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About the Farm

Bothersome Dogs

The dog is remarkable for his sagacity, his fidelity and his usefulness — sometimes just. In other cases he is just "plain dog" or, mayhap, he is worse; he may be a mean, snapping, snarling cur, a terror to neighbor's children, a tormentor to every horse and driver that passes down the road, and, perhaps — although he has few chances in this country — he may be a worrier of sheep.

Just why the owners keep such dogs is nearly always a conundrum to the neighborhood, but then it is a puzzle as to why some people do a great many things, anyway. In most cases where these useless curs exist, the principle reason is probably that, as nobody else has the legal right to shoot them off, and the owners never get up spunk enough to do the act, the dogs just live on. It is an unfortunate thing that such dogs rarely give their owners one-tenth the annoyance that they give the rest of the public, or there would be fewer of them. Once in a while, too, such a dog is so wary even of his own nominal owner that this person finds it almost impossible to put him out of the way. The writer once knew a dog that lived for months in a neighborhood where almost every farmer, even to its owner, had his gun loaded for him, and he had been shot at so often that he had turned into a wild thing, a half terror to the neighborhood. Such cases are rare, but the number of instances where practi-

three weeks of life. In many cases scours appear within a few hours after the animal is born, and the calf may die within twenty-four to forty-eight hours unless it receives prompt and proper treatment. It is common for the calf to be afflicted with scours immediately at birth, even before it has had time to suck or take any nourishment whatever.

The first indication of scours is the soiled condition of the tail, loss of appetite, sunken eyes, sometimes the saliva flowing from the mouth, no attempt being made to swallow. They have a staring coat, grow thin, and lose strength rapidly. Death usually follows in from twelve to twenty-four hours unless prompt measures are taken to check the disease. If allowed to continue for any length of time, the scouring will be accompanied by congestion and ulceration of the intestinal mucous membrane caused by the irritating secretions. As a result of this disease, partial or double blindness is sometimes brought on.

To prevent scours in calves, proper care should be given to the mother while pregnant, that she may be able to give birth to a healthy calf. As scours is a germ disease, it is important that the calf be free from this disease when born. Cows afflicted with the disease of abortion convey this disease to their offspring. It is for this reason that calves so often die of scours before they have



The milking hour at a Scottish farm

cally worthless dogs worry drivers on the road and annoy the public generally is legion.

There ought to be a remedy. Of course the owner now is responsible for actual bodily damage done, but that is unsatisfactory. No natural parent would want to wait until his little girl was bitten before putting an end to a useless brute of a dog that made the child afraid to walk down the road.

The remedy should be simple and effective. It might be provided, for instance, that no damages could ever be collected for any dog that might be shot by anyone if the shooter could show by three or four other competent witnesses that the dog so destroyed was a public nuisance. This would assure many a fairly good shot that he would be legally safe if he put an occasional worthless cur out of the way. And the country would be so much better off.

Scours in Calves

Scours in calves or calf cholera in many instances differs from diarrhoea in grown animals, and has special features of its own, taking the form of infectious intestinal catarrh, which is far more serious than the diarrhoea of the full grown animal.

Scours in calves generally appear suddenly. A perfectly healthy calf may be seized all at once, apparently, without any change in food or care. The symptoms of this infantile diarrhoea usually appear during the first two or

ever taken nourishment. It is, therefore, very necessary that the cow be kept free from disease in order to obtain healthy calves.

Calves born, afflicted with the germ of this disease in their system, are in a position to spread the disease to other calves that they may come in contact with in the same herd, or if shipped to other herds. This is another proof of its infectious nature.

To prevent and overcome scours in calves, they should be given medicines that prevent fermentation of food to allay irritation and congestion, soothe and heal inflamed mucous membrane, act as an antiseptic, as this is quite necessary when the disease is due to a germ.

The most important factor in the raising of cattle is their care while young. Do not think that you are doing the correct thing if you are only managing to keep the life in the calf until it is three months old, and then have it get fat on grass before the winter comes. If you do this, you will be apt to have a lot of stunted calves with their digestive organs destroyed which will never make strong, healthy cattle, and will not be good for either dairy beef or breeding animals.

Corned Beef

The pieces commonly used for corning are the flat rump, cross ribs and brisket, or, in other words, the cheaper cuts of meat. The loin, ribs and other fancy cuts are more often used fresh, and since