

THE HORSE.

Diseases of the Respiratory Organs—III.

Roaring.

A horse is called "a roarer" when he makes a wheezing, whistling, or hoarse sound during inspiration, and in rare cases during expiration also. In most cases respiration is performed in the normal manner when the animal is at rest, or performing slow and easy work, but when subjected to hard or fast work he commences to "make a noise," as stated; the noise is usually made only during inspiration. The cause of the noise is the fact that the calibre of the larynx has become lessened, hence when from any cause, as hard or fast work, excitement, nervousness or other causes, it becomes necessary for a large volume of air to enter the lungs, the passage of this through the more or less constricted calibre of the larynx causes the sound, on the same principle that forcing air into a horn or bugle causes a sound. In many cases roaring is a progressive trouble, the symptoms being slight at first and gradually becoming more marked, while in others it appears suddenly. Some roarers can perform ordinary work either slow or on the roads without exhibiting any symptoms of being affected, while other patients cannot do even ordinary work without exhibiting the trouble. The condition is sometimes simply a symptom of some acute disease, as a severe case of laryngitis. It then only indicates a condition of temporary unsoundness. It sometimes appears as a sequel to some respiratory disease, as laryngitis, strangles or even a severe attack of ordinary catarrh or common cold. The cause of roaring is, however, in the majority of cases found to be due to atrophy and fatty degeneration of the muscles of the larynx. While either or both sides of the larynx may be affected, the trouble is much more frequently on the left than on the right side. The reason for this is involved in some mystery, but by veterinarians it is generally accepted to be due to the nervous supply of the organ; the supply to the left side differing to some extent from that to the right. Roaring is not a common sequel to disease of the organs of the thoracic cavity. When it occurs as a sequel to disease, it is generally conceded that it was disease that affected the throat. Many roarers, whose history can be traced to birth, have never suffered from any chest affection, nor indeed from any respiratory disease beyond a common cold, and sometimes not even from this slight ailment. Many claim that the condition is often due to hereditary predisposition. It is a fact that the produce of certain sires appear much more subject to the disease than the progeny of other sires, and in many cases the cause cannot be traced to attacks of other ailments. There are other cases where horses appear particularly predisposed to laryngeal and other throat affections, and the infirmity appears after an attack of such. Roaring may be due to disease of the nostrils, a growth in the nostril, depression of the nasal bones, the result of previous fracture, bony deposits in the nostrils, closing of one nasal chamber by a false membrane or disease of bone, tumors in the posterior nares, constriction of the windpipe, diseases of the pharyngeal or salivary glands, or any other condition that lessens the calibre of the nasal chambers, larynx or windpipe.

In addition to the sound emitted during inspiration, the roarer may have a cough with a loud, harsh, dry sound, half cough, half roar, and many of them are grunTERS. At the same time, while many roarers are grunTERS, the too common idea that all grunTERS are roarers is without foundation, as many grunTERS have not the least tendency to roar. To test for roaring, a horse should be ridden or driven at a fast gallop, with a free head, for a considerable distance. Some horses that are perfectly sound in their wind will make a noise if excited and driven fast with a tight rein, especially if driven with a curb bit, or if they have the habit of holding the head high and holding the nose inwards towards the breast. This compresses the larynx and consequently lessens the calibre. Such horses if given a free head will go perfectly sound.

Treatment.—If the sound can be traced to any removable cause, an operation by a veterinarian may remove it. Where due to disease or altered condition of the larynx, as is true of the majority of cases, effective treatment is very difficult. Many modes of treatment have been tried. Some claim benefit from blistering or firing the skin surrounding the organ, and in some cases it may be beneficial, but in order that it may be it must be practiced in the early stages of the trouble.

An operation is now performed that is successful in a sufficient number of cases to warrant its performance. It consists in cutting into the larynx and stripping the thickened mucous membrane off a part of the side or sides that are diseased. This operation can be successfully performed only by veterinarians who have practically made a specialty of it. The sounds can be modified by plugging the false nostrils with antiseptic cotton, or arranging pads on the bridle that press upon the false nostrils, thereby preventing the expansion of them, hence lessening the volume of air that can enter. In horses in which the trouble is so marked as to materially interfere with their usefulness, an operation called tracheotomy, which consists in placing and securing a tube in the windpipe, through which the horse breathes, gives good results. This tube has to be removed and cleaned occasionally and then replaced. Some successful race horses have been treated in this manner. A horse that roars, even slightly, is unsound.

It is probable there has been and still is more litigation on account of this trouble, in cases of sale of horses, than on account of any other form of unsoundness.

WHIP.

LIVE STOCK.

The Bacon Hog Situation.

The Food Controller's Department has sent out the following notice re Canada's bacon trade with Great Britain:

"There is no foundation whatever for the report that exports of Canadian bacon to Great Britain are to be suspended. What has happened is merely that the British Food Controller, Lord Rhondda, will permit no importations without specially granted licenses. The British Food Ministry established on Sept. 3rd a single Government buying agency in the United States for the purchase of Canadian and American bacon, butter, ham and lard. From that date no purchases will be made except through this official channel. Shipments of bacon, therefore, will continue; but it will now be possible for the British authorities to keep promptly and continuously informed as to quantities received, quantities in transit, and quantities consumed. Great Britain and our Allies still require at least 25 per cent. of our output.

"A glance at the following figures will show what Canada has already done; Canadian exports of bacon to the United Kingdom, France and Italy in pounds. (Fiscal years ending March 31st): 1913, 36,032,597; 1914, 23,620,861; 1915, 72,041,299; 1916, 144,228,501; 1917, 207,284,673.

"Canada was slow in building up her bacon export trade in the British market. It was not until the bacon hog was bred instead of the fat hog that a grip on the trade was secured. During the three years of war

from this practice. Not only is the ewe which is bred in a thrifty condition more certain to produce a vigorous lamb, but she is a more reliable breeder and more likely to drop twins. The flock will all breed within a briefer time if flushed, thus shortening the lambing period with its anxious hours. Craig found that ewes suckling twins lost no more flesh than those with one lamb, and that twins made as rapid gains as singles; hence the advantage of twins under favorable farm conditions. On the western ranges, where but little attention can be given to the individual ewe, single lambs have given the best results.

"A well-built, vigorous ram should be chosen and then be so fed and cared for that he will remain virile. He needs no grain while on good pasture during summer, but beginning at least a month before breeding time some concentrate should be fed. During the breeding season he should be kept in good condition on such muscle-forming foods as bran, oats, peas and oil meal, and not be allowed to run down through insufficient feed or over use. On the other hand he should never become fat. In purchasing, avoid a ram that has been fitted for shows, for such high living tends to impotence."

Hog Cholera.

A good feature about the measures usually adopted to prevent any live-stock disease is the stress laid on cleanliness, which in itself is a good preventive for all ailments to which animals are likely to become victims. The following measures recommended in an Indiana State Bulletin for the prevention of hog cholera will help to forestall many troubles and to maintain a healthy herd.

"A knowledge of disease prevention methods is of greater value than the curative treatment. Hogs escape most of the diseases common to them when cared for properly. The feeding of a poor ration either in amount or composition; bad housing, such as poorly ventilated or drafty quarters and insufficient exercise, cause unthriftiness and disease.

"The introduction of hog cholera into the herd by the different germ carriers should be guarded against. In communities where outbreaks of hog cholera occur, persons in charge of hogs should require visitors to disinfect their shoes, wagon wheels and horses' feet before leaving cholera-infected yards, or when entering non-infected yards.

"It is not advisable to allow hogs access to streams in which they may wallow and drink. Such streams may receive sewage from other hog yards in the neighborhood, and they are a common source of disease. River and creek bottom pastures, that overflow occasionally, may harbor germs of hog cholera.

"Hogs coming from other herds should be excluded from the herd until they are positively shown to be free from disease.

"It is not advisable to confine hogs in the same yards, throughout the year, or in poorly constructed hog houses having board or earth floors. It is impossible to

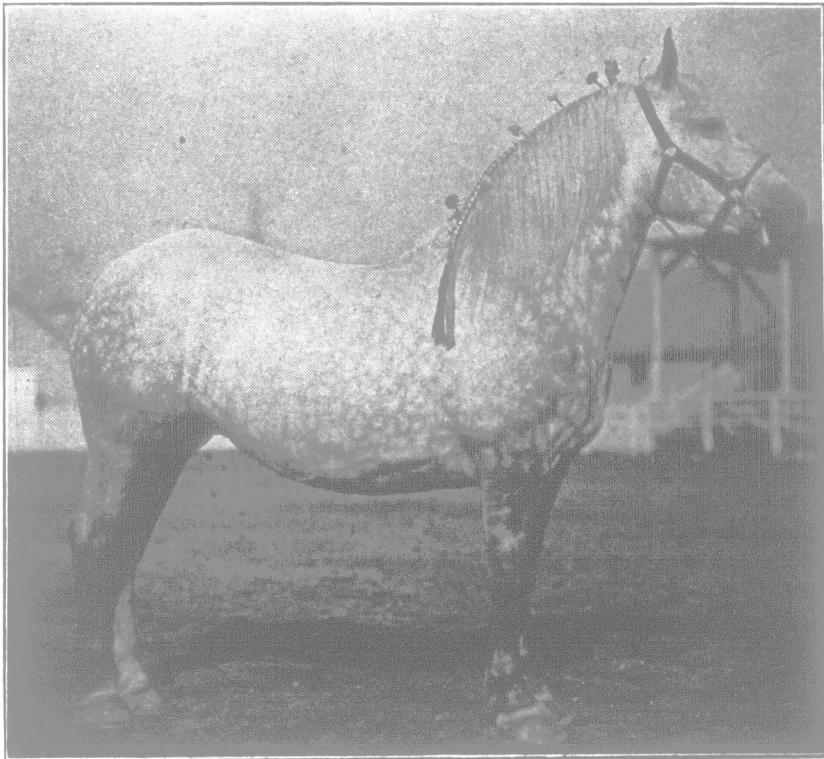
keep such quarters in anything like a sanitary condition. Concrete floors are both sanitary and economical. Yards should not be used for hogs continuously, but rested for a few months during the year by moving the hogs to other yards. If all litter and manure are removed and the yards left idle for three months or longer, natural disinfectants, such as sunshine and variations in temperature may destroy disease-producing organisms. Plowing and planting to a forage crop helps in cleaning lots."

THE FARM.

About the Farm.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

At last the rush of the harvest is over, and we who live on the farms feel we have come to the place where we can at least take a breathing spell. Most of our city help have gone back to their city homes, wiser, perhaps. One young man who put in a few months on a farm in our neighborhood was honest enough to say he was going back to the city with very different ideas of conditions and work on the farms. Perhaps never before has the farmer had the difficulties to face which he faced last spring. With no help at all in many cases and very poor help in many more, it seemed almost impossible to make the old farms produce enough to meet the demand, and yet, all things taken into consideration, the crops have turned out much better than was expected. The midge did its share towards helping to lighten our wheat crop, but did not do the damage which



Lady Impresse.

Wm. Pears' champion Percheron mare at Toronto.

Canadian bacon has, to a very large extent indeed, replaced the high-grade Danish bacon, formerly the chief source of Great Britain's external supply. If this trade is to be held, it is imperative that the greatest care be taken to preserve the true bacon breed and to provide for a constant and regular supply.

"If the grade and output of Canadian 'Wiltshire Sides' be kept up, Canada will have an excellent chance of securing the lion's share of Great Britain's bacon trade. Thus the more bacon saved and shipped overseas now, the firmer will be Canada's grip on a business totalling over \$40,000,000 per year."

Feed Well For More Lambs.

The season is approaching when sheep raisers should begin to prepare for the 1918 crop of lambs. The proper care of the ewes before mating and a wise selection in the use of rams will influence very largely the size of the flock next summer. Flushing should be practiced and the ram should be a vigorous one in good form. In "Feeds and Feeding," Henry and Morrison give the following concise advice:

"Although the ewe with lamb at foot may have had good care and pasture during the summer, if she has had a large milk flow she will be somewhat run down by fall. With the farm flock it is often advisable to "flush" the ewes after their lambs are weaned and before breeding, a common practice with English flockmasters. This consists in giving an extra allowance of nutritious, highly palatable food for two or three weeks before the desired date of breeding, so that the ewes will then be rapidly gaining in flesh. Several advantages result