

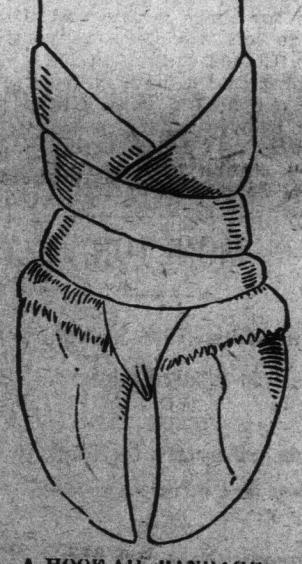
ANIMAL DISEASES.

A Common One is Inflammation of the Feet in Cattle.

This disease is commonly known as hoof-itch, by the old farmers, and while it is a simple disorder, it may be prevented or cured, at times it causes apprehension lest it might be an indication of a more serious disease. It consists of inflammation of the skin between the claws, and the hoof, accompanied often by raw sores and purulent discharge, thus giving rise to the fear of what is known in Europe, but is happily unknown on this side of the ocean, as the foot of the horn is not on the carapace of the animal, or on the carapace of the skin.

It is quite possible that this less serious disorder may be contagious when the discharge comes in contact with the feet of cattle softened by standing in mud, or passing through muddy land, or sewage, or gullies, by which the ailment is produced.

The causes are as above mentioned, but most frequently they are present in



A HOOF-ITCH BANDAGE.

filthy stables in which the manure gathers, and the animals are constantly standing in the acrid liquid of the fermenting manure. This quickly produces, first, irritation of the skin, then leads to chafing of the sores, which spreads all over the inner parts of the hoof, in the condition; milking cows fall in milk, and the calves die as well.

The symptoms are as follows: in the shaking of the feet, in lameness and a general feverish condition, the cows are drawn to the sides, and the animal stands on its hind legs, and the animal grinds its teeth. The feet are sore, and when attention is drawn to them, the condition of the inner parts are found to be raw and small blisters are discovered on the edges of the claws, where the thick skin joins the horn of the outer hoof.

The treatment is, first, to thoroughly wash the feet with warm water and soap-suds, after which the sores are dressed with a liniment consisting of vaseline, two ounces of turpentine, one ounce of copper, and one ounce of resinous extract of copper. The pitch and vaseline are melted, the turpentine is washed off with the copper acetate common vinegar, and the sores are thoroughly minned with the warm melted pitch and vaseline. This is applied to the diseased parts of the foot upon the application of which it is held in place by a bandage passed between the claws and fastened around the leg above the hoof, by a few stitches being taken, as shown. It is advisable to give the animal a portion of Epsom salts dissolved in any suitable liquid, and this may be repeated the second day. The feed should be soft, cooking mashes, as of bran and linseed, until the feet are dried.

To prevent this annoying trouble the stable should be kept clean and dry, the yards should be well drained, and cattle should not be pastured on soft, muddy swamps.

Dairy Notes.

Each year it seems that a large number of dairymen and farmers are beginning to believe that it is better to have their cows or a part of them come fresh in the autumn, and to give them their ration or dry season before calving, in the hottest months of the year. The results are most likely to suffer, and when attention is drawn to the condition the inner parts are found to be raw and small blisters are discovered on the edges of the claws, where the thick skin joins the horn of the outer hoof.

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The Peacock at Home.

The real home of the peacock or peahen is in India. There they are hunted, and their flesh is used for food. As these birds live in the same region as the tiger, peacock hunting is very dangerous sport. The long train of the peacock is said to tail as far as suppose, but is composed of feathers which grow out just above the tail, and are called the tail covers. Peacocks have been known for many hundred years to be raised in England. Job mentions them, and they are mentioned, too, in I. Kings, 10. Hundreds of years ago in Rome many thousand peacocks were killed for the great feasts which the Emperor made. The brains of the peacock were considered a great treat, and many had to be killed for a single feast.

At this season the early-hatched male cock will begin to make themselves of themselves among the flock by paying undeserved attention to the older poults, and to the hens, which at this season ought to be moulting and preparing for winter. Most of the young male cockerels, retaining only those desired for use next season, and keeping these in a yard by themselves, will therefore, be entirely for the advantage of the flocks. What is more to the point is that the cockerels killed now and sold for a broiler will usually bring a higher price than later in the season, when there is always a glut of poultry on the market.

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HIDEBOUND.

One of the Many Aliments to Which Farm Animals are Subject.

The skin is one of the most important excretory organs of animals for it is the fact that there is a large quantity of waste matter passing through the skin of an animal, and through the bowels, and yet very little thought is given to the functions and action of this part of it. The perspiration, as we know, from the skin, consists of a waste derived from the blood through that closely netted system of veins known as the capillaries, or the invisibly fine network of minute hair-like vessels which connect the arteries with the veins and closely is interwoven in the skin. The point of the finest needle may not enter the skin without wounding one or more of these pores, and thus drawing blood from the vessels, and this drawing blood from the vessels is the cause of the loss of blood by innumerable pores or openings through which this discharge is excreted.

These pores are so small that from four to six hundred thousand of them are contained in the skin of a man, and every moment these pores are passing from the capillaries the waste matter of the blood, the retention of which would cause disease of various serious kinds.

In the case of the animal, however, the skin it must be mentioned that the stoppage of this excretion produces various pestilential fevers, such as typhus, and that these serious diseases may be caused by the destruction of the perspiration, by which means the animal's perspiration is discharged as to be plainly detected by the odor of it outside of the house in which the patient may be lying.

In the case of the animal, the action of the skin is immediately detected by the condition of the coat. This is raised, staves as it is termed, it becomes harsh and dry, and that the coat of the oil matter is secreted by the skin in this harsh condition, and it is shrunken and hard for want of the natural means of cooling the system by the escape of the heat of the body when it is in excess. In the condition of the skin it is given the explosive term hidebound.

The Country Gentleman in reply says: Usually it is not a good plan to keep

A COMBINED HOUSE.

In Which to Keep the Sheep, the Swine and the Farm Poultry.

J. A. M., of Prince Edward Island writes as follows to The Country Gentleman: I frequently see inquiries about farm buildings, and convenient plans for the same, and in your paper. Would you give me a plan, etc., in their convenient location of, swine, sheep and poultry houses—the swine-house sufficient to house 5 breeding sows, the sheep-house to house 20 breeding ewes,

the farm-poultry house to accommodate 100 fowls, chiefy for laying, with yards for the sheep, swine, poultry, etc., a boiling-house, convenient for boiling roots for the swine, and convenient also to feed the boiled roots to the hens? I do not know that I should require a root-cellier, as the hens could accommodate 1500 bushels of grain, and, as far as I am concerned, there is no room for a root-cellier.

I suppose the cost of a people may be the best measure of the expense on the subject considered. Now, sir, to this effect, it is hard to understand how two local farmers can have different ideas as to the cost of a building, and hold opinions so widely different on the subject.

The New Brunswick farmer says emphatically it does not pay to raise wheat. At least, he has not done so for a long time ago. The Island farmer says perhaps just as emphatically the opposite is true.

I suppose that there was a time when the provision of the oil matter was to be very much more difficult than it is now.

The Country Gentleman in reply says:

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END ELEVATIONS.

PLAN-S. S. S. Apartments for Swine, each about 8 feet square. H. H. H. Rooms for Sheep.

Hens and swine never together, but if the yard fence between the swine and poultry is well made and the poultry-house walls are well made and are sprayed with lime, there is no reason why the hens should not be allowed to run out during the winter months, ample room should be provided for them to take exercise under cover.

The pens should be 10 feet long and 20 feet wide. This gives the hens a space of over 200 square feet, and this space should be divided

Combined Stockyard and Manger.

With great pleasure I have in hand a copy of a bright and happy sketch for a worth, for feeding purposes, quite as much as overripe clover, or timothy hay, and, pound for pound, worth fully half as much as good hay. Hence, I should say, the value of straw is in direct proportion to the value of the straw, which animals without shelter, by which animals not well nourished and devoid of the healthy warmth due to a good supply of food cannot maintain the requisite temperature of the body.

The symptoms are a tightly drawn skin, the hair stands on end, it loses its healthy glistening appearance and is dull and rough. The animal shivers, stands with the head down, and draws together with the back arched and the ribs and spine visible. The function of respiration is impeded, the heart and lungs are affected, the pulse is weak and irregular, the animal's appetite is weak and easily satisfied, craving cold stuff which it will not eat.

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