

CHOKING

This term applies to obstruction of the gullet as well as that of the windpipe.

CAUSE: Too rapid eating, by which pieces of carrots or other roots, or a quantity of dry food become lodged in the gullet. Although obstructions of the windpipe caused while drenching, or food entering the lungs, will kill an animal in a very short time, obstructions in the gullet may not prove fatal for several days.

TREATMENT: No time should be lost in attempting to remove the obstruction from the gullet. It may be dislodged by gently manipulating the gullet. If unsuccessful in dislodging the obstruction in this manner, secure the services of a competent veterinarian. He will use a probang, an instrument made for this purpose, or inject Sweet or Olive Oil into the gullet with a hypodermic syringe, or give hypodermic injections of Arecoline. In administering drenches with the object of dislodging obstructions in the gullet, you must remember that the liquids used are apt to go the wrong way, that is to say, enter the lungs, and give rise to lung complications, as lung fever, bronchitis, etc. Obstructions of solid substance in the windpipe generally cause death very shortly. When liquids enter the lungs, death is not so apt to occur, as the animal may live several days, and sometimes even get well. They should be treated the same as for lung fever.

CRACKED HEELS

CAUSE: There is little doubt in my mind that ammonia, which is so plentifully found in ill-kept stables, is the chief cause of cracked heels. The action of ammonia on the skin renders it soft and pulpy, and diminishes its strength by separating the layers of which it is composed.

SYMPTOMS: When inflammation is set up in the part, the secretion of natural oil is interfered with and cracks