

PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

On no account should the body of an animal which has died of anthrax be opened or skinned. If the blood is confined within the body, and discharges from the natural openings prevented by plugging them with tow saturated with a 20 per cent solution of carbolic acid, and the carcass carried, not dragged, to the place prepared for burning it, no infection can take place from it. As a precautionary measure, however, the stall and surroundings where the death occurred should be thoroughly disinfected, as well as the cart or wagon which it has been carried in.

By all means burn the carcass—and bury the ashes deeply with lime. Just think of the risks that are run by any carelessness in dealing with a carcass from which millions of millions of infective spores may be given off, and in some way reach the surface years after to infect and destroy cattle, sheep, swine and horses, and enormously reduce the value of the farm. Some authors state that horses are not particularly susceptible, but such is not our experience in Canada, for in nearly every outbreak we have had to deal with, horses have died from it, as well as cattle and sheep.

IMMUNIZATION AGAINST ANTHRAX INFECTION.

The method of vaccination by an attenuated virus as a preventive of anthrax, discovered by Pasteur, has been extensively employed, especially in France and Russia, for many years, and for some years back in the United States and Canada. So long as the vaccine could not be obtained within a few days of being manufactured, its use was found to be impracticable, as it will not keep long under any conditions, and deaths have been produced by using vaccine when too long kept, or where it has been carelessly prepared and tested. Two cultures of different degrees of virulence are used, Vaccine No. 1 kills mice, but not guinea pigs; Vaccine No. 2 kills guinea pigs, but not rabbits.

The sheep, cattle, swine or horses to be inoculated are given by subcutaneous injection a dose of No. 1 Vaccine, and in 12 days thereafter a dose of No. 2.

Protective lymphs are supplied by the manufacturers, the Pasteur Institute, Chicago, and Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co., Walkerville, Ont. Printed directions are given with these.

During the past summer protective inoculation has been extensively employed with satisfactory results in several outbreaks, both in the east and west; fourteen thousand sheep on one ranch having been inoculated by officers of the department.

The vaccination, however, should not be undertaken by any inexperienced person, and on no account should old or doubtful lymph be used.