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ages, all important as they are in maintaining health and vigor in the pregnant mare, have a greater function; and one to which draft horse breeders have thus far given little concern. Roughage produces bone, and more of it than when grain is made the major part of the ration for the in-foal mare. I can see clearly that I am getting more bone in my foals, from the same mares and by same sire, than when I was not making a special effort to provide the mares generously with good alfalfa and timothy and clover mixed.

Breeders have learned this fact with cattle and hogs, but they have hesitated to conclude that the same thing applies to horses. We have long since known that we cannot grow bone under our hogs with corn, but that it takes tankage and clover and alfalfa, all highly nitrogenous feeds rich in bone-making materials.

No more vital question confronts draft horse breeders than this one of producing more bone. Breeders of the west tell us that their horses excel in amount of bone and I would not question their statement. If their horses had access to the grains which ours do, in addition to such grasses as grow on the prairies, the west would outdo us in the production of high-class draft horses. I wish I could make other breeders understand how strongly I feel the importance of roughage in its relation to bone production in the foetus.

After the foal is well started, its feeding is comparatively simple from then on. We encourage the youngster to eat grain just as soon as possible. Frequently the foal is eating at a month old. If we do not need the mare for work, she runs in the pasture, when the weather is suitable, both day and night, until the flies come. She is brought to the barn each night and morning, tied up and fed a gallon and a half of oats and a little bran. The foal has oats and bran in a box where it can help itself. After flytime begins, the mares and foals are kept up in the daytime and are turned out on pasture at night. When kept in, the mares are fed grain and hay three times a day and the foals can eat as much as they like. The youngster should never go hungry from this time on until past the second spring.

When we have to work the mares, we let three or four foals stay together for company in a big stall or two. Usually the best foals can not be grown with the mares at work; however, some of our most successful prizewinners in the foal classes last year were from mares that had done their share of the crop work.

We permit our foals to suck very late in the fall, some of the late ones even until Christmas. If we did not feed our mares well, we could not do this; the mares would get thin and the foals which they were carrying would be undernourished. If a mare is kept up in condition she will continue to give milk quite late; even though there is not so much of it, the little bit helps the foal wonderfully. There is nothing so good for the foal as mother's milk. We have kept account of the amount of oats our foals have eaten over a period of seven years. We get \$1 a bushel for all they eat. No one ever lost any money feeding good draft colts, and, furthermore, in no other class of farm animals will a dollar used in feed bring any bigger returns.

Our weaning process is so gradual that the foal never suffers from the loss of milk. It continues to grow without any setback. The stallion and filly foals run together until they are eighteen and twenty months old. The first year is a critical time. Carrying out the idea that seems vital with the pregnant mare, we try to have our colts consume just as much wholesome roughage as possible. We never allow them to go to the stalk-field. A colt has no business filling its belly with cornstalks. We give a feed of alfalfa, then straw and follow that with good timothy and clover hay mixed. We change his roughage and give plenty of salt and water to sharpen the appetite, and allow plenty of fresh air and exercise. If the colt consumes an ample supply of roughage, it will grow a good frame and bone in underpinning. This ration will develop a good middle as a place to carry feed.

Our yearlings get a gallon of oats and a quart of bran three times a day and not over two ears of corn at a feed. After they go on grass, they get only two feeds of grain a day and a little

1918		NOVEMBER					1918	
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY		
3			6	7				
10			13	14				
17			20	21				
24	25	26	27	28				

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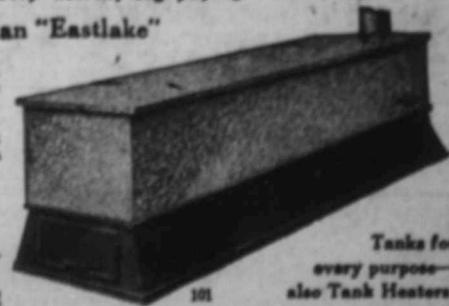
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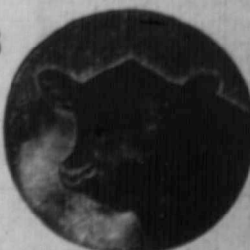
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