

### The Horse's Mouth.

Illustrations in point of probable or remote causes assisting to disturb the action and break the gait of horses—which shoeing will avail nothing toward remedying—may be found in the horse's mouth.

This is one of the most sensitive organs of the equine anatomy. All young horses coming three or four years old should have their mouths and teeth carefully examined when any symptoms of tenderness or irritation are shown, as it is at this age that some of the deciduous molars are replaced by the permanent teeth. In some cases this gives rise to much pain and annoyance to horses, affecting their temper and sensibility. Again, in some horses the structure of the teeth is of a comparatively soft nature, and wears upon the grinding substances in a ragged and uneven manner, which severely cuts and lacerates the tongue and cheeks, or by a driver repeatedly lugging on one rein or the other, hard, sharp, spurlike points are formed or irregularly grown on the borders of the teeth, which become an exciting cause of injury to the gums and membranes of the mouth, impairing the natural processes of mastication, and contributing at the same time to a bad way of going; also, the animal may suffer from toothache, due to a displaced crown of a temporary molar, or from ulceration, which will cause it to champ fretfully upon the bit and lurch to one side in such a sudden manner that he "loses his feet" by becoming bad in his action and tangled in his gait. If a horse pulls his head and neck out of line with the median plane of his body, the hind limb on that side is correspondingly misdirected, and its foot is forced to land between the front ones instead of in line with them; thus cross-firing naturally impairs the steadiness of his gait and injuries are liable to occur from it. If a humane treatment of the teeth is pursued by people who own horses they will obviate these changes of locomotion, and at the same time be amply repaid by the improved appearance of their animals through proper mastication of their food and in their general order of improvement.—[Horse World.]

### Matched Pairs.

Opinions would appear to differ a good deal as regards what constitutes a well-matched pair, if the turn-outs which are to be seen every day in city parks, and even at the great horse shows, are to be accepted as throwing any light upon the subject. The majority of people seem to think that, provided they get two horses to match in color, the principal object before them has been secured, but this is not by any means the case, as such important points as action, shape, make and manners are of the very highest importance. A free goer and a slug present a sorry spectacle in double harness, and never can be a pair, and a showy, stylish horse alongside a more powerfully-built one can never make a match, though the two animals may constitute an ideal tandem team where more quality is allowed the leader than the wheeler. It is, of course, most desirable that a pair should match in color, if possible, but as the other points of resemblance referred to are, to say the least of it, of at least equal importance, it is singular that the owners of some of the very handsome pairs of mixed colors one often sees about do not decide to give their animals a chance of distinguishing themselves in the show-ring.

### Combination Horse.

There is a wonderful demand in all the Eastern American cities for combination saddle and harness horses. Such horses bring big prices, and are snapped up as quickly as they appear on the market. Riding, by the way, seems to be increasing in popularity, and especially among women, and it is a source of pleasure to know that in most cities women are adopting the cross saddle, which makes riding more healthful, more sensible and much safer, says the Farm-stock Journal. A combination horse, which can be used under saddle and in harness also, makes riding and driving possible to many who would not, otherwise, be able to enjoy both forms of recreation.

When horses are upon a journey during hot weather it is by no means a good plan to indulge them with heavy feeds, unless it is intended that they get to work again before they cool, and under any circumstances the amount of food should be restricted to what is considered necessary, and no more. If there is time for the horse to cool before he is fed, it is, of course, the better for him, but if there is not it is safer for him to be got to work again before he cools, for when heated his stomach is expanded, and if he remains warm it remains expanded, whilst if he gets cool there is a chance of an attack of colic.

Received the knife, and am pleased with it. You deserve credit for sending it so promptly. Aurora, Ont. ROBERT RANK.

## LIVE STOCK.

### Supplying the Demand for Sheep.

The fact that the keeping of sheep has been a profitable occupation in all civilized countries from the earliest record down to the present time, indicates that the business will continue to be profitable in the future. Food and clothing are among the principal requirements of the people, and as sheep furnish the best material to supply both of these requirements, there will always be an active demand for certain qualities of wool and mutton. The largest profits will be realized by those who can best supply them.

The question of how to supply the demands of the present and future is one of vital importance to the sheep industry of our country. Upon the proper consideration of this question depends to a great extent its prosperous development. Until recently the current prices for wool have very materially affected the sheep industry. In fact, these prices were the factor that controlled the business. When wool was low the sheep were sacrificed. This period of instability is gone, however, and will probably never return.

A new factor has come to stay which will exercise a most material influence on the growing of sheep. We refer to the brisk demand for mutton. It is a demand that is going to increase, so that those who are now well started in the sheep business will be the ones to reap the largest returns. The more people come to know the value of good mutton, the more they will eat. If it should happen that the price of wool falls so as to be a drag on the market, the price of mutton might at the same time remain good. This in itself should be a sufficient stimulus to the industry to cause farmers to continue in the business.—[The Farmer.]



Cotswold Shearling Ram.

First at Bath & West of England Show, 1906. Exhibited by W. T. Garne, Northleach.

### Sheep Notes.

Examine the sheep for ticks.

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Save the second crop of clover for the lambs that are weaned.

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You generally find the good sheep man a pretty good sort of neighbor.

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Make friend with your sheep. Take them some salt by way of an introduction.

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Take advantage of a wet day to trim the sheep intended for show or sale.

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A bright eye, a clean nose, and a good appetite, are the best signs of health.

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At 26 cents, wool is helping to make the breeding ewe a very welcome guest on the farm.

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Begin the sheep business cautiously. Learn as much about it as possible before venturing too far.

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You haven't gone wrong on your breed of sheep if you selected good, healthy animals of the type you most admire.

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Weed out the old or unsatisfactory ewes, give

them good pasture, and get them into condition to sell to best advantage.

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Separate the ram lambs from the ewe lambs, and feed them a daily ration of oats and bran to grow them strong and vigorous.

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Lambs, at present prices, \$7.50 to \$7.75 per cwt., should pay well for raising. Don't they beat hogs for profit, even at \$8.00 for the grunTERS?

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Get the ewes in good condition before the mating season. They will take the ram earlier, and will bring a larger percentage of lambs, and stronger and more uniform ones.

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The young shepherd will act wisely if he makes a start with a few good grade or registered ewes. Rear the best ewe lambs, and by the use of a pure-bred ram breed up the quality of the little flock.

### Preparing Show Stock.

The art of preparing animals for competition in the show-ring requires good judgment, not only in the selection, but also in their feeding and fitting. While it is possible to overdo the feeding, making the animal unduly fat for usefulness as a breeder, by rushing the feeding and through lack of exercise, throwing it off balance in its limbs, there is, on the other hand, the liability, if the special feeding has been too long delayed, of failing to get it into the condition in which it will show to best advantage. The show season may be now too near to allow time for making up for lack of flesh, but there is yet time to do a good

deal towards improving the general appearance, by skillful trimming of horns and head and feet, and by judicious grooming and covering, bringing the skin and hair into better condition as to touch and feeling, as well as in outward appearance. However full-fleshed an animal may be, and however correct in conformation, it is liable to suffer in the comparison and placing in the show-ring, if from exposure to sun and flies and drafts, the hair or fleece has a dry or harsh look and feeling, while one less correct in the more essential points, presented in the pink of condition, may win. For this reason, housing, and, it may be, blanketing, washing with soft water and mild soaps, and careful grooming, must be resorted to in order to secure the best possible condition for attractive appearance and desirable handling quality. Sufficient exercise at some time during the day or evening must also be allowed or given, in order to keep the limbs straight and strong, so that the animal may stand squarely upon its underpinning and walk briskly and truly; or, if a horse, show desirable action at all the gaits required in its class. Much also depends upon proper training of the animal to lead by halter and stand in position to show to best advantage. Many a deserving exhibit has lost its chances for pride of place in close competition by being indifferently handled in the showing, the attendant gaping open-mouthed at the crowd, or indulging in day dreams while his charge is standing crooked, sagging from long standing in one position, or bent in the wrong direction when the judge's hand is testing the handling quality of the skin and flesh. There is little satisfaction in blaming the judge for overlooking some of the good points of a beast, when the man in charge has shown it in its worst shape, or at least failed to present its best side for inspection. If, from the nature of the ground, or other cause, he finds his animal is placed at a disadvantage, he should not, from excessive modesty, submit to standing steadily in such position, but boldly make a break for liberty, and get into position where his charge will have a fair show to display its best points. Training should not be delayed until the show-ground is reached, but should commence months before, and be repeated until it becomes easy and natural for the animal to stand or move so as to show the best there is in it. Lack of this simple matter of training may defeat a whole year's generous feeding and months of careful grooming, and may mean all the difference between victory and vanquishment in