

was the system that had been adopted under stress of existing circumstances a very expensive one and one that finally saved a relatively small number of the horses dealt with, but even the small proportion of horses so saved might become a source of danger to other animals.

Accordingly, in 1904 the Canadian Government decided to pay to owners two-thirds of the value of all horses that reacted to mallein, provided that the animals were destroyed at once. Such a method is radical and at the same time fair to the owner, and it is believed that no other country anywhere has adopted an equally advanced policy in dealing with this disease; but it is necessary to point out one flaw in this otherwise ideal system. There is a clause giving any owner of latent reactors who strongly objects to the destruction of such animals the option of quarantining them for retesting, provided that he forfeits all claim to subsequent compensation by doing so. The retests are limited to two, and all animals still reacting are killed immediately after the third test, without compensation; but if the animal retested ceases to react, it is released, subject to the conditions previously specified. No doubt the forfeiture of claim to compensation will prevent most owners from choosing the retest, and the great majority of animals held for retest are eventually destroyed; but in the 17 months ending March 31st, 1906, 174 horses retested had become ceased reactors, and it is to be feared that the presence of these ceased reactors among other horses may be the source of fresh outbreaks of the disease, as indeed has occurred in the past. The elimination of this one objectionable clause would add little to the total expense incurred by the Government, and although the expenditure for compensation will be very heavy for some years, there is no doubt that, energetically carried out, this policy will be the most economical eventually. Its efficacy in bringing to light cases of glanders that would otherwise have been concealed is shown by the fact that during the 22 months ending August 31st, 1906, 4,446 horses were destroyed for glanders, or more than six times as many as had been dealt with in any similar previous period. Of this number, 1,995 were clinically glandered. That is to say, more than twice as many clinical cases have been brought to light, since the adoption of a policy of compensation, as in any similar previous period. The amount paid in compensation for these horses by the Department was over \$300,000, but this amount is small indeed when compared with the sums which other countries have had to pay in stamping out contagious disease among animals. For example, Great Britain paid during the years 1865-68 \$5,500,000 compensation for rinderpest among cattle.