

THE HORSE.

Colts' feet are frequently neglected. They should be examined at regular intervals and kept trimmed to shape.

Too much hay is more harmful to horses than too little. It is not necessary to have hay in their mangers all the time.

Equal parts sulphate of iron, gentian, ginger and nux vomica makes a very good tonic for a horse. Give a teaspoonful three times daily.

Don't neglect to give the work horses a thorough grooming at least once a day. When working regularly two groomings a day is advisable.

Tying the colts in a stall and leaving them there practically all the time is a mistake. Give them and the idle horses the freedom of the yard on fine days. They need the exercise.

Feed and care for the colt so that it will not get a set-back. If a colt becomes stunted during the first year it seldom fully recovers. Feeds which tend to produce bone and muscle should constitute the ration.

If the horses have a touch of the scratches, apply a lotion made of one ounce acetate of lead and sulphate of zinc to a pint of water. If raw surfaces appear it is advisable to poultice with warm linseed meal and a little powdered charcoal.

Idle horses will winter on a ration composed principally of good roughage. A heavy oat allowance is not essential. Feed a few roots. Good silage has been fed with satisfactory results, but care must always be taken as trouble has been caused where the silage was not of first quality.

Care of Stallions Between Seasons.

That the reproductive powers of stallions are influenced to a considerable degree by the care and attention they receive during the period between seasons, no horseman will deny. The too common practice of giving stallions neither work nor exercise after the season ends, until shortly before the next season is about to commence, is irrational and harmful.

In order that a stallion may do his best in the stud, as regards the number and physical condition of his progeny, it is necessary that his muscular, respiratory, digestive and genital systems be not allowed to become weak at any time, and in order that these organs may be kept in proper condition it is necessary that time and care be given during the eight or ten months of the year that he is not required for stud purposes.

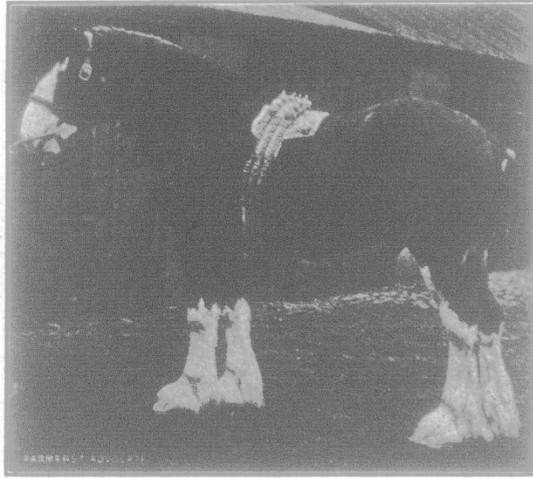
In large breeding establishments, where several stallions are kept, and generally stand on the premises for service, there is usually a number of large paddocks in which the horses are allowed to run free for a few hours every fine day during the whole year, and under such conditions they take sufficient voluntary exercise to keep the above mentioned systems in an active, healthy condition. On the other hand, where but one or two stallions are owned, often in a village, town or city, and are put on a regular route during May, June and part or the whole of July, which is the recognized stud season, the owner, in many cases, has not the necessary paddocks of the required size, and the horses, in many cases, stand in box stalls, and are seldom taken out for any purpose until the next stud season is approaching.

In the meantime, the horse's muscles become soft and flabby, and his digestive and respiratory organs more or less weak from want of function, and as a consequence his generative organs must suffer and become impaired. It is unreasonable to expect a sire, under such conditions, to produce a large percentage of foals, or to expect that those produced to be of the desired strength and general physical vigor. The organs mentioned cannot be brought to a satisfactory condition by a few days' or even a few weeks' attention in the spring. It is of sires under conditions of this nature that we wish to speak.

A stallion that has been on a weekly route for two months or longer, has of necessity been highly fed in order to keep him in condition. This is necessary in order to enable him to endure the physical exercise required and also perform the functions of a sire. When the season is over it is probably wise to allow him a rest of two or three weeks, but the change in food and labor should not be too sudden. His feed should be gradually reduced in quantity and he should be given a little daily exercise for a week or ten days. Then withhold hay and grain for about 12 to 18 hours, feeding bran only, then administer a purgative of aloes or raw linseed oil. We consider this good practice in any case when a horse has been highly fed and kept at high tension for a few months. It gives the digestive organs a rest, or at least a temporary change. After administering the purgative, bran only should be fed until purgation commences, then feed lightly on grass, bran and a little grain and allow him comparative rest for two or three weeks.

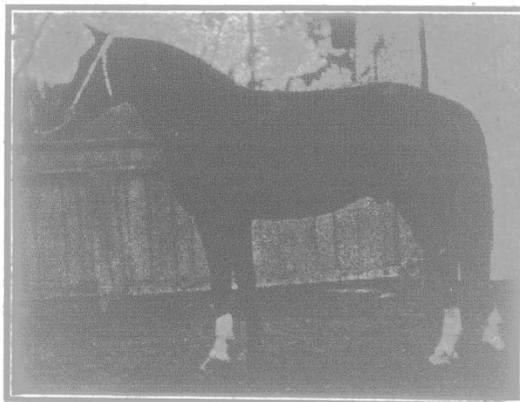
While we have stated that the various organs should be kept in good condition by regular exercise, we consider that a few weeks' rest as stated is advisable. After this he will be better performing ordinary farm or road work, and fed accordingly. It is not wise to work him to exhaustion, or to ask him to perform work that requires extreme muscular or respiratory exertion,

and hence impair rather than improve his condition, but regular ordinary work is beneficial. It is well to feed considerable grass, bran and other easily-digested foods, but unless he be sick no drugs should be given other than the purgative mentioned. Where there is no work for him to do, and a suitable paddock for voluntary exercise is not obtainable, he should have at least a few miles of daily exercise, either on the halter, in harness or under saddle. This, of course, takes time, but it is necessary when we wish to do the best for the horse. When cold weather arrives and grass is not procurable, he should, in addition to hay and oats in reasonable quantities, according to the labor he is performing, be given a few raw roots daily, and a feed of bran with a little linseed meal two or three times weekly.



Regular Exercise is Necessary for the Heavy Horse.

As regards grooming, the somewhat popular opinion that a stallion should not be groomed after the season ends until the next spring; that he sheds better under such conditions, is, in our opinion, radically wrong. In order that any horse may do and feel his best it is necessary that his skin be in good condition whether he be working or idle, and this cannot be unless he be regularly groomed. In regard to blanketing, the nature of the stable in which he is kept must govern. The horse should be kept comfortable, and we are of the opinion that good ventilation, even at the expense of heat, where clothing is necessary in cold weather, is preferable to close, warm, but poorly-ventilated quarters. Of course, a stable where sufficient heat



Proper Feed and Exercise are the Essentials in Stallion Care.

without clothing, and at the same time good ventilation is obtainable, is ideal.

When a sire is used as above between seasons special preparation for the stud is not necessary, and if an owner has work for his stallions between seasons he can make them at least earn their keep, which is no small consideration, especially under existing conditions, and at the same time will intensify and prolong their usefulness in the stall. WHIP.

LIVE STOCK.

Exercise is essential to the health of animals.

At a Shorthorn sale in Illinois 35 head averaged \$663.

Polled Herefords at Des Moines, Ia., averaged \$487 at a recent sale.

Mixing cut straw with the silage will aid in conserving the hay supply.

Dairy Shorthorns at Col. Hobb's sale in England, averaged £285, or in the neighborhood of \$1,400.

Don't neglect to salt the cattle after they are stabled. A little every day is better than a large quantity at irregular periods.

The greater the masculinity and character of the sire the more surely will he stamp his characteristics good and bad upon his progeny.

The in-and-outer in the live-stock business never gets as far ahead as those who continue in the business year after year and are always working towards an ideal.

Twenty-five pounds of charcoal, one and one-half pails of salt, one-half bushel of ashes, and four pounds of sulphur mixed together makes a very good condiment for hogs.

It is reported that the quality of breeding cattle in Switzerland has deteriorated considerably since the outbreak of war as the import of stock has been very difficult. Shortage of fodder in that country has caused a drop in the price of live stock.

It is not good policy to rush the unfinished hogs and cattle on to the market. Very often in so doing the owner is getting rid of them just at a time when they are making the most economical and fastest gains. Glutting the market with thin stuff tends to weaken the trade for prime stock.

A lotion made of one ounce acetate of lead, one ounce sulphate of zinc, and one pint of water is very useful for applying to fresh wounds, scratches, etc. It is antiseptic, cooling, astringent and non-irritant. If you haven't a supply on hand it might be advisable to secure the material the next time you are in town so as to have it ready in case of an emergency.

According to the Live Stock Journal, the cottagers in England must give up pig raising. Hog raising was encouraged in England some months ago, but now it is found to cost less in tonnage to import bacon than to import feeding stuffs for pigs. The new rationing order reduces the grain allowance to the minimum. This should help the Canadian market for hogs.

During the past few weeks a large number of cattle have been lifted from the pastures and placed on the market. From towns in the north part of Middlesex County from twenty to twenty-five car loads of prime steers have been shipped in a day; which make practically a train load of cattle out of one centre. A single day's shipment doesn't deplete the stock in this district. Such shipments take place several times in a season.

Pure-Bred Stock and Pedigrees.

When buying pure-bred stock and particularly when founding a pure-bred stock farm, consult the pedigrees of the prospective purchases closely and find out what the immediate ancestry of the individuals proposed to be purchased is like.

The following percentages correspond to the amount of the blood of those particular animals in your animal. It corresponds to the amount of influence that that particular individual has upon the characteristics of your animal. There may be slight variations but they are exceptions rather than the rule:

	Percentage
Dam.....	50
Granddam.....	25
Great-granddam.....	12½
Great-great-granddam.....	6¼
Great-great-great-granddam.....	3⅛
Great-great-great-great-granddam.....	1 9/16
Sire.....	50
Grandsire.....	25
Great-grandsire.....	12½
Great-great-grandsire.....	6¼
Great-great-great-grandsire.....	3⅛
Great-great-great-great-grandsire.....	1 9/16

A little study of these percentages should be of value to any one who is starting out with the idea of breeding high-class pure-bred stock, and who has in mind actually improving the present standard. It is these unerring percentages that are the guide-posts along the breeder's highway. If he ignores them he is apt to take the wrong course. In fact, the minute he ignores them he has taken the wrong course.

There is no getting away from the fact that the blood of the ancestors to the third and fourth generations has influence on the present herd, thus the importance of studying well the pedigrees and ascertaining if possible the individuality and character of the ancestors of the breeding female, and especially of the herd sire. Buying a herd header at random is poor business. His pedigree should be carefully studied, and his qualities should nick well with the females on which he is to be used. Where the females are weak the bull should be particularly strong in order to correct the weakness in the progeny. Too many are guided by the dollar rather than by individuality and breeding when purchasing a bull, consequently seldom have top-notchers in the herd. The best herds to-day are the result of their owners paying attention to the quality of blood and the individuality in the sire used. The beginner cannot expect to build up a herd of merit by using plain or inferior sires.