

Calgary Summer Fair.

Well, the days of the summer fair have come and gone. Certainly, if perfect weather, a good exhibit, a large, enthusiastic crowd, and an interesting programme each day so carefully arranged and varied as to pander to each individual taste, can make a success, the officers and directors of the Calgary Agricultural Association are to be congratulated on the result of their untiring efforts. Being the first summer fair held here it was somewhat of an experiment, and that the result has more than exceeded the expectations must be very gratifying to the promoters, and a good augury of the successes in store for the future.

It is a good thing to see the farmers and ranchers of this great Alberta waking up to the fact of the good to be got from an exhibition. Next year I trust it will not be the minority but the majority who will profit by it. One very serious drawback is the distance some of the stock has to be brought for exhibition, and the limited accommodation on the grounds as yet; but before long, with better railway facilities and the expenditure of more money on necessary improvements, the Calgary exhibition, as it is the very centre of the largest ranching country in the Dominion, should be something looked forward to by all the stockmen of our country. But if the exhibit was not large it was very creditable, as every exhibit was first-class. In horses, Messrs. R. and J. A. Turner, of the Clydesdale Ranch, Calgary, showed their famous stallion, Balgrogan Hero, imported [1591] (8446), and, as might be expected, he carried off all the honors in his particular class. A description of his many good points seems superfluous, as he is so well-known, having won the first prizes and sweepstakes at the Winnipeg Industrial for the past two years, and also carrying off first prize at Toronto as a yearling. Sufficient to say he is a magnificent four-year-old bay, weighing about a ton, and that he is the horse chosen by the commissioners to represent the Northwest at the World's Fair is all that need be said. Messrs. Turner Bros. send him east in July to the Winnipeg fair, and from there on to Chicago, where we will probably hear great things of him. In the same class, as a two-year-old, Scotland's Wonder, owned by Mr. Kerfoot, of Cochrane, carried off first. He, too, is a magnificent horse, and well deserved the honors which he won. Mr. Bryce Wright had also on view his Clyde mare, Elsie, who probably has few equals in Canada. This mare has captured no fewer than seventeen first prizes in the Eastern Provinces. Mr. Bell Irvine also showed some fine Clyde colts.

In Hackneys, Rawlinson Bros. showed some beauties—Robin Adair, a grand three-year-old, and Ringleader, equally good in the two-year-old class. Both these Mr. Rawlinson hopes to take to the Winnipeg exhibition in July.

In the blood horses, Mr. J. R. Sutherland was to the front with a magnificent string of eleven—Sharper Goldust, a five-year-old stallion; May Sharper, dam Lulu West, by Sharper; Nubia, dam Lulu West, by Numidian; Cherry Ripe, full sister to Nubia; the others almost equally good. In the heavy draught and agricultural classes, the Calgary Cartage Company (Messrs. Douglas & Parlow) showed two very fine spans of each.

Mr. J. D. Shattuck, of Davisburg, Mr. R. G. Robinson, of the Elbow Park Ranch, Mr. J. McPherson, McHugh Bros., F. Price, D. M. Radcliffe, of Cochrane, and many others, also showed many fine things in horse-flesh. Mr. Shattuck is also an extensive breeder of Shorthorns, and had a very fine exhibit of 16 head on the grounds. Among them were Prince of the West (1248), a grand bull, thirteen months old, weighing 1200 pounds; Miss Temple, a beautiful prize cow, bred by Alex. Burns, Rockwood, Ont.; and Prairie Queen, another equally good. Mr. D. M. Radcliffe also showed some fine stock in this class, and Mr. Leacock some particularly fine Holsteins. Jos. McPherson and John Cowan were also extensive exhibitors in the different classes. In butter the exhibit was not a large one, but exceptionally good. Mr. D. M. Radcliffe carried off all the honors in creamery butter; his exhibit was of particularly fine quality, and something very good was also shown by A. W. Gillingham, of Trinisfail.

In the farmers' class, Mr. Trimbill, of Red Deer, Jos. McPherson and Mr. Leacock showed butter of a high quality. Unfortunately there was no cheese on exhibition. There is but one factory as yet in Alberta, and for some reason or other an exhibit was not sent in.

Salting Hides.

During warm weather it is necessary to have green hides salted promptly or they will spoil, but hides can be shipped green in the winter season in a frozen state without salting. To cure a hide properly it is first necessary to trim it by cutting off what does not belong to the hide, such as horns, tail-bones and sinews, then spread the hide on the floor and sprinkle salt evenly and freely over the flesh side. In this way, pile one hide on the other, flesh side up, head on head, tail on tail. Stretch out the flanks and legs so as to give the hides a chance to drain. It will take a week or more to cure hides thoroughly.

When hides have laid over a week in salt, they will then do to tie up and ship, after having shaken off the surplus salt.

For a large, heavy hide it will take about a pail of salt, and a less quantity for a smaller one or calf-skin in proportion to size.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

[In order to make this department as useful as possible, parties enclosing stamped envelopes will receive answers by mail, in cases where early replies appear to us advisable; all enquiries, when of general interest, will be published in next succeeding issue, if received at this office in sufficient time. Enquirers must in all cases attach their name and address in full, though not necessarily for publication.]

Veterinary.

ANSWERED BY W. A. DUNBAR, V. S., WINNIPEG.
VARIOLA VACCINE.

G. C., Butterfield, Man.:—"I have a cow with very sore teats; small white lumps come on, turn red, break and form scabs. It makes cow hard to milk. A neighbor has five cows affected the same way. Do you think it is cow pox? What do you recommend as a cure?"

[The eruption is possibly Cow Pox, or it may be caused by local irritation, as running through long swamp grass. Cow pox, though not usually a disease of a very serious nature, is troublesome in milch cows and very contagious. It is often transmitted from one cow to another by the hands of those engaged in milking. Cleanliness should be observed as fully as circumstances will permit. Bathe the udder morning and evening with tepid water, and apply after each bathing a lotion composed as follows:—Acetate of lead, one ounce; carbolic acid, half an ounce; fluid extract of belladonna, one ounce; water, one quart. Feed the animal laxative food, and give morning and evening in mash, for one week, hyposulphite of soda one ounce. Milking tubes should be used while the teats are very sore.]

GASTRITIS.

B. B., Elm Creek, Man.:—"One of your subscribers here is desirous of getting some information regarding a sickness which carried off a number of his calves, and advice as to what he should do with similar cases in future. The calves when born were to all appearance in perfect health and strong, but as soon as they got their mothers with them they scoured badly. Laudanum and the white of eggs were both tried, without the least sign of success. Their eyes sank in their heads, and their noses became icy cold. Some of them dropped off within twenty-four hours, others lingered on as long as three days."

[The first milk of the cow after calving contains a substance called colostrum, which acts as a natural purge to the calf, and in the cases which you have mentioned there appears to have been a superabundance of that agent, or of some other irritative substance. Change the food of the cow, and give in one dose the following laxative:—Epsom salts, twelve ounces; saltpetre, half an ounce; cream tartar, four ounces; treacle, half a pint; dissolve in one quart of hot water. Give the calf, according to age, from two to six ounces each of raw linseed oil and lime water; tincture of opium, two to four teaspoonfuls. This dose may be repeated in eight or ten hours, if necessary. If diarrhoea is persistent, give every two hours until it stops from two to four tablespoonfuls of the following mixture:—Tincture of catechu, tincture of opium, tincture of rhei, of each one ounce; chalk mixture, three ounces. If there is evidence of much pain, apply rugs wrung out of hot water to the abdomen.]

INFLAMMATION OF BURSE PATELLA.

O. L. McCULLOUGH, Miami, Man.:—"My yearling colt has been lame since last fall, and has a swelling in front of the stifle joint extending from the joint about five inches down. I blistered him in the winter, which reduced the swelling somewhat, and he was not so lame; but has since been worse, on account of having been run down and thrown by dogs. Please prescribe a cure."

[Apply blister as follows:—Mix together biniodide of mercury and cantharides, of each one drachm; vaseline, one and a half ounces. Rub the whole well in to the enlarged part; let it remain for forty-eight hours, then wash off and apply vaseline or lard to the blistered surface. When the blister has acted, turn the colt loose in a roomy and well-ventilated box stall. Give iodide of potassium, twenty grains morning and evening, for ten days, in bran mash. Repeat the blister in two weeks, or as soon as the skin is in proper condition.]

ANSWERED BY DR. W. MOLE, M. R. C. V. S., TORONTO.
YOUNG HORSE WITH SPLINTS.

EASTMAN SPRINGS:—"I have a young horse rising four years old with a splint on each fore leg, which are not very large, and do not cause any lameness."

[You must consider yourself fortunate that nature is so kind to your horse as to deposit the osseous material without trouble. Do not work your animal for a few weeks, and unless he goes lame do not interfere with the splints. To cause absorption of the enlargement, apply an ointment composed of biniodide of mercury, one drachm, and two ounces of lard. Apply a dressing to each splint, and no doubt removal of the enlargement will take place. This will not produce a blister.]

GARGET IN MARE.

BENJ. BLAKNEY, Albert, N. B.:—"I bought a mare in foal last April; when the foal was born, it sickened and died in twenty-four hours. The mare had a good supply of milk, which I tried to draw. The nipples commenced to swell, and in a short time broke just below the flank, and discharged a very thick, curdly, yellow matter; they then healed, only to break in another place. I wish to know what you call it, and how to treat the complaint."

[This disease is seldom seen in the mare, and is known as Mammitis or Garget of the Udder. The symptoms are so well described that I need not repeat them here, although you do not mention that progression is painful to the animal. She will, no doubt, be seen to walk with her hind limbs wide apart, and seldom, if ever, lies down during the progress of this complaint. All the symptoms of inflammation should be read in a former paper on the subject, for here we have inflammation that has terminated in suppuration of the lymphatic glands. The abscess should be opened as soon as they are seen to become soft after hot fomentation, and so long as gangrene does not take place you need not fear any fatal results. Apply a stimulating liniment: Olive oil, two ounces; oil of turpentine, one ounce; water of ammonia, one ounce; water, four ounces. Give some alterative powder composed as follows: Nitrate of potash, two ounces; sulphur, two ounces; resin powder, two ounces; ginger, one ounce; licorice root, two ounces. To be well mixed, and a tablespoonful put twice a day in animal's food, which should be of a nourishing character.]

BARREN MARE.

H. BRYANT, Hamilton:—"I have an old favorite trotting mare, seventeen years old, which I cannot get in foal. She has been covered three years following, and takes the horse regularly every three weeks. Can you advise me any treatment likely to succeed?"

We have received so many enquiries as to the cause of sterility in mares that the following will be read with interest. Successful fecundation in the mare is the rule, as the result of coupling the male and female sexes at a certain period. Only those who are actually engaged in the breeding business, or are brought in contact with those, can comprehend the anxiety of owners of favorite animals to obtain some of their progeny. The intercourse, to be effective, depends upon the due performance of the act of copulation and conception by the female. This is not always the case, particularly in the mare; we may see copulation and expect conception, only to be disappointed in not seeing results. It may depend, as in the above case, in organic disease and old age combined; overfed or underfed animals do not readily breed together, the male may be infertile, fat animals are especially unfruitful; excitable, vicious mares are less likely to breed than those of a kind disposition. Chronic disease of the mucous membrane lining the vagina is a very common cause; usually the fluid discharged at frequent intervals is of a white, glutinous and odorless character, or it may be sour smelling and known among veterinarians as chronic metritis. Flexion of uterus and cervix is not uncommon; in these cases the os uteri is turned to one side, and during copulation it would be pressed to that side so as to entirely obstruct the passage of the uterus.

The most common cause of all, especially in virgin mares, viz., those that have never had a foal, is that the cervix or neck of the womb is too rigid, and the opening into it is too small to allow of impregnation. Various instruments have been devised to dilate the opening; the best that has been brought under our notice is Dr. C. C. Lyford's, of Minneapolis, U. S. A., who has devised an instrument for dilation of the cervix and its retention in that position, and is called a dilator and impregnator for mares. The directions are plain, explicit, and should be closely followed. To adjust and place impregnator in position pass the left hand, well oiled, into vagina of mare; with one finger open passage of the os uteri. Being satisfied that the passage through the cervix is all right, pass the impregnator, with dilator guarded by left hand, into position, which should be retained until the dilator is withdrawn; the end with its attached string should hang outside of vulva. The stallion may now be allowed to cover the mare. By no means allow the impregnator to remain in longer than five minutes after service. Upon withdrawal of impregnator the cervix immediately contracts, closing the os uteri so completely as to allow of little chance of the escape of the seminal fluid. The proprietors of the FARMER'S ADVOCATE have purchased, and placed at the free disposal of their numerous readers, a complete set of these expensive instruments. They are in the care of Dr. Mole, M. R. C. V. S., Toronto, who is answerable for their safe custody. All applications for loan should be made to him direct. A small deposit to guard against loss or injury will be demanded, and returned on receipt of instrument in good order, after defraying the usual express charges.