

Advertisement for 'SOAP' featuring an illustration of a soap box and the text: 'HAS THE LARGEST SALE IN THE WORLD BECAUSE IT IS THE BEST SOAP IN THE WORLD THERE IS NO SOAP LIKE IT TO LESSEN LABOR AND BRING COMFORT. VETERINARY DEPARTMENT.'

LEADER IN CHARGE OF DR. J. H. WILSON, V.S., LONDON. ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Enquiries will be answered free, and should always contain writer's full name and address.

SPAVIN. Dr. Charles R. Wood, V.S., in the American Cultivator, in treating of this disease, says:—Spavin has been defined to be an exostosis of the hock, commonly located and more detectable on its inner side, whereby bones before movable become cemented and fixed together, and which is sometimes productive of caries of the articular surface of one or more of the joints of the hock.

CAUSES OF SPAVIN. These I shall consider under the head of predisposing and exciting. Predisposition to spavin may be either constitutional or local, in the former case lying in breed or constitution, in the latter in some peculiarity in the formation of the hock or in the use made of it. Diseases of the hock are often hereditary. I have known the progeny of some horses very much disposed to spavin; others inherit a tendency to spavin, and in some cases the peculiar formation of the parts inherited from the parent render them susceptible of those diseases from causes that would make little impression on other horses.

SYMPTOMS OF SPAVIN. These are in general plain, simple and unequivocal. The horse manifests lameness in one of his hind limbs, and on examination a circumscribed spheroid tumor, of the magnitude of half a walnut or more, "a jack," as spavin is often called by dealers, is evident enough both to the sight and feeling of the man practised in such matters. Lameness, however, the effect of spavin, may be present without any detectable tumor. On the other hand, there may be a tumor, even of large size, "a thumping jack," in dealers' phraseology, and yet lameness not be a consequence. In the detection of the eye a nice test than the hand, though the two, one in confirmation of the other, constitute ordinary agents in the examination. Commencing with critical inspection of the hock, the place in which the tumor can best be traced in the eye the line of its inner surface is standing by the side of the horse's corresponding fore limb. Here, by stooping his body and carrying his head either near to or away from the animal's abdomen, according as may be required, he will obtain the sought-for profile view of the inner superficies of the hock.

canon beginning, the part of the superficial line which constitutes the dip on one into the other, that is the site of a spavin. A small, round tumor interrupting the natural convexity from the hock to the canon, and in a moment catches the eye of the experienced observer. In cases where the tumor, from its smallness or flatness or diffuse character, or any indistinct location, the examiner will not be behind up to the feeling until he has nearly compared the suspected with the sound normal hock. For my own part, I always think this comparison is most critically made by standing in the situation usually occupied, first, on one side of the horse than on the other, and carrying the impression then on the eye from one hock to the opposite. By placing from one side the hand behind up to the hock, and directing his attention to the fore legs, both hocks may be inspected simultaneously and to more advantage than if he were positioned behind the horse. In neither of these situations, however, to my mind, can the examiner obtain that critical profile view of the superficial which is best suited to the detection of small or flattened tumors of spavin.

It is in these doubtful cases that we more especially derive advantage from the feeling with the sight, with this sense corrector, and the sensation given by the fingers carried over the place of spavin in a normal hock is not one of uniform levelness or rotundity of surface. I feel certain that irregular elevation, nature of the surface, below the malleolus we feel the process of the astragalus, the prominent of the cuneiform bones and immediately beneath that of the small metatarsal bone, the head of the inner small metatarsal bone. Indistinctness to the feel of these landmarks, if I may so denominate the natural prominences, and particularly about the site of spavin or any unusual fulness or protuberance thereabouts, would excite suspicion, and this suspicion would be confirmed or removed by contrasting the feel as well as the aspect of one hock with that of the other. It is but natural to suspect they should be, if their callous or inflamed condition, heat and tenderness in their time, it is difficult, however, in general to detect the former. As to the latter, it is equally difficult often to ascertain whether any functional disease may manifest itself from tenderness or any pressure the examiner may be making, or from a habit of catching up behind leg the moment it is handled, as some horses will do.

Lameness, though the ordinary, it is not the necessary consequence of spavin. The lameness arises from different causes, mostly from the pain or soreness of the animal, or from the inflammation of the joint, or from the varying in different cases, and at different periods or stages of the malady, will account for its fluctuations for the horse being so much lammer at one time than at another. Secondly, lameness may be produced, in chronic inveterate spavin, particularly by inability to flex and extend the hock, and, owing to some increase of fluid in the joint or else in consequence of partial ankylosis. Indeed lameness may vary in degree from what is called "stiffness" in action to downright halting or hopping. A horse may have a large exostosis of the hock in place, and yet not evince lameness. On the other hand, a horse may be extremely lame, and yet only "a knot" be discernible in the seat of spavin.

Occasionally, the lameness arising from spavin, not being such as to incapacitate the horse, and being behind instead of fore he is kept to work with it when he ought to be laid up. Most likely he goes quite limpingly when first he leaves his stable in the morning, but after having gone awhile and got warm his lameness shows itself less and less, until at last he goes all but or quite out. The explanation of which appears to be any redundancy or increase of the synovial fluid, the morbid condition of the hock may have caused, is by action, by repeated flexion and extension, temporarily removed, and the action, which, from that cause, is ankylosis, at first was stiff and painful, but by degrees comparatively facile and painless.

In a case, however, where there exists such inflammation of the hock, or in that form of disease in which irritation of the present, exercise, so far from benefiting the animal, makes his lameness worse. My own observation has led me to two kinds of lameness in spavin. One, the effect of either the ordinary sub-acute or chronic inflammation of the joint, or of partial ankylosis of the parts, is not comparatively slight, and consists for the most part in stiffness in motion or in defective flexion of the hock. The other, which is the result of the ordinary sub-acute or chronic inflammation of the joint, or of partial ankylosis of the parts, is not comparatively slight, and consists for the most part in stiffness in motion or in defective flexion of the hock.

repute by many practitioners, which rarely cures 50 per cent. of cases. In my own experience and that of two other eminent men, the character of treatment which has been most successful is a surgical operation upon the hock joint at the locality of spavin. This treatment requires but 30 days' rest, and with proper care leaves little or no scar. I have personally performed this operation, and only in nine instances was the result unsatisfactory, and these were especially bad cases. The percentage of cures in favor of this treatment is almost double over any other.

The Manitoba Case. Montreal Gazette. The Manitoba school case is about to reach the last gavel of the courts, leaving to appeal from the recent decision of the Supreme Court of Canada touching the remedial powers of the Federal Government, having been granted by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. The present phase of the question does not relate in any way to the constitutional rights of the Manitoba statutes abolishing separate schools. That branch of the subject, after having been pronounced upon by three courts in Canada, was finally disposed of by the decision of the Judicial Committee in Great Britain maintaining the legality of the provincial enactments. The Roman Catholic minority, however, petitioned not only for the disallowance of the Manitoba school law, but also for remedial action by the Governor-General-in-Council, and, if necessary, by the Parliament of Canada, under sub-sections 2 and 3 of section 22 of the Manitoba act, which are as follows:—

"2. An appeal shall lie to the Governor-General-in-Council from any act or decision of the Legislature of the province, or of any provincial authority, affecting any right or privilege of the Protestant or the Roman Catholic minority of the Queen's subjects in relation to education. "3. In case any such provincial law, as from time to time seems to the Governor-General-in-Council requisite for the due execution of the provisions of this section, is not made, or in case any decision of the Governor-General-in-Council on any appeal under this section is not duly carried into effect by the provincial authority in that behalf, then, and in every such case, and as far only as the circumstances of each case require, the Parliament of Canada may make remedial laws for the due execution of the provisions of this section and of any decision of the Governor-General-in-Council under this section."

Accordingly, a minority of the Federal Government, for remedial legislation, and the latter wisely decided before answering the petition, steps should be taken to ascertain authoritative whether the remedial powers conferred by the foregoing sub-sections of the Manitoba act apply in the present case. For it is obvious that interference by the Federal Government before the legality of such a proceeding is determined would inevitably serve no effective purpose, and might create serious difficulties and dissensions. The Manitoba authorities certainly would decline to carry out any decision or order of the Governor-General-in-Council until the constitutionality of such a decision was established, and the result would be to put the case into court again, after the Federal Government had acted, to determine what the precise powers of the latter were. By the wise method adopted, a method, moreover, indicated and provided for in the law, the authorities at Ottawa will be enabled to learn exactly what the powers are before they proceed to consider how such power, if any, should be exercised. The first step, upon the petition of the Roman Catholic minority, was to submit the case to the Supreme Court of Canada, which decided that the Governor-General-in-Council had no power to make the remedial orders asked for, and no jurisdiction in the premises, and this decision will now shortly be reviewed by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. Few persons conversant with the case entertain the opinion, we imagine, that the Judicial Committee will limit the jurisdiction of the Governor-General-in-Council, or of the opening of this latter is upheld, no redress of the Manitoba minority can be given by the Dominion Government or Parliament. There will then be two means, and only two, of relieving the Roman Catholics from the disabilities under the law, the authorities at Ottawa will be enabled to learn exactly what the powers are before they proceed to consider how such power, if any, should be exercised.

SUFFERING CHILDREN.—Nothing is more pitiable than the writhings of a child who is sick and unable to locate its pain. In most cases children suffer from disordered stomachs—or at least troubles of that kind are most common—and, if not treated in time, often result in death. Twenty drops of PERRY DAVIS' PAIN-KILLER will alleviate the most painful and obstinate cases of chronic diarrhoea or summer complaint in the world, and no one can feel safe without having a bottle of the medicine at her elbow. Ask respectable druggists for the PAIN-KILLER at 35c for the Big New Size. tu.&w

How About the Town's Morals? A delicate but pressing question. Are we deteriorating? Are things said and done to-day which would have made our grandmothers blush? How about Stark's Powders? A far more important question. "Oh, that stab in the head and ace by that treacherous foe, neuralgia!" And the sick headache, the nauseous biliousness. Keep a supply of Stark's Powders. They cure when all fails. They give beauty for the ashes of suffering. Twenty-five cents a box. At all druggists'. tu.&w

POINTS ON HAYING. The extremely wet spring has promised an abundant hay crop in several places, and if properly gathered and cured the harvest will be a profitable one, but late. While a large crop of good hay is apt to make prices a trifle lower, the extra amount of hay that we gather from each acre more than makes up for a decline in prices. This crop is becoming more important in the farm economy every year, and it will pay to give greater consideration to it than ever before in its history. The tendency in many districts is to cut the hay crop either too early or too late, because having time comes just when other crops demand our attention. There is so much piling, hoeing, cultivating and planting required that the hay is apt to be neglected. Now, there is less loss to neglect most of other crops for a week than to let the hay crop take care of itself. There is a time for the grass to be cut and it should be gathered at that time and not at some other season.

Early cutting of grass to avoid conflict with other work is bad policy. Cutting grass very early because there is current to-day an idea that it makes better hay is also to be deplored. Unless it reaches its maturity it will not make as good nutritious hay. It may seem sweeter and blinder, but it does not contain the nutriment of which the stock is in need. Let the grass reach maturity (not over-ripeness), and then harvest as quickly as possible. If necessary cut only half the field at a time, if one part is mature and the other part still very green and young. This very result happens where part of the field is on lower and moist ground, or where the soil is very rich soil and the other sandy. A good stand of grass properly cut and cured will bring in a good profit to any farmer; and do not become deluded with the idea that city purchasers do not know good from poor hay. They know so well that they will single out the best every time, and pay for it accordingly. We grow corn, and therefore do not care to cut it. On the other hand, late cutting is equally to be avoided. When grass is allowed to turn yellow it is losing its valuable constituents, and every day after that will represent a total loss to the owner. The loss is in two ways. The first will be of a poorer grade, and the future crop will be badly affected by it. The roots of the plants are exhausted more when the stalks are allowed to get over ripe. Early cutting is consequently a benefit, unless carried to an extreme. If late cutting is practised, by all means manure the soil so that the injured plants will be better nourished. This will insure a good crop next season. The plants will get a good winter protection over them before the frosts of winter come to nip them. After the middle of June put the machine to work cutting the grass crop.

COMMON SALT AS A FERTILIZER. There is an animated discussion going on at the present time in several agricultural newspapers relative to the value of salt as a manure, and widely divergent views are entertained regarding the true manure value of salt, some people considering it exceedingly useful, while others appear disposed to believe quite the reverse. In this London district every spring there is more or less salt sown on grain fields, and as might be expected, with hardly ever the same results. Undoubtedly, as a matter of fact, the effect produced varies very materially with different soils. There can be no question that in many cases the improvement in results obtained follows an application of this substance to land, which has long been well known in practice to farmers. Experiments conducted in this country and on the other side, under carefully ascertained and regulated conditions, with the intention of investigating the point, sometimes found to produce as striking an effect as a dressing of ashes or other potash manures. Consequently the foregoing supposition fully explains why salt, although not itself supplying indispensable elements, yet its solvent and decomposing action upon phosphates and potash compounds under suitable conditions secures a result equivalent to an application of these substances so highly necessary to plant growth. Obviously the effects produced will vary with the condition of particular soils in respect to reserves of fertilizing ingredients, and the combinations in which they occur, thus accounting for the different opinions expressed concerning the manure merit of salt as previously mentioned. It is important also to observe that absolutely no support is given to the erroneous view that any material whatever will answer for manure, as some might hastily infer upon ascertaining the advantages of salt, not without due regard to the absence of food in its composition. What we are really taught is that materials employed for fertilizing purposes must either in themselves afford nourishment to crops, or be capable of rendering some active principle previously inert. In addition to this, salt affects the deliquescent properties of other potash manures, and the atmosphere passed by common salt (we know how damp it becomes when exposed to the air) are often of material advantage, particularly to succulent vegetable, such as the cabbage crop and celery. Ample evidence abounds regarding the benefits of salt in crop cultivation when the season without needing to fear that they are only wise to avail themselves of its services.

Agicultural Abstracts. Kerosene emulsion can most easily be applied to stock to destroy lice and prevent the attacks of the horn fly by using the sprayer, which was designed originally for applying spraying mixtures to fruit trees. A hand sprayer is most convenient, and with a fine nozzle a very small quantity will be sufficient, whereas by hand and sponge application the work will require much more liquid and take much more time.

The outside peel of onions makes a good lining for hen's nests, as the odor from the vegetable drives away the lice, which are sure to be worst on the hen that is sitting if there are any in the hen house. It is well to rub a little grease on the necks of sitting hens to destroy the lice, but it should not be used plentifully or put on their breasts. Grease of any kind closes the pores of the egg, and when a supply of air is cut off the chick is sure to die in the shell.

Tools that are used to work in the soil will dull rapidly if there are many stones or if the soil has much grit in it. For this reason they should be ground daily when used. A few stones of the size of a marble, put in a cutting edge on a dull hoe, makes the work easier all the day. Cultivator teeth should also be kept sharp. The cultivator works more easily, and besides they will not slide over weeds, and so they are more useful. It is nearly impossible to keep the field clean.

Stirring the soil in warm weather makes it warmer by admitting more outside air. It also stimulates decomposition of any vegetable matter that the soil contains, and thus directly adds to the available supply of fertility. The more manure that the farmer applies the more thorough should be the cultivation of the crop. Only this can its full value be secured. Besides, unless the cultivator is kept busy, the manure makes the weeds grow as well as the crop. It is a good plan during the long summer days to milk three times a day. The cow which has farrowed in spring gives her milk better if she milks three times a day in June, and it ought to be a larger burden than she could carry during 12 hours. Of course the morning milking will be somewhat earlier than the night milking later if this plan is adopted. There are in the northern parts of the country about 16 hours of daylight during the month of June, so that the milking each time may be done by daylight.

We notice in some of our exchanges a recommendation of fresh-cut grass as part of the ration of working horses. It is urged by advocates of this way of feeding that exclusive rations of hay and grain, both dry, are constitutive and difficult to digest. But if a change of feed is needed a half pound of meal per day mixed with cut hay and grain will do away with its constipating effect, and with less danger of throwing a horse off its feed or giving him the colic than will be the case if the horse is given grass. The slightest taste of grass will make working horses dislike to eat hay or cut feed. If they have what grass they will eat they run on their feet, which speedily unites them for hard work. We think the rutabaga is not grown so much as it should be by American farmers. It and mangel wurtzel are the chief reliance of English farmers for succulent feed in winter for their horses. We grow corn, and therefore do not have the same need for roots. Of the turnip family, the quick-growing kinds that are sown in July are much more easily grown than rutabagas. But the latter are by far the better keepers, and are more nutritious in proportion to bulk. The earlier rutabagas are planted in June the better, as they need the whole summer to grow in. They also need a deal of work in keeping down weeds and destroying the turnip fly.

In the time of the year when all fowls that have range lay the most eggs they eat a good deal of grass. It is young and fresh then, and they will keep a considerable patch eaten down if they have a range over it. As the season advances the eggs decrease in number, but usually increase again after the grain harvest. Why not sow a small patch of oats where the fowls run, allowing them to scratch about for their grain and eat the tender blades when it appears above the surface? Fowls that have leave to roll themselves in dust keep healthy and free from vermin.

The Seckel is at its best a small pear, but when well grown it is of the very highest quality. It is, however, a variety that is especially likely to overbear. The fruit sets in great numbers, and if not removed entirely, while none should be allowed more than a single pear on a fruit spur. If allowed to set all that will set from the bottom of the tree is injured, and both the fruit and the tree will be subject to blight. When it is best the Seckel should be well colored. The tree is apt to grow too bushy, and in the centre it will be filled with small, poorly-colored fruit.

It is undoubtedly the fact that many people, tired of the humdrum of their daily toil, take to keeping poultry, with the idea that except a little labor in feeding two or three times a day they will have nothing to do. Whoever so begins will surely fail. There is constant care required, and if incubators are used the manager must be prepared to get up in the night to see that the temperature is right. Then, too, the poultry house must be cleaned daily, and though this is a short job, it is a dirty and disagreeable one, that is apt to be neglected. The only people who really succeed with poultry are those who make up their minds to work as hard in it as they would in any other business.

There has been a great deal of rain in most parts of the country the past two weeks. It is likely that trees transplanted this spring are not yet suffering from lack of moisture. If they were properly mulched when set out there will be little danger that any of them will perish. But there should be some care given them aside from the mulch. As good a plan as any is to take off the mulch and lay it one side while the soil beneath is thoroughly cultivated on the surface, when the mulch may be replaced. This is better than leaving the mulch unchanged through the season. Mulch is often put on so thickly as to entirely exclude the light and air from the soil, and this is injurious to tree growth. A correspondent of the Rural New Yorker finds a new use for the Planet Jr., wheel hoe by using it as a drill to deposit finely-powdered fertilizer with the drill attachment, and cultivating it under the surface at the same time. He was able to drill dry fertilizer, which was a mixture of finely-sifted wood ashes and bone meal, at the rate of three pounds per 100 feet of drill. We have had some experience mixing wood ashes with commercial phosphate, and found that the mixture became moist so quickly that it was very difficult to drill it. Wood ashes are too light to drill to best advantage alone. We like the Planet Jr. wheel hoe, but fail to see any advantage from it by drilling fertilizer beside plants during the growing season. It is much better to broadcast over the whole surface the fertilizer except the small quantity that is deposited with the seed. If the manure is active it will have a valuable beneficial effect on the soil that it comes in contact with, and there is not time while the plants are growing for the fertilizer to be either washed away or to become insoluble. Hence the same manure applied in early spring, when there is a great surplus of water, will do more good than it can if applied by dribbles during the summer. We can feed plants in the spring what they need through the season without needing to fear that they will use it early and have none left for later in the season.

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