

in relation to Glanders, I would like to lay before you, as briefly as possible, some of the facts brought to light in the course of our work which have convinced us that in the war against Glanders no quarter should be given to the typical reactor, whether he shows clinical symptoms or not.

I have already given you some figures as to the number of horses with which we have dealt during the last four years. In connection with what I am about to say, however, I would call your attention to the fact that up till Aug. 31st, 1906, we have tested 15,505 horses, and have actually made 18,117 Mallein tests.

The marked disproportion between the number of horses tested and the number of tests made is attributable to the fact that from 1902 to 1904 we, as already stated, followed a retesting policy. It will, I think, be conceded that the number of tests made, each of which was carefully reported, is sufficient to furnish a reasonable basis for definite and intelligent opinions on the various points relative to Mallein, its uses, effects and the conclusions which may reasonably be drawn therefrom.

While perhaps to some extent reversing the natural sequence of events, I propose to refer first to the danger inseparable from the keeping alive of ordinary non-clinical reactors. With regard to this point, I am not in a position to furnish any great amount of statistical information for the reason that from the very beginning of our present operations animals of this class falling into our hands have been, except in the case of a few which early became ceased reactors, so dealt with as to prevent the possibility of their coming into contact, direct or indirect, with healthy horses.

When engaged in private practice, however, I had an opportunity of forming an opinion on the subject, for although, after the use of Mallein was adopted, which, with me, was in the year 1893, I invariably advised my clients to destroy all typical reactors, the law did not make their slaughter compulsory and many were permitted to live. Not a few subsequent outbreaks of which I was cognizant were undoubtedly due to the retention and distribution of infection by these apparently healthy animals.

As a matter of fact, there has never been, at least among intelligent and single-minded veterinarians, any great tendency to belief in the harmlessness of horses which continue to give typical reactions to Mallein, even when they present no visible symptoms of Glanders. The Departmental Committee appointed in 1901 by the Board of Agriculture of Great Britain for the purpose of conducting experimental investigations with regard to this and kindred subjects, reached the conclusion that these apparently healthy reactors are capable of transmitting Glanders. The Committee in question, comprised the late Mr. A. C. Cope, Mr. Wm. Hunting, Sir John McFadyean and Dr. James McI. McCall, all men of high professional attainments and great experience in dealing with Glanders. One of the points dwelt upon by them, viz., the suddenness with which a reactor may become clinically glandered, is worthy of special note. Our experience in Canada has demonstrated beyond question the danger arising from this liability of reactors to suddenly develop acute