



EXERCISE FOR COWS.

Results of Stabling from November to May—Little Exercise Needed in Winter.

Last fall John Gould gave his method of running a dairy. It will be remembered that he keeps each cow in her own stall from November until May. In a late issue of *Hoard's Dairyman* he says: "When I arrived at home last week from an Institute trip, my man who cares for the cows—a most faithful and careful feeder, by the way—said to me as we went looking things over: 'I tried a little experiment last week, one of those very warm pleasant days, and I am now satisfied. I turned the cows out into the yard about an hour and a half, and the result was that in the next two milkings the cows had shrunk over two pounds each, and it took two days and some meal to get 'em back!' The result is, that while it cost me, the young man has gained a point, and the cows will not bother him any more about wanting to go out just for fun.' Now compare this with the far too prevalent practice of having cows out in the fields all winter and judge of the difference. Mr. Gould feeds ensilage, and ensilage-fed stock must have warmer stables, for succulent food always demands warmth. Feeding ensilage in a zero temperature is worse than feeding dry food under the same conditions, which is a losing practice if the cows are expected to secrete full udders of milk. But beyond this comes the exercise question. Advanced dairymen deny that cows need special exercise in winter. Milk-giving is enough they say, and this is what Mr. Gould is endeavoring to prove. In summer too much exercise is generally given. A luxuriant pasture in which the cow can fill herself quickly and then lie down and ruminate, is what fills the milk pail. Going two miles to pasture, and perhaps a poor pasture at that, and being driven home by a boy on horse-back and a yelling dog, has always resulted in a small, poorly-filled udder, and unhappy owner, a sad looking wife and children anxious to leave the farm.

The Acorn Disease.

A warning to farmers has been issued by the Board of Agriculture against the danger of cattle poisoning from the unusual abundance this season of the acorn crop, which is the cause of the death of herbage, owing to the long drought, are certain to be eaten by stock with avidity. In the years 1868, 1870 and 1884, which were remarkable for a large yield of acorns after a long, dry, and hot summer, serious losses among young cattle occurred from outbreaks of what is known as the acorn disease. Young cattle up to two years old suffered most severely. Milch cows and cattle over three years old were seldom affected. Sheep and pigs appeared to be insusceptible to the poisonous action of the seeds, and only two or three cases of the disease were reported in these animals, while entire herds of young cattle were attacked and a large proportion of them succumbed. Acorn disease is distinguished by progressive wasting, entire loss of appetite, diarrhoea, sore places inside the mouth, discharge from the nostrils and eyes, which are always sunken, giving to the animal a peculiar haggard expression. No fever is present from first to last, but, on the contrary, the temperature is commonly below the normal standard. Remedies of various kinds were tried in the great outbreaks of the disease, but no cure was discovered.—English Paper.

Destructive Diseases in India.

According to a British farming journal, there are several destructive diseases of animals in India of which there is no experience in the British Isles. They are maladies peculiar to the soil, climate and herbage of the country. Many of them are of obscure origin, and their precise nature has not been accurately determined. But the most destructive disease of all in our Indian possessions is true cattle plague, or rinderpest. It is said to have devastated several tracts of country, and has obtained a firm hold in hundreds of districts throughout India. It is no imaginary circumstance to find a valley, at one time abounding in cattle, in a few weeks reduced to a valley of dead bones, with a few emaciated animals only remaining on the site where great herds were seen a short time before. Some legislation is required to place a check on the ravages of the destructive disease which is now slaying its hundreds and thousands in our Indian possessions. There butchery is the mainstay of agriculture, and a village's pair of bullocks represents his capital. The loss of these means his ruin, for the death of his bullocks results in a total or partial loss of his crops as well. Younger of the country also suffer severely in the same way. It is said that the rinderpest is a more formidable foe to India than even the Russian himself.

A Word About Feeding.

While liberal feeding is always advisable, it is poor economy to keep feed before the animals all of the time. Whether feeding for growth or to further better growth and thrift, the object will be secured if the animals have a good appetite at every meal. Only what is eaten up clean should be given, and the nearer this amount is supplied the better the gain in proportion to the cost. Of course in all feeding the ration must be determined by the purpose. Different rations are needed for growth than for fattening. Milk cows, or, in fact, all animals that are suckling young, need a different ration from what is best when fattening or working. The problem of feeding to the best advantage is gradually becoming a more important one.

Wheat For Hogs.

The Ohio Farmer reports an experiment in which wheat was fed to hogs, when fat they were sold at \$3.40. The price realized for the wheat so used was ninety-four cents per bushel. The writer goes on to say: "Now the good price is not the only benefit to be derived from this home market for the wheat, for we shall see the effects of this feeding on the next crop of corn, and of wheat and clover following. In fact, I think it will be the 'bait' that will 'trap the nitrogen' in the next crop of clover."

Exercise.

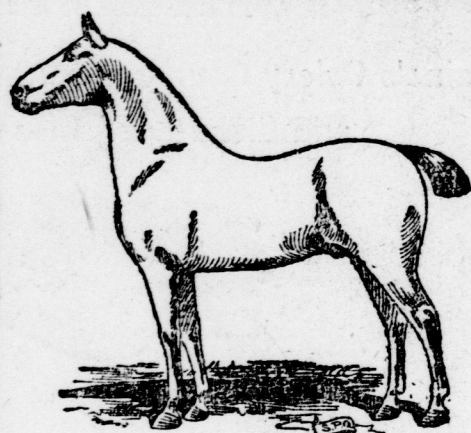
It is an exceptional case that a growing animal will take more exercise than is really best for health or thrift.

Some geologists regard madstones as fossil corals.

GERMAN COACH HORSES.

Some Famous Specimens of the Breed Now in This Country.

The cut represents one of the famous imported German coach horses, seen in the German Government's World's Fair exhibit of German coach stallions and mares. They were magnificent animals of the greatest style, knee action and finish, the cream of the German Empire, the best that money and



GERMAN COACH HORSE.

Influence could secure. They were solid colors, mostly bays, with a few browns, 16 to 16½ hands high, weight 1,400 to 1,500 pounds. The La Fayette Stock Farm Co., which bought the lot, now has the greatest lot of German coach horses in America, Germany, or the world. These horses have been carefully bred by the German government in one line for several hundred years, and it is said they breed after themselves from all kinds of mares, with remarkable certainty, and will sire the grandest coach and carriage teams ever seen. These horses show considerable speed, are cheerful active roadsters, and are the long-distance road horse of Germany.

Pure Air For Cows.

Cows that breathe impure air are starved, for pure air is as necessary for well-being as food and water. One of the highest medical authorities states that starvation is a matter of 'days without solids, hours without liquids and minutes without air.' Your balanced ration without pure air will not produce the result you intend to effect by its use. Pure air is indispensable to health, because it breaks up organic matter, thereby rendering it harmless and useful to every form of life evolved in its midst. Overload it with the impurity that is present in poorly ventilated stables, barn or dwelling, and an interference with its power to maintain health follows. Long continued ill-effects and thus minimizes organic power to repel disease. Under such conditions calves cannot be dropped that have sufficient vitality for long life. Ventilation means keeping this great element, so necessary to life and health, that nature furnishes with unstinted hand pure. So in its last analysis ventilation is as large a question as the balancing of rations or any other that the dairyman has to deal with.

Dehorning.

I thought I would take up the pencil and write a few words concerning dehorning cattle. I think it is very wrong to make a wholesale business of it. It lets the air in too much. They want their horns to scratch with. My cattle scratch themselves with their horns and on the fences. They are very handy in the stanchions. If you get a bad cow saw her horns off a little. I don't like to see them all punished for two or three others. They look very badly. I also think it a bad plan to shut cattle up in a small yard or a large one and have no outlet. In the winter time let the underlings out first so the others will not hook them. Raise moolies if you do not like horns. I would like to hear from others on the subject.—Rice, in *Miner and Farmer*.

To Make Feed Tasty.

Any kind of straw can be made tasty and more palatable to the stock by cutting and mixing with pulped roots. Though oat straw, of course, is best, other kinds can be used to advantage. The mixing should be done twenty-four hours before being fed to allow the straw to absorb the juice of the roots. In this way the cattle will eat the whole willingly, but if fed separately the straw would be rooted over and over and a large part wasted. The mixing of feed for a herd of cattle requires a place for the purpose, and many may not have such for so large a quantity as would be needed at once. Still, it will do very well to prepare the morning meal after the feeding is done at night, and so on in advance.

Keep the Stock Clean.

It is very important after the stock is housed for the winter that they should be kept clean, not merely their stalls cleaned out and bedded regularly, but the cattle should be looked carefully after, that parasites do not trouble them; if such do get a hold it takes some time and work to root them out. I have found sheep dip of great value in cleaning stock. We apply it with a sponge or cloth two or three times at short intervals. It takes some time to keep cattle clean and well curried but they will do very much better on a given quantity of feed than those not so attended to.

Lice on Young Turkeys.

Look for lice every day, as a large louse on the head of a young turkey will kill it. Dampness is fatal to them, so keep them dry. Stale bread dipped in milk, also curds, finely chopped onions, finely chopped boiled eggs a little wheat and cracked corn and some fine gravel are all foods for them. Do not feed enough to waste but give them food every two hours. They must have clean water but should not get wet in any way; also keep the coops very clean.

They Need Quiet.

It is important that cattle should be fed at the same time and if possible by the same person. They cannot do well if fed at all hours of the day; rest and quiet are just as essential as food for successful feeding, and any one not gentle and kind with the stock has no business in a cattle stable.

Bone Development.

It is just as necessary to give proper development of bone in the hog as in the horse. When he is being made ready for market he has an amount of flesh to carry that cannot be well distributed upon a weak frame. Give such food and exercise as will build bone before the fattening period begins.

What It Depends On.

The flavor of eggs depends very much on the food given the hens.

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ROSES.

They Are Entirely Amenable to House Culture by Amateurs.

The Housekeeper says:—Many amateur florists are under the impression that roses are so difficult to grow as house-plants it would be labor lost to attempt cultivating them. With little extra attention I have found them quite as amenable to house-culture as the sturdy geraniums, and the sweetness of the fragrant varieties makes them infinitely more desirable.

The polyanthus, or fairy roses, are so sweet that after one has once grown them they become almost indispensable. Paquerette, the smallest of this variety, has beautiful double snow-white flowers and blooms profusely. Cecile Bruner has much larger flowers, perfectly double, very sweet and pale pink in color, changing to white, each shoot bearing an immense cluster of blooms. Chlotilde Souper is the finest of all, the flowers being quite large, and very double; it is also the most abundant bloomer, often as many as thirty buds blooming on one branch, and flowering nearly all the year round if grown in the house. Blanche Rebatil is another lovely variety blooming in great clusters, and forming a delightful contrast with the paler roses, its color being a rich deep crimson.

These roses, I think, are more easily coaxed into yielding a wealth of blossoms than the larger varieties. A few of the monthly or ever-blooming roses, however, yield equally as charming results. Of these I would recommend the following to the amateur: Queen's Scarlet, rich, velvety crimson, very double and sweet, and a generous bloomer; Saffrano, bright apricot yellow, sometimes peculiarly shaded with rose, very fragrant, blooms profusely, deliciously tea-scented, and exquisite buds, indeed one of the loveliest of roses; and lastly, American Beauty, a deep brilliant pink, and as perfect as a rose can be in every way. Meteor and Papa Gontier are very handsome crimson varieties, both blooming abundantly. La France and Bon Silene are exquisite, but for me far too chary of their sweet blossoms.

Little Things in the Garden.

We may plan great things for the garden says Vick's Floral Guide, but we find that the great things to be done there are always made up of little, seemingly unimportant things. If we neglect these because they seem trivial, the great things we planned to do are never accomplished. Therefore do the little things, carefully, and lo! before you know it the end you had in view is attained.

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