

A Hospital for Sick Horses

A. T. E., Colchester Co., N. S.

A HOSPITAL for sick horses would have been regarded as a freak establishment a few years ago like the homes for aged horses that have been established in many parts of America through the mistaken kindness of philanthropic rich ladies. The veterinary hospital, however, has a useful place to fill. Horses are too valuable to be allowed to die, if veterinary skill can save them, and in these hospitals the horses are continually under the eye of a skilled veterinarian. We have such a hospital in our country town, Truro, completed in November, 1914. Perhaps some Farm and Dairy readers would be interested in knowing just what a veterinary hospital is like. Here is a description of the one in our town:

The construction is almost entirely of concrete. On the ground floor is the stable, which will accommodate from 12 to 16 patients. This stable, heated by hot water, is entirely of concrete and steel. The feed boxes are of metal and very easily sterilized. The box stall fronts are topped by iron-grille work which allows the light to pass freely through. In the ceiling, over each stall, are iron rings to which slings may be attached, if required. The stable is absolutely fire-proof, there being no wood in it except the window sashes and doors. There is a splendid drainage system and the manure from the stable is kept in a covered concrete bin which is emptied once or twice weekly.

An easy run, constructed of concrete and covered with and to prevent slipping, leads to the second floor which contains the office, laboratory, operating room, harness a. carriage rooms. The operating room, of feet square, is well lighted and contains an Equine

and Canine Operating table, the former being the first modern table to appear in the Maritime Provinces. There is a third floor where forage and bedding for the horses are kept. The building is supplied with hot and cold water and has electric lights throughout.

The hospital has been well patronized since its opening, and there is every indication that the live stock owners of this vicinity greatly appreciate the fact that they have situated in their midst one of the most modern

and best veterinary hospitals in America.

Community Breeding in Practice

Benson Co., North Dakota, is setting about the improvement of its live stock in the best way, the cooperative way. The United Breeders' Association of that county has already been instrumental in bringing 19 pure bred bulls into the county. The plan is this: Eight farmers living near together form a local club. Each one subscribes \$20, which is turned into the parent association, which in turn furnishes the local club with the kind of a bull it wants. One

of the members of the club keeps the bull and receives \$50 a year in payment. A service fee of \$1 is charged members and non-members pay \$3. This provides for running expenses. It is the aim of the association to have four local clubs in each township of the county. Having chosen the breed, all future sires furnished must be of the same breed.

The advantages of this system are manifest. Perhaps no one of the eight farmers in a local club could afford or would be willing to put up \$100 for a pure-bred sire. Each one of them, however, can easily and readily find \$20 for such a purpose. Thus each farmer has an opportunity to improve his herd by breeding. The exchange of sires, which takes place at the end of each two or three years, still further reduces the cost of service to the members, as the initial cost of \$100 may pay for the use of several good bulls. But the least of the advantages of the plan is that the farmers are working together; and when people get working together distrust and jealousy soon take wing. It will not be long before the cattle of Benson Co., N. Dakota, will be well graded and will have the appearance of pure-breds as well as their good qualities of production. Thousands of communities in both United States and Canada could well afford to take a leaf of the book of these Benson county pioneers.

Dairying is one of the money-making industries that should be found on every farm. A farmer who tries to farm without cows is throwing away time to a large extent. He needs milk for pigs, and manure for his land.—J. P. Fletcher, Fulton Co., N. Y.

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Hospitals for Sick and Maimed Horses Are a Recent Development.

A sick horse in a veterinary hospital has the same advantage as a sick person in a hospital for human sufferers—both are constantly under the eye of an expert practitioner. The Moleen Veterinary Hospital, here illustrated, located in Truro, N. S., is said to be the first hospital of its kind in the Maritime Provinces.

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