

DISEASES OF SHEEP.

Sheep's faces occasionally become quite sore when they are at pasture in summer. It is attributed to the effects of St. John's wort, and to some other causes. It is cured by the application of sulphur ointment, consisting of sulphur and lard.

Swelled and sore lips more frequently appear about the opening of winter, but the causes are unknown. Sulphur ointment, mixed with a little tar, is a very efficacious remedy.

Sheep are often troubled with ophthalmia. This disease is characterized by redness of the eye and the parts about it, intolerance of light, and a flow of tears. Bathe the eye occasionally in warm water, and with a solution of sulphate of zinc, combined with tincture of opium.

Sheep are liable to have grub in the head in the latter part of summer. Among farmers this is the name given to various different diseases. The gad-fly of sheep deposits its eggs in their nostrils in the months of July and August, and these immediately hatched by the warmth and moisture, the larvæ or young grubs crawl into the cavities of the head, and attach themselves to the membranous linings. They remain there until the ensuing spring, when they become thick, plump grubs, more than an inch long. They then descend from the head, drop on the ground, burrow into it, take the form of a chrysalis, and at the proper time again hatch forth gad-flies. Their effect on the sheep is a matter of considerable dispute, some eminent veterinary writers considering them entirely harmless. Others, and a much greater number, believe that the irritation they occasion produces disease and death. If the sheep begin to fall off in condition a little before spring, though previously in good flesh, and their feed are kept fully up; if they wander round with movements indicative of pain in the head, and discharge mucus, tinged with blood, from the nose, though oppressed with no catarrhal difficulty, it may be suspected that they are suffering under the effects of grub in the head. Some persons have blown tobacco smoke up their nostrils from the tail of a pipe, the bowl being covered with a cloth, it is asserted, with good effect. Others have injected tobacco-water with a syringe, but this must be prevented from entering the throat in any considerable quantity.

Locked-jaw. This has sometimes been produced by cording rams. When discovered, remedial measures are generally too late, and it should be prevented, if possible, by more careful cording.

Obstructions of the gullet. Sheep sometimes get a piece of turnip or other substances lodged in the esophagus or gullet. If it cannot be moved by the fingers, set the sheep on its rump, holding its nose upward, pour some oil in the

throat, and then insert a flexible probang, and very gently push the obstructing substance into the stomach. The probang, in the absence of a gutta-percha one, should be of strong, flexible wood, like elm, made smooth and round, and five-sixteenths of an inch, or a little larger, in diameter. A small bag of flax-seed should be firmly secured to, and cover the lower end; and on dipping the rod in the hot water, to limber it for use, the bag will become soft and slippery, so as to protect the esophagus from laceration. If no flax-seed is at hand, carefully wind the lower end of the probang with tow and dip it in oil.

Hoove. If sheep become swollen from being turned on fresh clover, or the like, they should be driven gently for an hour. If swollen to a dangerous degree, and the distress and oppression are rapidly increasing, a trocar, or, in its absence, a pocket-knife, must be plunged into the left flank, half way between the haunch and ribs, and well up towards the backbone, so that the pent-up gas will escape through the orifice. An ounce or two of Epsom salts are generally administered after an attack of hoove. If the gas continues to form in the stomach, a drachm of chloride of lime dissolved in a gill of water.

Poisons.—The narrow-leaved or low laurel, (*Kalmia angustifolia*), and the broad-leaved laurel or "calico bush" or "spoon-wood," (*Kalmia latifolia*), are eaten by sheep, particularly when they are unaccustomed to them, as when they are hungry from travelling, and find these bushes growing by the roadside. A strong decoction, made by boiling the bruised twigs of white ash for an hour, administered in doses of half a gill or a gill, and repeated after an interval if necessary, is believed to be an effectual antidote by persons who have tried it. Drenches of milk and castor oil are also said to have been successfully resorted to. Injecting warm water into the stomach and pumping it out again, and continuing this until vomiting is produced or the poison thoroughly diluted, using a common India-rubber stomach-pump, i. e., hollow ball with a perforated tube attached, would be highly useful in all cases of poison, by whatever produced. This should be followed up by active aperient medicine. Other plants besides laurel are suspected of poisoning sheep, but very little accurate information has yet been obtained regarding them.

Diarrhœa. — Common diarrhœa or scours, not attended with constitutional disease, generally requires no remedies. If protracted, two or three days' confinement to dry feed, or an ounce of prepared chalk given in half pint of tepid milk, will usually put a stop to it. If purging is severe, or accompanied by mucus slime, a gentle cathartic of an ounce of Epsom

salts or oil should be administered to a sheep, and half as much to a lamb six months old, and this be followed up by the dose of chalk and milk above recommended once a day for two or three days. But "sheep's cordial" is a better remedy than the chalk, and may be kept on hand by every farmer. It is composed of the following ingredients: Prepared chalk, one ounce; powdered catechu, half an ounce; powdered opium, half a drachm. Mix them with half a pint of peppermint water, and give two or three table-spoonsful morning and night to a grown sheep, and half as much to a lamb.

Dysentery.—This differs from diarrhœa in various observable particulars. It is attended by fever; the appetite is irregular and generally poor; the evacuations are as thin as or thinner than in diarrhœa, but they are slimy, sticky, and very offensive in smell. As the disease progresses, they become tinged, and the animal rapidly wastes away. It sometimes dies in a few days, and sometimes lingers along for several weeks. This is treated much like severe diarrhœa, only many persons give two cathartics, instead of one, at the beginning. The English practitioners also bleed, if the malady is detected in its very first stage; but if debility has ensued, it prostrates the system too much. The "sheep's cordial" requires to be given longer, and after a short period tonics are added—more ginger and from one to two drachms of gentian daily. This last is an admirable tonic. In place of the above remedies, some American farmers give a teaspoonful of laudanum and a tablespoonful of gin or rum, mixed and put in a little diluted fluid. Stretches in sheep is occasioned by confinement to dry food. During the paroxysms the sheep stretches itself incessantly, and exhibits much pain. A cathartic of one ounce of Epsom salts or castor oil will usually effect a cure. A drachm of ginger and a teaspoonful of the essence of peppermint, put in warm water with the salts, adds to their efficacy. Half of the above dose for lambs. Green feed, even if given only once or twice a week, prevents this malady.—*American Stock Journal*.

GREAT AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION OF NOVA SCOTIA.

The Contractors, Messrs. McIntosh and McInnis, are proceeding rapidly with the erection of the necessary buildings for sheltering the live stock on the Exhibition Grounds. Already, the sheds along one side of the Governor's Field are nearly completed. The Committee have secured an additional field to the west, which opens into Queen street.

There is every promise of an extensive Agricultural Exhibition. The en-