these ligaments the patella may become dislocated in either of two directions. The inner ligament may become ruptured or stretched and allow the patella to become dislocated outwards, or else the contraction of the muscle which draws the patella upwards may be excessive, and the bone is carried above its usual position and becomes fixed upon the upper edge of the condyles of the femur. In both these positions of the patella the leg becomes stiff and the animal is unable to bend it until the bone returns to its place. Frequently a sudden movement of the horse is suffi-