

west to raise wheat for 30 cents a bushel, and burn the straw for firing, rather than stay home and raise oats which he can readily sell at 35 cents a bushel, and our straw at \$11.50 per ton. Surely far off fields appear green to some.

This extra straw demand is caused by glass-works and other such causes, that use up each year from 3,000 to 5,000 tons. The average price of straw in Nova Scotia will be about \$6.50 per ton, with a ready sale for all the farmer has to spare who happens to be within reaching distance.

Do you know all our newspapers now have a farmers' column. When first the JOURNAL came amongst us a very small portion of a large percentage of the papers of the province gave but a small space to the farm. "Straws tell how the wind blows." The fact of the present interest is a proof that farming is looking up in Nova Scotia, that farmers are now massing their interests, putting their heads together, inquiring into this matter and that—beginning to wonder why there are so many lawyers and so few farmers in Parliament, asking how it is that doctors, lawyers and professional politicians get so well paid for very little work, and that farmers get such little pay for so much work. Farmers are beginning to think the man to represent them should be one who fully understands just how much back ache is represented in ten or twelve hard hours' work on the farm, for in many cases very small pay in cash.

The fact is, farmers who read the best of the many farm journals (and, by the way, a great many of them do so now), and those that do are beginning to know just how many beans it takes to make five; hence the seeming great interest taken in the farmers by the average political hack papers, who in the past, just so long as they did not hear the farmer growl, and could use him when he was wanted, had nothing to say for him. One good sound agricultural paper, devoted entirely to the interest of the farmer, is worth a pile of such political fish-hooks as large as a hay-stack.

FARMER JOHN.

Multiplying Stud Books Needlessly.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

SIR,—A few years ago we were laboring under the burden of two Shorthorn herd books, from which we mainly owe our release to your exertions; now we appear to be fast attaining the same proud position in the way of stud books. There is, I believe, already in existence a Clydesdale Stud book, and also a Shire Stud Book in process of formation, while in the neighborhood of Goderich there is an incorporated association called the Dominion Draught Horse Breeders' Society; and now comes the last straw in the shape of *The Improved Canadian Draught Horse Association*. In the first place, does Canada possess a breed of draught horses to be improved? There are plenty of grade Clydes, grade Shires, and horses of mixed Clyde and Shire pedigree on a Canadian foundation, but all the draught is owing to the crosses from the Clydes or Shires. The idea of a stud book for horses of mixed Clyde and Shire breeding is a good one, but why should we have two? The standard of the Goderich Stud Book is of course absurdly low, but it would be easy to raise it: certainly the title of *The Dominion Draught Horse* is better than *The Improved Canadian Draught Horse*. I hope, Mr. Editor, you will once more step into the breach and repeat your former success by uniting these two associations into one, either as the Canadian Draught Stud Book, or the Dominion Draught Stud Book (it does not much signify which), and spare the country the infliction of two.

[We have only been held back thus far by not having been put in possession as yet of a copy of the Constitution and By-laws of the Dominion Draught Horse Breeders' Society.—ED.]

Veterinary.

For the CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

Weed

BY F. C. GRENSIDE, V. S., GUELPH, ONT.

An ailment amongst horses, which is by no means uncommon in this country, is very frequently designated by the term "weed," but a variety of names are applied to it in different countries—"Shake,"

"Shot of Grease," "Monday Morning Disease," and "Lymphangitis," are amongst the list of names used, the latter one being probably the most suitable, as it indicates that the lymphatic vessels and glands are the structures involved, which is really the case.

A horse is all at once found to be suffering pain in one of his legs; very occasionally two legs may be found affected, it may be a fore leg, but nineteen times out of twenty it is a hind one. The subject ceases to eat on account of the pain suffered; and if the animal is observed in the first stages, it is likely he will be found in a shivering fit, which may last several hours. The affected extremity is constantly moved about, up and down, and is often suspended in the air for several minutes at a time; in fact the leg is used in a manner which shows much irritability and pain.

If in a hind leg, by manipulation of the groin will be rendered evident a cord-like structure, which if pressed, the animal will show much pain, by throwing the leg outwards and upwards. The swelling soon increases and involves the whole limb to the foot. There is much constitutional disturbance shown. In addition to loss of appetite, the pulse is much accelerated, hard and bounding; with breathing hastened. If the fore leg is the one affected the tender spot will be inside the elbow. Swelling inclines downward as in the hind leg. The animal becomes confined in the bowels, with urine high colored and scanty. The thermometer usually shows a rise in the temperature of three or four degrees.

The real state of affairs is, that the system has become surcharged with nutritive fluid, and its presence in the vessels, and its passage through the gland in undue quantities excites inflammatory action, resulting in the symptoms described.

The cause of the trouble is undoubtedly due to a larger amount of pabulum being consumed than the system is able to assimilate. It is usually noticed to set in after a day or two's rest; hence the appellation of "Monday Morning Disease." Although the exciting cause is too much nutritious food, still very much depends upon the predisposing influence of depression from hard work impairing the assimilative powers.

I have taken occasion before in these columns to draw attention to the irrational practice of *full feeding* without work, and no disease better illustrates the ill effects of this error in diet than the one under consideration. A horse should not receive much more than half his usual ration of grain when he is laid off for a day or two, and some laxative and cooling food, as a bran mash, should take the place of the grain that is withheld.

All horses do not show an equal tendency to attacks of weed. Those of low nervous organization, or of a dull, lymphatic temperament, are most prone, consequently it is more frequently seen in coarsely bred animals. One attack renders an animal more subject to another.

From the sudden manner in which the disease comes on, and from its affecting the limbs, it is frequently confused with a violent strain, the supposition being that such injury was inflicted while the animal was getting up.

The treatment is by no means complicated or difficult, and if rational, is of much advantage. Some cases recover without much care, but judicious treatment saves much pain, expedites recovery, and tends to prevent the swelling in the limb becoming permanent, a condition that is very unsightly and lessens the value of a horse considerably. Unless in case of a mare in foal, a purgative dose of aloes is most beneficial, as it clears out the digestive tract and promotes the absorption and excretion of superfluous

food products. It also tends to reduce the resulting swelling in the limb, after the active inflammation has subsided. As has been remarked, there is much pain in the affected leg during the first stages of the attack. This is much relieved and recovery promoted by continual warm fomentations. The best plan of fomenting is to wring out a woollen blanket, folded in several thicknesses in almost boiling water and apply it round the groin until it loses its heat to some extent; then wring out again, and so on for several hours, if possible. On stopping the fomentations it is well to envelop the limb in dry woollen rags to prevent harmful reaction from cold. During the first stages of the attack, or while the pulse is full and strong, benefit will be derived from the administration of ten drop doses of Fleming's tincture of aconite, repeated every two hours until five or six doses have been given, or until the pulsations become lowered.

Bran mash given three times a day until the purge has finished operating is all the food necessary. As soon as the bowels become set, a little grain and hay may be allowed; and two drachm doses of saltpetre given twice a day in the food.

Exercise must not be neglected as soon as the tenderness in the limb has passed away, otherwise the swelling will be apt to remain, and become a permanent condition.

If this trouble recurs in the same limb, which it is very apt to do unless care is exercised in the management of a horse, it becomes a very difficult matter, in fact impossible in some cases, to prevent chronic enlargement resulting.

If the patient is a mare in foal, raw linseed oil may be used as a safe substitute for a purge of aloes—about a pint and a half is a suitable dose. In lieu of a purgative, ounce doses of salt petre, repeated three times a day for a couple of days will answer.

Cow with Caked Udder.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

SIR,—I would like to ask you if you know anything that would be good for a cow that has a hardness something like a rope running up in one quarter of her bag, and at times small lumps as it were come away with the milk from that teat, so that of course it is of no use. As she is an excellent milker I would like very much to get her cured. If you can give any information as to the cause or cure, it will be thankfully received.

GEO. S. ROBERTSON.

Cherry Hill Farm, Lucknow, Ont.

ANSWER BY F. C. GRENSIDE, V. S., GUELPH.

The chances are she will lose her quarter. However, care should be exercised in removing all fluid and clotted milk from the quarter. In the absence of a teat syphon, a knitting needle may, with great care, be introduced into the canal of the teat with the object of removing obstructing clots.

The syringing in of tepid water and milking it out, followed by injecting a one per cent. solution of carbolic acid, may afford some relief.

Shedding Teeth in Heifers and Lead Poisoning.

EDITOR CANADIAN LIVE-STOCK AND FARM JOURNAL.

SIR,—Do cows or heifers ever shed their teeth? A heifer three and a half years old has been thin all summer. Local quacks say she is shedding her teeth. She seems to be well.

A cow licked a white lead can out. She only lived three days afterwards, and died in great agony. Could she have been saved? By answering the above you will greatly oblige.

IGNORANCE.

Heifers usually complete the process of shedding the grinders—molars—at about three years of age, and then have a full set of permanent grinders. In many cases the permanent corner incisors are not present until after the completion of the third year.