

near a post office; (2) from individuals or villagers whose trade is likely to be hindered or deflected by reason of mail routes; (3) from unprogressive individuals who read nothing, and to whom the importance of the regular mail is a cipher.

"The farmer of to-day," says Mr. Bush, "is not the illiterate, non-reading, non-writing lout that some delight to paint him, and others would like to have him." To the farmer, the mail, to a great extent, makes up for lectures, entertainments, libraries, intercourse with the world; and it does seem a pity—not that the townsman who has all of these advantages should also enjoy that of having his mail delivered at his door three times daily, but that the countryman, who helps to pay for this privilege of the city, should not be himself in some sort similarly served. Free city delivery was born of progress, and grew by its own merits; rural mail delivery is a child of modern development, and is also bound to grow. It may be hindered, but it cannot be stopped.

HORSE

Winnipeg Horse Show, May 23, 24 and 25.

In building a stable see that there is plenty of light admitted. It is one of the best disinfectants.

Before the young stock go on grass trim their hoofs so that there will not be any projecting angles to cause splitting and sand cracks.

Every one knows how important it is to have a horse with a long free stride. It is one of the hereditary characteristics.

"Monday morning disease" is a swelling of the hind legs caused by high feeding and lack of exercise on idle days. Moral—ease off on the grain allowance when the horses are laid up for a day or two.

New York has passed a bill prohibiting the docking of horses' tails or the importation into the state of docked horses. A tailless horse, worries a New York politician more than an industrial trust in restraint of trade.

A pair of draft geldings was recently sold in Chicago for \$860. A consignment of twenty head brought an average of \$310 which looks as if the business of heavy horse breeding is not under any depression.

Some of the Speedy Newcomers.

The opening of spring brings with it the race-horse man and his string of horses, sulkies and swipes. Recent arrivals are the chestnut mare Cloria, 2.12 1-4, Lady Melvis, a four-year-old; Miss Chloe, full sister to Cloria; Eddy Patch, two-year-old; Little Chip, two-year-old stallion; Winnipeg Girl in Bunnell's string. W. W. Fleming has also Hazel Patch, 2.02 3-4, a black stallion, whose ancestry is peculiar, his dam being understood to carry draft blood, and his paternity being in doubt, owing to the fact that his dam was stunted to two different horses in the one heat. Another horse of Flemings is Bill Bailly, 2.11 1-4, a chestnut gelding. Star Gould, 2.17 1-4 (half mile track) is also at Island Park, Portage la Prairie. The Brown Bros. stables make Portage a noted center for flyers.

The Foal.

There is always more danger of a foal being killed by kindness than by neglect. For the first twenty four hours of his life the foal should be allowed to "wabble" about and get on his own legs. No drugs or other medical treatment is necessary up to this time unless there is something evidently unnatural that requires attention. One of the most certain methods of causing disorders in young foals which may later result fatally is to begin dosing as soon as the youngster is on his feet. Give the mare bran mashes for a day or two to reduce the fever incident to parturition and feed her on clean hay and oats. Reduce the oats and increase the bran if the foal shows evidence of constipation, but do not feed barley to the mare as it is almost certain to cause diarrhoea in the foal.

In the Foaling Box.

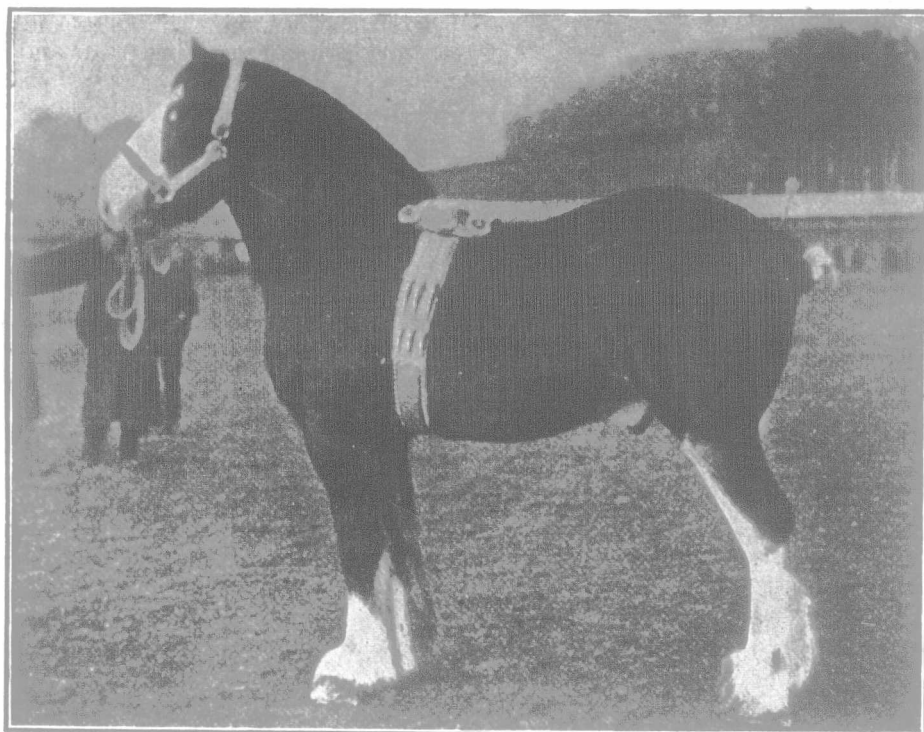
In a large percentage of cases the act of foaling in mares is naturally performed. Sometimes this does not occur, so we think it wise to keep close watch on all mares about to bring forth young. The task of watching should be entrusted to a reliable man, and who has some knowledge of the location of the generative organs and positions likely to be taken by the foal, and also some knowledge of obstetrics and the manner in which parturition (birth) takes place, the forces that produce it and the various conditions that prevent it, and has knowledge and skill to remove these obstacles. If he has an intelligent idea of the act when it takes place in a normal manner, he will be able to recognize abnormal conditions, and if not able to rectify these he should send promptly for a veterinarian. A very important point with the animal nurse is to know when to interfere, as much harm is sometimes done by premature or irrational interference, as is at other times by being too tardy. Some mares, especially those foaling for the first time become excited at the presence of anyone; sometimes the presence of a person, not a stranger, especially if the regular attendant, appears to have a calming effect upon the mare during labor pains. In most cases it is wise for the watcher to keep as quiet and as much out of sight of the mare as possible, but at the same time be in such a position that he can observe her actions and note the progress being made toward delivery. He should not be anxious to render assistance; he should be content to allow nature a fair opportunity to perform her functions, and when things are making fair progress he should await developments. While in most cases the mare appears to exercise a great degree of intelligence, we sometimes notice that

as it will if the cord be cut straight with a sharp knife. Instinct is also supposed to teach the mare to sever the cord with her teeth, but she generally fails to do so, and unless the attendant does so, the membranes remain attached to the foetus by the cord, and materially interfere with its actions. All mucus should be removed from the foal's mouth and eyes, and unless the dam rises and attends to it, he should rub it with wisps of straw until dry; when it struggles to gain its feet he should assist it, and, if necessary, hold it up to suck, but if the foal be strong and smart, and the dam is giving it the proper attention, the less interference the better, and especially if the dam is cross and cranky, but it must be understood that if the foal be not strong enough to get up and walk it is necessary to assist it, even though more help be necessary to control the dam.

In some cases the dam is unnatural and vicious with her foal, and if not prevented will injure and probably destroy it. In such cases it is necessary for the attendant or attendants to control her, which can usually be done with a twitch, to allow the foal to suck. Except in rare cases she soon becomes reconciled, but it is often necessary to remove the foal, or to watch the mare constantly to prevent her from injuring it until it has sucked several times.

In cases where labor pains have been frequent and severe for a considerable time, and no progress is apparently being made towards delivery, the attendant must decide that some abnormal condition exists.

All cases do not go along as smoothly as mentioned above, especially is this the case where the mare has led an idle life, and her muscles are in a flabby condition as a consequence. Where delivery does not occur promptly, (when things are alright, birth is the most rapid in horses of all



CLYDESDALE STALLION REVELANTA (11876)

Winner of first prize in the open class for aged horses at the Scottish Stallion Show, Glasgow, 1906.

during the excitement caused by the pains, she appears to have lost the intelligence or instinct usually shown and will lie with her croup so close to the wall that delivery cannot take place, this is less likely to occur if an ample sized box stall is the lying-in room; and if left alone the foal will perish, and more or less serious complications be caused in the dam. In such cases the attendant should interfere promptly, and cause her to rise, and if he cannot do this, he can at least shift her sufficiently by pulling on her tail or other ways to give room for delivery.

It is quite common for a foal to be born enclosed in the membranes; this occurs more frequently in a rapid and easy birth. Instinct is supposed to teach the dam to at once rupture them with her teeth, but experience teaches us that even when birth is easy and not preceded by any considerable pain or distress, she will generally lie for a few minutes after delivery, and in the meantime the foetus may perish. When this condition exists the attendant should at once sever the membranes with a knife, which he should at all times have within reach. In all cases in which the navel cord is not severed, he should tie it tightly with a strong, soft cord, about an inch from the abdomen, and sever it with a scraping motion of the knife about an inch below that. When the cord is severed in this manner bleeding will not occur, even though the ligature should become removed,

the domesticated animals), a careful examination should be made by the attendant, no undue force being employed. He should roll up his shirt sleeves, oil his hand and arm, insert his hand into the vagina, press forward to the womb; and endeavor to get a correct idea of the position of the foal. The proper way for the foal to be presented is with the head and both fore feet; sometimes a foot or a leg is back and in such cases the exercise of common sense and patience counts for much. No work is more exhausting than rectifying a malposition, especially if unnecessary delay is permitted. It may be generally assumed that if delivery cannot be accomplished by the amateur in thirty minutes careful work the aid of the professional should be invoked. Delay in such cases minimises the chances of delivery and even should delivery be made, severe protracted cases almost invariably result in severe cases of metritis (inflammation of the womb). The professional man will need lots of help when he arrives, and there should be an ample supply of hot water, towels, raw linseed oil or clean sweet lard ready for use. It is also a good plan to keep on a good fire in the kitchen so that those working may be revived by cups of hot tea. Give the preference to the quiet, mannerly, strong veterinarian, who will use chloroform, a few ropes and common sense rather than to the fellow with that death dealing imple-

ment, the fitted for delicate.

A good grains of water, or or a solution of ounces of The dress possible, until the that almost navel ill,

EDITOR I

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