

Get a guid heavy clay or black loam and ye'll be a'richt. Tak' a spade wi' ye when ye go farm-huntin'. It helps tae cut out the guesswork.

And another thing that some people think a lot about when buyin' a farm is the amount o' improvements that hae been made on it. I dinna ken as I wad put ower muckle weight on this point, especially if ye hae to pay a high price for the said improvements. When ye build yer ain barn or yer ain hoose ye build it as ye want it but when ye buy it ye've got to put up wi' it as the ither chap wanted it. And sae far as ither things are concerned there's a guid deal o' pleasure to be had in fixin' up yer ain farm and in makin' improvements that ye can look back on as yer ain. If ther's ony job that beats the makin' o' a hundred acres or so o' land intae a home that ye can be proud of, I dinna ken what it is. So what I wad say would be, buy yer farm but make yer home. Ilka farmer has his ideal o' what a farm home should be and it's a pity not to give him the chance to mak' that ideal a reality. In fact ther's juist about three things that a farmer must hae to start with. These are good air, good water and good soil. With a head and a pair o' hands he should be able to develop the rest. In fact it has been done sae often in this country since the time oor ancestors first crossed the ocean and built a cabin for themselves in the bush that we're no' left in muckle doot about the possibility o' it being done again. Anything that has been done can be done, and maybe we can do what never was done, gin we juist pit oor minds tae it.

## THE HORSE.

### When Should the Veterinarian be Called?

While it would be unwise and expensive for the farmer to call his veterinarian whenever anything goes wrong with his stock, it is mistaken economy to delay too long. The man who, in some cases, may incur the expense of an unnecessary visit, is safer than he who allows a case to take its course, or exhausts the skill of his handy neighbor, or experiments with the prescriptions he may have for the cure of diseases in stock, until it has reached an alarming stage, and then sends for his veterinarian, when it is too late to treat successfully the case which would probably have recovered had it been properly treated in the early stages. All owners of stock should have an intelligent idea of the ordinary ailments and diseases of the different classes of stock, and understand the treatment of cases that can be successfully treated by an amateur. Many such cases have definite and unmistakable symptoms that cannot readily be mistaken, and the treatment is also simple; while many of the more serious diseases present more or less obscure symptoms, and it requires a personal examination by an expert to diagnose and treat. Take for instance, the diseases of the various digestive organs. Each of these diseases presents symptoms to a greater or less degree peculiar to itself, but the symptoms of one disease often so closely simulate those of other diseases of the same organ or organs that it is difficult to differentiate. The veterinarian takes into consideration the state of the pulse, the temperature, respirations, mucous membrane, intestinal murmur, the severity and continuity of the symptoms, as well as the attitudes assumed by the patient, and the manner in which he expresses pain and distress.

Digestive troubles kill more horses than the diseases of any other set or system of organs, and many cases terminate fatally that would have recovered if properly treated in the early stages. All who have had considerable experience with horses are familiar with a disease called "Spasmodic Colic," and know that most cases readily yield to treatment, or though not treated at all will usually result in a spontaneous cure in the course of an hour or two. In such cases, of course, the services of a veterinarian are not necessary, but the trouble is this—the symptoms of this disease and those of flatulent

colic, acute indigestion, constipation, impaction of the colon, inflammation of the bowels or of the peritoneum etc., etc., simulate each other to such a marked degree that in many cases it requires more skill and experience than is possessed by the unprofessional man to make a correct diagnosis. If we admit this fact we must also admit the fact that the owner must necessarily be unable to decide whether the case is one that will yield to the ordinary treatment for colicky disorders, or one for which he should secure professional attention. What then, is he to do? The early symptoms of these diseases are often so similar that in some cases it is not possible for any person to immediately make a definite diagnosis, and while each disease requires special treatment, it is often wise, in the early stages to treat as for spasmodic colic, unless tympanitis (bloating) be present. Hence we say, "if tympanitis be shown send for your veterinarian promptly." If colicky pains with an absence of bloating be well marked, give a stimulant and antispasmodic as 1½ oz. each of sweet spirits of nitre and tincture of belladonna, or 1½ oz. chloral hydrate in a pint of cold water as a drench. If the symptoms are not relieved in an hour, or at most two hours, the attendant must decide that the trouble is something other than spasmodic colic, and in all probability much more serious and will require special treatment, hence the presence of a veterinarian is necessary.

It must also be remembered that the most serious cases do not, as a rule, present the most violent and alarming symptoms. A case is often allowed to go on, or to be treated with home remedies for hours from the fact that the symptoms are not violent, and the hopes that they will soon pass off. It is not uncommon for a case of this nature to continue all day and well into the night without improvement or marked change for the worse. Darkness appears to have an alarming effect upon the owner or attendant, and when the symptoms continue he will send for his veterinarian about midnight or after. We may state that the average veterinarian, while quite willing and anxious to give necessary service to his patrons at all hours, has just reason to complain at being called out of bed during the night to treat a case for which he should have been sent the previous forenoon; and, as before stated, the lapse of time in many cases means the death of the patient. Of course, all cases cannot be saved, even if attended to properly in the early stages, but many can, and the owner of stock should give his sick animal all possible chances for his life, and his veterinarian a reasonable opportunity to make or maintain a reputation as a practitioner.

Diseases of the respiratory organs do not usually present such violent symptoms as those of the digestive organs. When a person notices that his horse is dull, persists in standing, looks anxious and depressed, refuses to eat, probably breathes heavily or too frequently, or coughs, etc., he should decide that the case is serious, and that delay in treatment will probably be serious, he should send for skilled attention at once.

In cases of serious wounds or accidents of any nature, when he has not the necessary knowledge, skill and proper instruments and drugs to treat properly himself, one should promptly send for his veterinarian. We are all familiar with the old adage, "a little knowledge is dangerous." We do not think this applies here. A little knowledge in veterinary science enables a man to diagnose and treat simple ailments or injuries, and at the same time enables him to distinguish between such and more serious cases. The most important and, in many cases, the most perplexing point with the veterinarian is to make a correct diagnosis. When once this is made, a reasonably reliable prognosis can be made, and, of course, there no longer exists a doubt as to the proper treatment. On the other hand, so long as a doubt as to the correctness of the diagnosis exists, treatment must of necessity be somewhat of a guess. Hence we claim that sufficient knowledge of the science to enable a man to determine between cases that he understands and those that are more serious and require professional attention is valuable.

We would like to again impress upon the minds of stock owners the necessity of securing professional attention before it is too late, as delay in this particular is neither profitable to the owner nor fair to the practitioner.

## LIVE STOCK.

Now is a good time to cull the flock and pick out the ewes and rams to be saved for breeding purposes.

Plan to attend one or more of the larger exhibitions this fall and spend at least a portion of the time watching the live stock being judged.

The sows should be in fair condition at farrowing time. Now when the grass in the paddock is showing the effect of drouth it will no doubt pay to feed a little grain.

To withhold grain from the stock just because it is high priced and allow them to fail in flesh is not economy. It will cost more by a good deal to replace that flesh than to keep it there.

Particularly high prices are being realized in the Old Country for pigs for breeding purposes. At a recent sale as high as \$2,275 was paid for a four-year-old sow of the Large Black breed.

When the lambs are weaned they require luxuriant pasture, or a little grain, to prevent them losing flesh. The ewes' udders should also be watched as trouble may develop with the heaviest milkers if care is not exercised.

Breeding the heifers at an early age and then mating their progeny when quite young tends to decrease size to vigor. If strong, robust animals are wanted the heifers must be allowed to become fairly well developed before dropping their first calf.

To haul pigs sixty-five miles and drive sheep and cattle over thirty miles to market would be considered a great hardship by the majority of stockmen in Ontario, and would remind them very much of pioneer days before the railways had traversed the Province from east to west and from north to south. However, there are places even yet in Old Ontario where the railway does not come any closer to farms than the distance mentioned and men are actually taking their stock that number of miles in order to find a market.

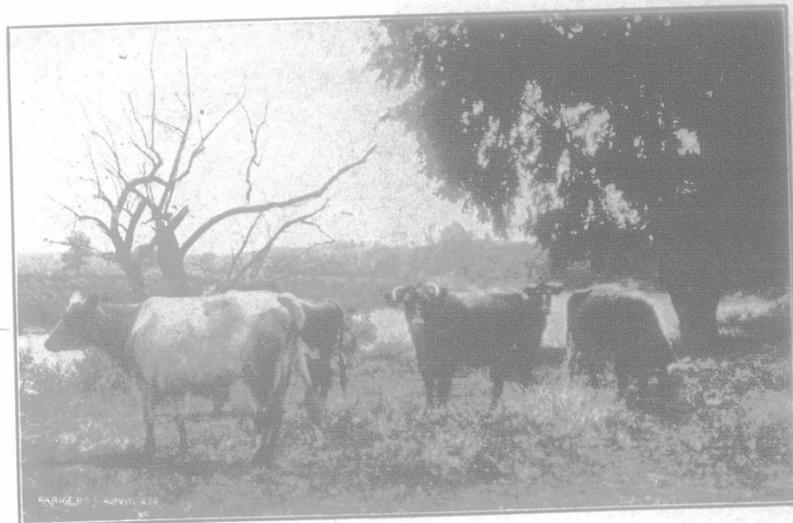
The war is not affecting the exports of live stock in Great Britain to any great extent. In fact, the total exports of breeding stock for the first six months of 1918 are over ten per cent. greater than for the corresponding period of 1917. During the six months, 1,748 head of pedigreed cattle valued at £259,961 were exported from Great Britain, as compared with 1,639 head valued at £188,660 in the first six months of 1917. During the same period 1,817 sheep at a value of £46,984 were exported. This is 805 more than from January to June 1917. Only 21 hogs were exported during the six months. However, Great Britain has not been a particularly heavy exporter of pigs. During the last four years the number for any six months of the year did not exceed 125.

### Receipts of Stock on Some of Canada's Markets.

According to figures given in the monthly report of the Live Stock Branch, Dominion Department of Agriculture, the top price for good steers was a shade lower in July than in the previous month, but about \$4 per cwt. higher than in the same month a year ago. The receipts of cattle at the Union Stock Yards, Toronto, for July were 22,453, as compared with 18,323 in June. The receipts at Winnipeg and Calgary were exceptionally heavy but prices maintained a high average. For instance, in July 20,955 cattle were marketed at Winnipeg as compared with 11,122 in June, 1918, and about the same number in July 1917. The top price on this market exceeded the top at Toronto by one dollar per cwt. At Calgary the receipts were three times what they were in June and the price was somewhat below that of other live stock markets. Shipments of calves



A Part of a Herd of 131 Steers Pasturing on a Farm near Ayr, Ontario.



Herd of Milking Shorthorns on the Banks of the Grand River.