

Care of the Stallion During Fall and Winter Months.

EXERCISE, CLEANLINESS, AND PROPER FEEDING.
To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—The increased prices and improved trade in almost all breeds of horses during the last three years naturally raises many points in their breeding and rearing, and one very important point is the care of the stallion during fall and winter months. Horsemen differ very much in their methods, and amongst a great many there is a strong tendency to reduce the condition until one almost fails to recognize the flashy horse of the first of May, and then depending upon March and April to

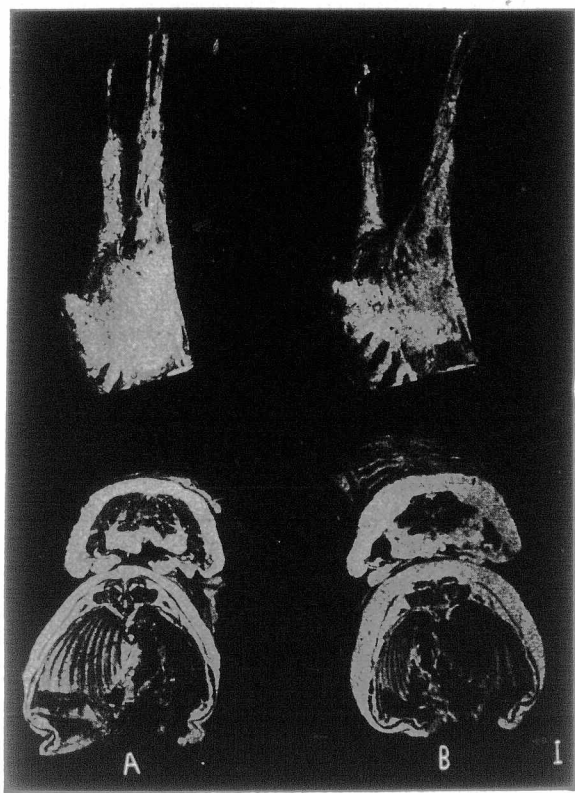


FIGURE 1.—REPORT ON SHEEP CARCASSES.

First and third prize, respectively, in the same class. Note:
1. The difference in the amount of fat. As between these two, B loses it chiefly on account of excess of fat. This animal had been prepared as a prize animal the year before, and had been kept over. Fed altogether too long to be profitable, either commercially or for prize purposes. The broad, heavy rum indicates fat throughout.
2. In the live class, B won second, and A won no prize. Here is a point for the judges in the live classes to consider.

bring him into shape for the season's work. My own experience is somewhat limited, but having close business relations with the old and noted horseman, Joseph Thompson, during the close of his career as an active owner and groom of stallions, I had good opportunities of watching his methods, and became thoroughly convinced that his ways had much to recommend them.

Exercise he considered absolutely necessary—not simply box-stall exercise, but what can be obtained from a good roomy yard. Cleanliness of the feet and legs is equally necessary, and never should be overlooked or forgotten. Would prefer shoes on the front feet. There should be some letting up of feed after the season's work. Boiled feed can now be dispensed with, but the condition should be well maintained with hay, oats, bran, some roots and cut straw sparingly used. Salt should never be forgotten. Regularity of feeding is one of the qualities of a good groom, and a fairly roomy and warm stall, comfortably bedded, should always land a stallion into March in good condition and health. Then carefully fed and handled from March to the close of the season, and there should not be much or any anxiety about his progeny, either as to strength or numbers.

Ontario County, Ont.

WM. SMITH.

How Those Rapid-Gaining Pigs Were Reared.

SIR,—The mother of those eight pigs that made a gain of 1.75 lbs. per day from birth, which was reported in the ADVOCATE of Jan. 1st, was fed on light food before and after farrowing, consisting of bran, shorts, oats and barley chop about equal parts, moistened with whey and mixed twelve hours before feeding. When the pigs were about four weeks old they commenced to eat a little with the sow, at which time she was fed all she would eat up clean. The pigs were weaned at nine weeks old, and were fed the same as when with the sow, only the proportion of barley was gradually increased from the time they began to eat until ready to ship, at which time the feed consisted almost entirely of barley. I attribute the unusual gain in those pigs more to the wonderful milk-producing qualities of the sow than to any system of feeding. We had to let some of the pigs with her several times after separating, to relieve her udder. She is a very large, thrifty Yorkshire, and was bred to a Yorkshire boar, and is now with pig again to same boar, and will be due on March 10th. I will report their gain.

Lennox Co., Ont.

R. M.

An Unreasonable Regulation.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—Just a few words in reference to a matter that may be of some interest to some of your readers in the East as well as many in the West. I refer to the tuberculin test as applied to thoroughbred cattle exported to the United States, or, rather, the new regulation regarding it. I do not propose to discuss the question of the test itself, more than to say that, so far as I am aware, it is generally admitted by those whose experience entitles them to speak with some authority that the test is not at all reliable. The question, however, that will soon begin to concern the breeders of Manitoba, and those in the East from whom they have been getting their stock, is what is to become of a large portion of our trade if things remain as they are? As you are aware, the recent new regulations adopted by the Department at Washington provides that vets. appointed by them shall do the testing, instead of allowing the work to be done by those appointed by the Dominion Government, as formerly. So far as that goes, I do not know that any serious objection should be raised by Canadians, especially by the Departmental authorities at Ottawa, who, I am told, did what they could to induce the U. S. people to adopt the test, but if this—to my mind, worse than foolish for the purpose intended—test is to be maintained, we need more conveniences for using it. My information is, that for the purpose of enforcing the terms of this restriction between the two countries at the present time, a gentleman residing at Buffalo, N. Y., has been appointed by the U. S. Government to attend to the whole business. Now, I submit that there is a small strip of Canada which is not convenient to that city, and those whose business interests are in that strip and sometimes need a veterinarian for the purpose will be unable to avail themselves of the services of the gentleman referred to. Therefore, other appointments should be made. It appears to me that those interested in the development of the West, and a business for which it is known to be so well adapted, those who are supposed to be the guardians of such interests, should stir themselves and have this important matter put in a different shape.

THOS. GREENWAY.

"Prairie Home Stock Farm," Manitoba.

Some Pertinent Suggestions.

To the Editor FARMER'S ADVOCATE:

SIR,—I write to commend the stand taken by your paper in regard to the tuberculin test, and to express my conviction that the resolution asking for the removal of the regulation requiring the compulsory injection of tuberculin in case of purebred imported animals adopted by the Dominion Cattle Breeders' Association, published in your Jan. 1st issue, was an eminently fair and reasonable one. As a scientific agent, it is not sufficiently exact to be relied upon, as numerous cases show, and since tuberculous lesions may exist in parts of the animal as not to be transmissible by contagion or otherwise, and as human consumption is not due to that source, and being of no benefit to animals, it is therefore useless. More than that, too much evidence has come to light of its injurious effects, mainly upon breeding females, in a way that stockmen know causes more actual loss than all our other live-stock ailments combined. Until the owners feel that they stand on safer ground, I surmise that there will be a very general disposition, as a matter of ordinary prudence, not to allow tuberculin injection into cattle, especially by foreign officers, who naturally desire the fad perpetuated. The international agreement which our Minister of Agriculture effected some years ago has been violated, and we witness the extraordinary spectacle of U. S. veterinaries now coming into Canada to make the test injections. Do our people realize the significance of this? I very much mistake the spirit and temper of British cattle-breeders if they permit the emissaries of a foreign country, of whose character they know nothing, to tamper with their stock. Unless I am much astray, the occupation of the itinerant temperature-raiser will soon be gone. Fortunately, this is a question out of the realm of party politics, and my humble advice to every farmer and breeder is to write at once to our representative in the Cabinet at Ottawa, Hon. Mr. Fisher, the Minister of Agriculture, urging the prompt withdrawal of the injurious regulations upon the importation of stock for the further improvement of our herds.

I remain, yours, etc.,

B. C. A.

Oxford Co., Ont.

Cure for Ringworm.

DEAR SIR,—I enclose a recipe for ringworm in stock, which I have found very good, having used it four or five years. It only costs about 15 cents for the drugs, besides the lard, which a farmer generally has on hand: 2 ozs. Venice turpentine, 2 ozs. black sulphur, 4 ozs. lard.

ROBT. ROBERTSON.

Simcoe Co., Ont.

Dogs vs. Sheep.

I have read several articles in the FARMER'S ADVOCATE regarding the best method of preventing dogs from killing sheep, or to protect farmers from this loss. Not having noticed any practical proposition, and knowing of the serious losses that have been sustained by the farmers of the Province of Quebec from this cause, and the large number who have given up this otherwise profitable industry of raising sheep solely from having their flocks slaughtered by dogs, and the large number of good farmers who would gladly go into sheep-raising but for this cause, I venture to make a few suggestions and to ask the FARMER'S ADVOCATE, which has already done so much for the agricultural class, to take up this question and keep it before the public until a law is passed that will protect this industry. It is generally admitted that whatever helps to make farmers prosperous in turn benefits indirectly all other classes. In order to lessen the number of sheep killed by dogs, I would suggest, first, that a tax be put on dogs in all rural districts as well as in cities and villages. This would thin off a good many worthless dogs. Second, that the same law be put in force here which they have in the United States, namely, that if a farmer has sheep killed by dogs, but is unable to prove whose dog killed or damaged them, he should be paid for loss sustained by the municipality (from the dog-tax fund) in which the loss occurred. In this way, all parties would be indirectly interested. The loss would not be heavy on any one, and we should soon see 100 flocks of sheep where we see but one under existing circumstances and present laws. Now, if a few leading farmers in each county in Ontario as well as in the Province of Quebec would inform their representatives not only in the Local House, but in the Dominion Parliament as well, that they wished these laws passed at the next session, it would probably be done. At all events, there is no possible excuse for not passing a law allowing indemnity, as stated in suggestion No. 2. I trust the FARMER'S ADVOCATE and its many readers will take this matter up, and that we may hear from some of our Ontario farmers on this subject.

Brome Co., Que.

H. E. WILLIAMS.

The Battle with Bacilli.

It is a fortunate thing for the American public that it has, to a certain extent, freed itself from the traditional magic of print, and no longer believes absolutely in the truth of any and every thing which it reads in the newspapers. If we are to believe the yearly crop of "scare articles" concerning germs, microbes and infection, we must not hang on car-straps, we must not kiss, we must not drink milk, we must not be shaved, we must not eat pork,

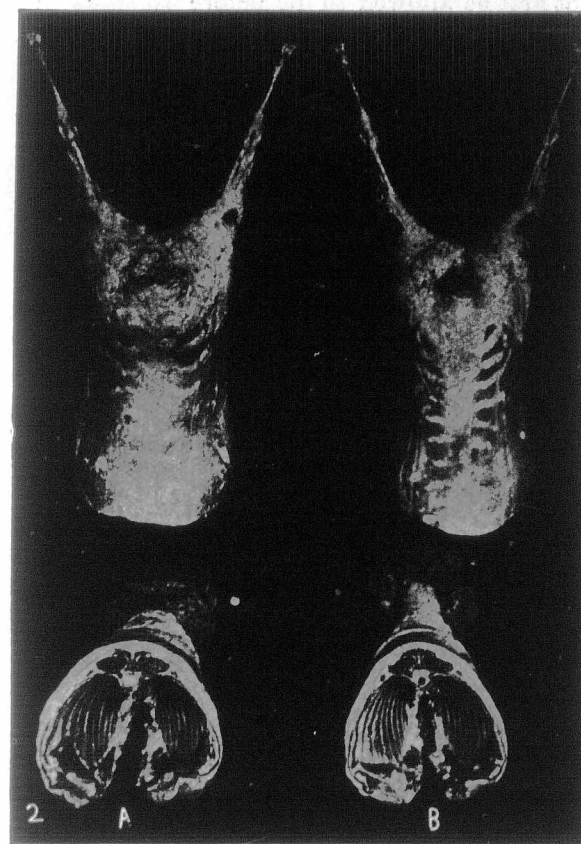


FIGURE 2.—REPORT ON SHEEP CARCASSES.

Of these two, B is too thin to compare favorably with A. A is not too fat, and the fat and lean are fairly well mixed.

we must not wash in hotel lavatories, we must not write telegrams with the pencils in the telegraph offices, we must not lick stamps, we must not use opera glasses, we must not shake hands with people until we know that they have been "sterilized," we must not telephone, we must not lean our heads back upon the seats of railroad cars, we must not go into swimming baths, we must not—but the list is interminable. A faithful obedience to instructions would paralyze every branch of human industry and stop every effort for pleasure; we should sit idly, swathed in antiseptic bandages, breathing a sterilized and purified air, while we waited for starvation or the crack o' doom. It seems singular to the unsentimental mind that so much is said about antiseptics and so little about cleanliness.—H. G. Rhodes, in Philadelphia Post.