

ernment inspection. One hoof was branded 'E. R.' to identify such animals, and the branded hoof had to be preserved if the animal died. Such horses (latent reactors) were retested with mallein 40 days after the first test and if they still reacted, again 60 days later. Horses which ceased to react under this repeated testing were released from all restrictions, save that their sale was still forbidden and that they were required to be kept available for Government inspection. If an animal still reacted at the third test, an attempt was made to gain the owner's consent to its destruction. If he refused, a final test was made 90 days after the third, and if there was still a reaction, the animal was killed. Of course all latent reactors which at any time developed clinical signs of glanders were at once destroyed.

Expensive and irksome as was this system of repeatedly testing latent reactors, it seemed the fairest that could be adopted under a system of non-compensation, and it may be added that this method of dealing with glanders was more advanced than that of any other country when it was adopted in Canada. A British Departmental Committee, appointed to discover whether latent reactors could communicate glanders to healthy horses, had decided that the danger of infection from latent reactors, even when allowed to mingle with other horses in the freest possible manner, was but slight. Under such a system of isolation as that described, the danger might reasonably be expected to prove nil. And to insist upon the destruction of apparently healthy animals without any compensation was obviously unjust. For these reasons the system described was continued in force for about two years. In this period, of 900 horses retested not quite 25 percent. had become ceased reactors. There was always the chance too that latent reactors, which seem particularly liable to have the disease in an acute form, might develop clinical symptoms, and spread the disease in the considerable intervals between the inspector's visits. In so extensive a country as Canada the expense of this retesting was enormous, as the distances to be travelled were so great. All in all, from an economic standpoint the results obtained did not justify the expense incurred. But an even more important reason for remodelling the system was found, thanks to Dr. Rutherford's policy of keeping track of all ceased reactors in the country. Outbreaks of glanders were occasionally found in which the disease was directly traceable to a ceased reactor—a possibility that had apparently never been found out before this. In four out of five ceased reactors living glanders bacilli were demonstrated in the lesions found at autopsy by Dr. C. H. Higgins, Government bacteriologist.* It was thus clear that not only

* For much valuable information regarding ceased reactors, see Special Report on Glanders, by J. G. Rutherford, Veterinary Director-General, Department of Agriculture, Canada, September, 1906.