

FOOD FOR SICK HORSES

F. T. McMahon, veterinary surgeon to the Chicago Fire Department, contributes to the *Street Ridesman* an interesting article on the treatment of sick horses. After specifying the principal substances from which to select articles of diet for the sick horse, such as bran, carrots, oatmeal, linseed, etc., the writer continues:

"Bran stands decidedly foremost as the food most generally in use for the invalid horse; it acts as a laxative, is frequently tempting to the appetite, and easy of digestion. There is no part of the general treatment more universal than offering this substance as a change of food. Is the horse very weary, and his powers weakened in consequence? We induce him to take warm bran mash, which comfortably distends the stomach and satisfies any craving for food, thereby enabling him readily to lie down and rest his enfeebled system until repose restores his wonted vigor. Does he show slight symptoms of cold or fever? A warm bran mash is a convenient form of steaming, and consequently of soothing, the irritable mucous membranes of the air passages; it is a substitute for the more stimulating diet he is accustomed to, and gently promotes the activity of the digestive apparatus; it is also a convenient medium for the exhibition of certain simple remedies. A lower diet than that with which he is indulged when in full work is judicious, and bran is selected. Is it necessary to administer purgative medicine. A bran mash renders the bowels more susceptible of its action, and a smaller portion of the drug is therefore required to produce the desired effect, and there is, at the same time, less risk of painful spasms accompanying its operation. Bran mashes may be given hot or cold—cold are perhaps, quite as grateful to the horse; but the milbing of the hot mash in catarrhal affections is particularly beneficial, from the necessary inhalation of the steam.

"Of all the roots with which horses are treated, the carrot, as a rule, is the favorite, and perhaps the most beneficial. It is said to be somewhat diuretic in its effects, and to exercise a salubrious influence on the skin. Certain it is, that a sick horse may be coaxed into eating carrots when disinclined to partake of other nourishment, with the greatest beneficial results. For the ailing horse then, carrots are most valuable as an article of diet and a few may be given with advantage to a horse in a healthy condition.

"Oatmeal is extremely nutritious, and as a food for the convalescent horse, is most valuable; the bruising process the grain has undergone breaks the husk, and renders it more easily acted upon by the digestive organs. It is usually given in the form of a gruel, and in that form it is one of the most essential articles of diet for the infirmity. It is also a ready mode

of supplying the tired, thirsty horse with nourishment after exertion, when he returns to the stable.

"Linseed is decidedly to be included in the sick diet roll. It is nutritious, and from its oleaginous nature, serves to soothe the frequently irritable mucous membrane of the alimentary canal, and hence is particularly to be recommended in the treatment of sore throats. Nor is its bland effect local only; its more general influence is particularly observable in affections of the kidneys. It may either be boiled, so as to form when cool a gelatinous mass, and then mixed with bran, or the liquid, after boiling, may be offered as a drink.

"Grass, hay-tea, etc., are also very useful in the treatment of disease, and should be used in connection with other remedies."

BICYCLE AHEAD.

Johnson Breaks the Mile Straightaway Running Horse Record.

OVER a straightaway course at Buffalo, John S. Johnson, the phenomenon, broke a mile in 1m. 33.2-5s., breaking all previous records on the wheel and beating by one-tenth of a second the mile record for a running horse, that of *Salvator*, 1m. 34s., on a straightaway track. This mile was also made by a single rider and six seconds faster than the tandem record for the distance. The time for the quarters was: First quarter, 21.2-5s.; second quarter, 25.2-5s.; third quarter, 29s., and final quarter 23.3-5s.

The weather had been threatening all day, and less than a hundred people gathered on the Tonawanda boulevard to witness the race, as it was expected it would have to be postponed. The course, which was paved with brick, recently laid and smooth as asphalt, had been thoroughly cleaned for the trial. It was found necessary to reverse the course, as a cold wind was blowing into the faces of the riders. The ride was, therefore, made toward Buffalo. This change made the first quarter of the course down hill, the second up hill and the third and fourth courses about on a level. With the wind at their backs, the riders had a slight advantage.

Electrical timing apparatus had been provided so that the quarters were checked off at both the start and finish and all the timekeepers agreed as to the time when they compared notes afterward.

The quad team which was to make the pace consisted of C. H. Callahan, first; W. A. Seavey, second; Patrick O'Connor, third, and W. A. Rhodes, fourth. The starter was T. J. Sayles, and the timers were: Start, John Corley and T. Mayo; first quarter, T. W. Eck; second quarter, O. D. Kennedy and S. Sheehan; third quarter, C. M. Murphy and H. R.

Stenson; the finish, W. A. Lutz. The judges at the finish were W. A. Stark, F. Bryan and B. Van Velsor.

Johnson mounted for the start at a quarter to five o'clock. He wore black tights and a double sweater and a small American flag around the waist. He and the quad team went back half a mile behind the starting tape for their start. As the five riders went across the tape with the sound of the pistol they were pedalling over the down grade course at a breathless pace. The spectators saw that something was going to happen to the records and they were not disappointed, for the time registered the remarkable time of 21.2-5 seconds.

When they struck the uphill course, the pace fell off a little, but Johnson rode easily, with the quad men. This quarter

was made in 25.2-5 seconds. As they fled the third quarter, which should have been made in better time, two of the quad men showed signs of weakening. The pace, considering that this quarter was over a level course, was the poorest of the four, taking just 29 seconds to cover it. The quad men bent to their work with energy in the last quarter, but they could not go too fast for Johnson, who kept his front wheel right in the shadow of the big machine. The last quarter was made in 23.3-5 seconds, making a total of 1m. 33.2-5s.

Johnson was riding easily at the finish, and showed no signs of exertion when he dismounted. He expressed the opinion that he could do better than he did today with the same team of pacemakers, as he said he had not put out all his energy in this trial.

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FIG. 1 is an exterior view of Cask.
FIG. 2 is an interior perspective view of one section of the Cask.
FIG. 3 is a transverse horizontal section through middle of Cask.

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