

be found most suitable. Should the temperature remain elevated, a few doses of nitrate of potash or hyposulphite of soda may be easily administered in the drinking water. Complications must be specially dealt with as they appear. In lingering cases or where great weakness supervenes, benefit will result from the judicious use of ale or stout combined with vegetable tonics. The food supplied should in all cases be soft and easily masticated, as gruel, mash, green grass, steamed hay, ensilage, etc. If roots are given they should be pulped. Careful attention to this phase of the treatment is demanded.

Local treatment is also simple. The vesicles should under no circumstances be intentionally ruptured, but must be allowed to burst of themselves, after which they may be dressed several times a day with a solution of alum, borax, iron sulphate or salicylate of soda, to which may be added a few drops of creolin or carbolic acid. Where unhealthy sores or ulcers occur extending into the deeper tissues, the careful application of a mild caustic may be necessary. The feet should be kept as clean as possible. The sores resulting from rupture of the vesicles may be dressed with the agents mentioned above as suitable for the mouth, although in some cases they may be used in stronger solution. For this purpose foot baths are useful more especially as many affected animals like to stand in water or moist places.

A convenient mode of dressing the feet when animals are affected in large numbers is to drive them, once or twice a day, through shallow troughs containing the solution which it is desired to apply.

The udder when involved should be carefully handled; to prevent irritation from the hands of the milker it is advisable to use a teat siphon.

The foregoing is a brief summary of the methods hitherto in vogue, but within the last eighteen months an important discovery has been made by Professor Baccelli, a noted Italian pathologist, which, it is claimed, will revolutionize the treatment of Foot and Mouth disease.

Professor Baccelli's method consists in the injection of a solution of corrosive sublimate into the veins of affected animals.

The dose for an adult of the bovine species is about one grain. It is administered in combination with common salt solution. Its effects are said to be marvellous.

If administered before the development of clinical symptoms, the progress of the disease is at once arrested, the only noticeable feature being a slight elevation of temperature.

In the more advanced stages of the attack the results are said to be even more striking, the temperature being almost immediately lowered, while the ulcers assume a healthy aspect, the appetite returns, lameness disappears and no secondary lesions occur. Even in the worst and most severely complicated cases, it is claimed that this simple remedy will check the disease and save the lives of the animals.

There has fortunately been no opportunity for this Department to test the truth of these statements, but as they are made on excellent authority, it will be well to bear them in mind should the disease ever make its appearance in the Dominion.

#### PREVENTIVE MEASURES.

Once the disease is recognized, every possible effort should be made to prevent its spread. This, owing to the ease with which the infection is disseminated, is a matter of very great difficulty.

All movement of animals should be immediately stopped and those affected isolated at once. If the outbreak is small and localized, slaughter may be advisable, especially as the flesh of animals affected with the disease in its ordinary form may be used with impunity.

In any case the most stringent precautions should be adopted to prevent the conveyance of the contagion to other premises or to animals not yet affected. Bedding, manure and rejected fodder should be burned or failing this, thoroughly mixed with fresh lime, carefully guarded and buried or ploughed in as soon as possible. Carcasses of animals dead of the disease should be burned and their hides or wool, if removed, carefully disinfected, this latter precaution of course applying also to the hides or wool

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