

means of keeping up even a moderate temperature, no hot water can be procured except from the division kitchens and bath room, and by the time it arrives at the stable it is often too cold to be of the slightest use. During the last month the weather has been intensely cold, some cases of injuries under treatment, I had to have removed daily to the blacksmith's shop in order to dress them, it being quite out of the question to attempt to do it in the stable. In some cases this would be impossible, and I would most respectfully urge that something be done in the matter of a new building—not only is it hard on the patients but it is equally hard on the attendants. Surgical operations that require prompt attention have either to be altogether abandoned or can only be performed in such a way that the best results cannot be hoped for. Poultices are often frozen solid, and it becomes almost impossible to use water in any way.

The general health of stock throughout this district has been remarkably good, a few cases of "actinomycesis" have from time to time been brought to notice. In one case a tumour taken from the muscles of the postero external part of the upper third of the tibia of "a beef" was brought to my office; what remained of the carcass, the greater portion having already been consumed as good, was to all appearances perfectly healthy. I made a careful examination of the tumour and suspected that it was a case of "actinomycesis." The peculiar situation of the lesion, and my microscope not being a very powerful one I was loth to put too much reliance upon my diagnosis, I therefore sent the specimen to the pathological laboratory of McGill University for confirmation, and received a reply from Dr. McEachran, of which the following is an extract. "We have hardened the specimen, made sections and stained by Gram's method, the specimen shows casious masses appearing like "tuberculosis." But on microscopic examination the ray fungus was discovered, the specimen is therefore one of 'actinomycesis.'" By the above it will be seen that the disease does not always manifest itself in a very marked manner. But for the accidental discovery of the tumour it would never have been known that there was anything amiss with the animal, and as it was the greater part of the carcass had already been consumed as food—what remained was condemned by me.

As usual, a number of horses have been sent out for a winter's run on herd on account of their feet and legs. The winter, however, has proved so exceptionally severe and the snow so deep that they have had to be brought in, a crust is forming on the snow which is about two feet deep on the level, and in consequence the skin on the front of the fetlocks of a number of the horses was becoming so denuded of hair, bruised and even cut, that I considered it advisable to have them all brought into the post at least for the present.

This is the severest winter I have yet seen in the country and is very exceptional, this being the first time in my experience that it has been found necessary to bring the herd in from winter quarters.

I visited all the "K" division detachments several times during the year and found the horses in good order, a few cases of temporary ailments, but nothing of a serious nature. I also recommended several horses to be given a winter's rest as their legs and feet showed considerable signs of wear.

Before closing my report I would like to draw attention to the satisfactory manner in which Reg. No. 1776, Corporal E. A. Aske, has performed his duties at this post as veterinary corporal.

I inclose an appendix of diseases from 30th November, 1895, to 30th November, 1896.

I have the honour to be, sir,  
Your obedient servant,

T. A. WROUGHTON,  
*Assistant Veterinary Surgeon.*