

back of hive is 2 inches higher than the front. I like the back of the brood chamber raised by means of two blocks $\frac{3}{4}$ inch from the bottom board, giving a current of air through the hive. A warm cushion should be placed on top of each hive, especially the top and bottom row. Strong colonies so placed I like to winter at a cellar temperature of 42—perhaps even a lower temperature will answer. If no cushions are used, if the colonies are weak or the bank a clay bank with more moisture, I would raise the temperature some. Note, I keep a thermometer in each cellar, suspended about midway from ceiling to floor, and midway between the fresh-air and foul-air pipe. All these points are important for comparison, but to discuss the question with profit we must get the condition and then compare, and let us not be content with what we should not be content with, and delude ourselves with believing we are doing the best when we are not.

When a man loses in winter a colony with a queen and plenty of good stores, there is something wrong. Many a man gets no honey-flow, because the bees wintered so poorly they could not take advantage of the flow that came, especially early clover or a blossom which stands in a relative position.

In the house above the cellar I have a comb-honey room, a room for extracted honey, and a room for store combs and hives. The first and last are almost air-tight, and can be fumigated. Then there is the workshop.

There are, of course, other conditions, such as good stores, the strain of bees, size of brood-chamber in proportion to the number of bees, etc., which influence wintering, but I have not time to enter into those questions now.—Gleanings in Bee Culture.

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.

DISLOCATION OF THE PATELLA.

Last August I bought a four-year-old mare, apparently sound. No one has noticed anything wrong. The seller told me that she stocked in hind legs; this continued until the weather got cold, and then disappeared. I noticed from the first that when moving in the stall in the morning her hind ankles would crack, and she also had difficulty in lifting her feet off the floor. I gave her a box stall and have not noticed such symptoms since. When going straight ahead or on the roads there is no trouble. J. E. B. Huntingdon Co., Que.

Ans.—The cracking sound mentioned is not in the ankle, but in the stifle joint. If, when she has this trouble, you place your hand upon the stifle of the affected leg and force her to move, you will feel the bone slip into its place and hear the click at the same time. I infer, from what you say, that both legs are affected. The patella (stifle bone, corresponding to the knee-cap in man) becomes dislocated. When out of place she cannot raise her foot, but the muscular tension caused by her endeavor to move forces the bone into place and she will go sound as long as she is kept moving straight away, but if she stands or is turned around in a short space the displacement is liable to recur. It is not probable that she will be troubled much while in a box stall or at large. You had better give her a long rest in a box stall and blister the inside and front of the joint, or joints, if both limbs suffer, every three or four weeks for four or five times. J. H. REED, V. S.

COLT WITH ENLARGED HOCK.

A yearling colt got kicked on the hock six weeks ago. Our veterinarian gave a bottle of dressing and said it would heal, but a permanent blemish would remain. The wound is healed, but a swelling remains. It is not lame, but rather stiff. E. H. M. Durham Co., Ont.

Ans.—It is probable your veterinarian was quite right in saying there would be a permanent blemish. Enlargements of this nature are very hard to reduce. You may get benefit by using the following: Iodine crystals, 4 drs.; iodide of potassium, 2 drs.; glycerine, 4 ozs.; alcohol, 4 ozs. Rub a little of the liquid into the enlargement with smart friction, once daily. You will require a great deal of patience and it will probably be some weeks before you can notice any improvement, but if you continue you will succeed in reducing the enlargement and possibly in entirely dissipating it. J. H. REED, V. S.

MAMMITS IN COW.

I have a Jersey heifer, two years old last February, came in about a week before she was two years old; milked splendidly. Early in June she came from pasture with the left forward quarter of her udder badly caked clear down into teat. We finally reduced the swelling, but udder would cake once in a while during summer. Did not use any more milk from that teat and dried it up. There was a small bunch came in teat, but got that well cleaned out. Used to use a milk tube and kept teat well cleaned out. She just came in to-day and that quarter again swollen up and teat very hard to milk. We did, once in a while, when cleaning out that teat, get a little heavy matter (sort of white clum's), and until now the passage has been quite clear. Please advise me through paper as quickly as you can what to do and what you call the trouble, and if I can save teat? Other teats are all right. N. Y. State. F. M. JOHNSON.

Ans.—Your cow has mammitis (inflammation of the udder) in one quarter. This often occurs when the gland becomes active at parturition, and may occur during any period of lactation. The fact that she had a previous attack and that the gland had not quite recovered its normal condition predisposed to the present attack. Feed her on dry food; do not give anything that encourages the secretion of milk. Purge her by giving 1½ lbs. Epsom salts dissolved in a quart of warm water, and follow up with 3 drams nitrate of potash three times daily. Bathe the affected quarter often and long with warm water, exclude drafts, and after bathing rub well with camphorated oil, by adding 1 ounce gum camphor to 1 pint sweet oil in a jar, then put the jar in a hot-water bath until the camphor dissolves. Draw all the fluid you can get from the teat four or five times daily. If a growth comes in the duct and you cannot draw the fluid, you will have to get a veterinarian to operate. If, after inflammation subsides, there be an enlargement of the quarter, rub well with the following liniment twice daily: Iodide of ammonium, 1 ounce; tincture of iodine, 1 ounce; alcohol, 1 pint. J. H. REED, V. S.

CHRONIC LAMINITIS IN MARE.

I bought a nice year-old mare about two years ago. She went tender in off fore foot. My veterinarian said she was a short stepper, but an examination revealed a corn, which has since disappeared. She is still lame, the leg does not swell; the hoof is dry and hard. She sets it out in front sometimes, but usually stands all right. She steps very short and tries to set the heel down first. She is in good condition. O. K. Prince Edward Co., Ont.

Ans.—Your mare has chronic laminitis (founder) and a cure cannot be effected. If you observe the feet closely, you will probably observe that this foot is smaller than its fellow, and also that the wall is uneven or ridgy. The symptoms can be relieved by repeatedly blistering the coronet (that is, the skin just above the hoof, all around). This, of course, would necessitate rest. If you cannot give her rest, you can help the symptoms by poulticing the foot with boiled turnips or linseed meal, or standing in a tub of water for a few hours daily, and getting her shod with a rubber pad such as all good horseshoers should have in stock. If you cannot get the pads, have her shod with a bar shoe giving good frog pressure. The lameness can be removed by the removal of a portion of the nerves of the leg. This operation is called neurotomy, and none but an expert can perform it. It removes the lameness, but does not cure the disease, and, as it is liable to be followed by untoward results, it is better to not operate unless the mare be practically useless from lameness. J. H. REED, V. S.

COMMENCING TO BREED AN OLD MARE.

We have a thirteen-year-old mare by a French stallion, out of a Clydesdale mare. Do you think it would be safe to breed her to a Clydesdale? She has never been bred. Some tell me it is unsafe to start to breed her at that age, while others say it is quite safe. C. D. Ontario Co., Ont.

Ans.—There is a certain amount of risk to be taken by a person who breeds any mare; that risk may be slightly greater when the mare is old and has never bred. My experience has not taught me that age makes a noticeable difference in such cases. I have a favorite mare, now twenty-six years old, and she produced her first foal, without difficulty, at seventeen years of age, and produced in the same manner afterwards every time I bred her. I would have no hesitation in breeding your mare, and certainly would select a good Clydesdale for the sire, but, of course, you must remember that her age is not in her favor and you must assume the ordinary risks of a breeder. J. H. REED, V. S.

CAPPED HOCKS—TONGUE-LOLLER.

About a month ago a two-year-old colt hurt the caps of its hocks. They are swollen, but she is not lame. What will make a horse keep his tongue in his mouth while driving? A. M. F.

Ans.—If the swellings mentioned contain any considerable quantities of fluid, an operation by a veterinarian will be necessary. If little or no fluid be present, blister the parts once every month in the ordinary way until they regain their normal size. This condition is usually caused by the animal kicking and knocking the points of the hocks against the stall. Of course, the cause must be removed else a cure cannot be effected.

You can purchase a bit especially constructed for tongue-lollers in any well-equipped harness shop. No other treatment will be effective.

J. H. REED, V. S.

CALF WITH A COUGH.

I have a Shorthorn calf three months old. When three weeks old I noticed him breathing fast, and he refused nourishment. I gave him ginger, oil of peppermint and whiskey. Next day he appeared all right. In a couple of days he began to cough and breathe heavy again. I gave him two tablespoonfuls of salts, with a little ginger; the symptoms continued at intervals for several days, and he did not nurse well. In the meantime, I gave him ginger and whiskey, also a teaspoonful of oil of tar once daily. He breathes naturally now, but his cough is no better. He runs in a box stall with other calves, and is well fed. His dam is in good condition, and gets nothing but wholesome food and water. G. C. Simcoe Co.

Ans.—The symptoms given indicate tuberculosis. I cannot say for certain that he is affected, but advise you to have him tested with tuberculin, and if he react it would be well to destroy him, as, if the disease is causing a cough at this age, it is dangerous to have him with other cattle, and he will probably not live to adulthood. It may be he simply has a chronic cough. The test will decide this, and if so, a blister applied to the throat will help him, and it is probable the trouble will disappear when the weather becomes fine and he gets on grass. J. H. REED, V. S.

FETLOCK ENLARGED FROM INTERFERING.

I have just purchased a ten-year-old mare with right hind fetlock enlarged, as the result of interfering. She has been carefully shod lately, and now goes without striking. There is a scab on the swelling, and a small windgall on the opposite side of the leg. S. B. H. N. B.

Ans.—Enlargements of this nature and windgalls are very hard to reduce. It is probable they will never cause lameness, and unless she is a valuable animal and you are very anxious to have her clean, I would advise you to leave her alone. I presume you are not very particular about bunches of this kind, else you would not have bought her. Long rest and repeated blistering will reduce the lumps. If you cannot give her rest, rub a little of the following liniment into the parts once daily with smart friction: Iodine crystals, 6 drs.; iodide of ammonia, 1 oz.; iodide of potassium, 3 drs.; glycerine, 6 ozs.; alcohol, 6 ozs. J. H. REED, V. S.

IRREGULAR STRANGLES.

I had a year-old colt, which took strangles about 12th of January. He gathered under the jaws, which I poulticed and afterwards lanced. It soon healed up and he regained his appetite, but did not recover his spirits. About 12th of February his appetite again failed and on 17th he refused to eat. I gave him a dose of physic. He seemed very thirsty; I gave him water in moderate quantities and often. He died on 20th. On opening him, found an abscess on bowels, near kidneys, about size of quart. 1. Was this abscess caused from strangles? 2. Are abscesses liable to form in any part of body, and if so, can anything be done when forming internally? 3. What treatment would you recommend for strangles? Lanark Co., Ont. SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—1. The abscess was the result of strangles. This disease is of two forms: 1st, regular strangles; 2nd, irregular strangles.

2. In irregular strangles an abscess or abscesses may form in any part, and if they involve an important internal organ, death will be the result. The presence of these can only be suspected, and if known, nothing could be done.

3. Treatment for strangles consists in good care, steaming the nostrils, poulticing or blistering abscesses that are forming and opening when pus has formed. Antiseptics, as hyposulphite of soda, in 2- or 3-dram doses, should be given three times daily, and, of course, all complications must be treated according to symptoms. J. H. REED, V. S.

DOSE FOR A SOW.

Would 2 drams ($\frac{1}{2}$ oz.) nux vomica be too large a dose for a large sow? Leeds Co. SUBSCRIBER.

Ans.—One dram, either in the form of powder or tincture, would be a sufficient single dose.