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Questions and Answers

STOMATITIS

An aged mare (ten or twelve years) was in fair condition when purchased two months ago. Worked only moderately. Fed a gallon of oats three times daily with some bran and plenty of good upland hay. This mare went to a skeleton in about two weeks. Hind legs swell when standing in stable; hide tight and unthrifty. She has several ulcers in mouth above the front teeth. When walking seems stiff in hind legs, and straddles very much. She urinates very frequently. I have given her condition powders and fed boiled barley, oats and bran mash. Given sulphate of iron as tonic and small doses of saltpetre. Kindly advise how to treat her and what to do for the ulcers. She has not been worked for three weeks now, and yet does not improve—keeps thin, dull and sluggish. Do you think it possible she had been faked? I bought her from a horse dealer. J. B.

Man.—The very bad condition of the system of your mare is, no doubt, the result of some previous debilitating disease, probably influenza. The ulcerating spots in the mouth indicate that the mucous membrane lining of the stomach is to some extent inflamed. This condition is known as "stomatitis." Feed her on mashes, such as boiled oats and scalded bran, and occasionally boiled flaxseed, also roots, if obtainable. A dozen carrots, or two or three turnips, may be allowed every day. Do not over feed her with hay, give just as much as she will clean up in an hour, three times daily. Give her plenty of good fresh water to drink, and gentle exercise for a half hour at a time three times a day. For internal medication, give one of the following powders three times a day mixed with her feed: Subnitrate of bismuth, 6 ounces; salol, 3 ounces; powdered nux vomica, 1½ ounces. Mix and divide into 12 powders. Keep the sores in her mouth clean by swabbing after each meal with a mixture of carbolic acid, ½ ounce to a quart of water. We cannot say whether she had or had not been getting medicine before you purchased her.

BOARDING THRESHERS

Threshing machine came to my place on Saturday, just before dinner; threshed till 5 p. m., when something broke. Three of the crew went away that night and left four men with me, returning on the following Wednesday noon. On Thursday morning they finished threshing, which was about one hour's work. Now, I felt I ought to charge him board for the four men he left four days with me. All he threshed was 365 bushels of grain. Am I justified in deducting board for four days when no work was going on at all, or is there a law (as he claims) that one must keep the crew for any length of time for nothing? What is the law about keeping threshers over Sunday?

Alta. INQUIRER.
Ans.—There is no statutory law covering the question of boarding a threshing gang. The custom of the country would become the law. It is the custom in this country to board over Sunday the engineer, fireman and sometimes one man who usually drives the water team, but where the men live near they nearly always go home until perhaps Sunday night. A farmer would not be compelled in any event to board these two or three men over Sunday, but it is customary. The farmer would not be obliged to board any of these men during the week unless the machine was running, and would be entitled to charge a reasonable amount for board of any who were there unless they were threshing, and should deduct a reasonable amount from the threshing bill. The thresher is entirely wrong if he claims that the farmer must keep the crew for any length of time.

Forgot the "Kick"

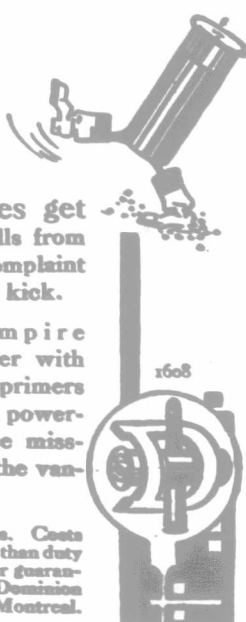
We sometimes get back Sovereign shells from novices with the complaint that we left out the kick.

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RATION FOR MILCH COWS

1. Kindly compound a ration for milch cows from the following: Oat straw cut green, wild hay, turnips, carrots or mangels and oat chop.
2. Do you advise plowing stubble in the fall when it will be sown to oats the following spring?

Man. T. E. P.
Ans.—1. These feeds used in a ration in about the following proportions per day per cow should give satisfactory results: Prairie hay, 8 pounds; oat hay, 13 pounds; mangels, 28 or 30 pounds; oat chop, 10 pounds. This will give you a nutritive ratio in the ration of about one to seven, which while it is not as "narrow" as a ration for best results in cowfeeding ought to be, is as narrow as this choice of feed

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