

Blessings in Disguise

Deplorable though the numerous deaths caused by automobiles within the past few weeks are, they may prove to be blessings in disguise. True it is that automobiles have come to stay; but just as truly there are many automobiles in the hands of reckless or dare-devil drivers. It is safe to say that at least five per cent of the chauffeurs in America are men in whose hands human life should not be entrusted to such extent as an automobile jaunt demands. In time, no doubt, legislation will make a great decrease in the number of incompetent drivers. While this legislation is being whipped into form, and while the men in whom the power to make new laws is vested are being awakened reports of accidents caused by undue recklessness may have some effect on chauffeurs in all parts of the world, and tend to make them all more careful.

Two limitations at least must be set before automobiles can hope to become popular among the common people. There must be a reasonable limit to the number of miles the machines are allowed to travel in a given time; and there must be a limit to the absence of brains found in the individual who controls that speed. As long as irresponsible parties are given charge of such monsters there will be a prejudice against automobiles, and there will be a regrettable loss of life. Recent slaughters may prove to be blessings in disguise.

HORSE

Corns and Thrush in Horses' Feet

CORNS

Corns are a common cause of lameness in horses, and they are often present without causing lameness, but are liable to become troublesome at any time, hence a horse with corns should be considered unsound, although he may be going sound. A corn is usually situated in the inner quarter of the sole, between the bar and the wall at the heel. It is caused by a bruise which wounds the blood vessels of the part, and causes an extravasation of blood between the sensitive and insensitive soles. Bruises which cause corns may be caused by the shoe when the bearing is too marked near the heel, or by the horse treading on objects which are small enough to insinuate themselves between the shoe and the bar of the foot. In some cases lameness is not caused, while in others it is noticed, and its degree will depend upon the severity of the bruise and the amount of blood extravasated. In some cases pus is formed, when lameness will be very marked. It is a peculiar fact, that, when a corn is once formed, there is a great tendency to its perpetuation, without apparent cause, and notwithstanding the greatest care.

Symptoms. — As stated, a corn may be present without causing lameness, and will not be noticed unless the soles be pared somewhat deeply over its seat. While corns usually appear in inner quarter, they are occasionally noticed in the outer. When the outer surface of the horny sole is pared away, little red streaks will be noticed, and a little deeper paring will disclose some dry blood. The surface over which this condition exists varies greatly in different subjects. When lameness is present, its intensity will depend upon the severity of the bruise, and upon the nature of the ground upon which the animal is travelling. As with many lamenesses, especially those which concussion acts directly upon, the lameness from corn is greater when the horse is travelling on hard ground. There is no peculiarity of lameness that will lead the observer to diagnose corn rather than other foot lameness. When the foot is examined, it will be found that pressure exerted upon the seat of corn causes the animal to flinch; and if there is suppuration, pressure with the thumb upon the heel will cause pain, and if the sole be not opened, so as to allow the escape of the pus, it will soon work

up between the sensitive and horny wall, and escape at the coronary band, thus forming a quittor.

Treatment. — Remove the shoe, pare the sole well down, and, if pus be present, it will escape; if not, the sore and inflamed part is exposed. Then apply poultices of hot linseed meal for two or three days and nights to allay the inflammation, when lameness will disappear. The wall of the foot at the quarter should now be rasped down, and a bar-shoe applied. The wall of the quarter must not touch the shoe. If pus has been present, the hole in the sole should be filled with tar and tow before the shoe is put on, in order that gravel or other foreign matter cannot enter the opening. The shoes should now be reset every three or four weeks, and pressure kept off the quarter, and by this means a perfect cure may be made, but there is a great tendency for the reappearance of a corn in a quarter where one has existed.

THRUSH

Thrush consists in the discharge of a fetid matter from the cleft of the frog, arising from a diseased condition of the secretory surface of the sensitive

REGARDING THE HORSE

Fifty-two times every year THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE AND HOME JOURNAL presents to its readers the most up-to-date horse department found in any Canadian publication. All features of the horse industry are dealt with from time to time and practical suggestions from successful horsemen are given in season. These columns are worthy of careful perusal. In many cases a single article is worth more than the yearly subscription price, \$1.50. Tell your neighbors, get new subscriptions and win one or more of the valuable premiums.

frog. In neglected cases the whole frog becomes involved, the horny frog becoming detached over its whole surface. Thrush is caused by irritating materials generating in the decomposition of urine faeces, which become insinuated in the cleft of the frog, and are allowed to remain there, by allowing horses to stand in liquid or semi-liquid manure, or other filthy substances, and is sometimes noticed in horses that are grazing on damp ground. The usual causes of thrush are allowing horses to stand in damp, dirty places, and neglect to clean the foreign substances out of the cleft regularly. There appears to be a congenital predisposition to thrush in some horses. The liability to thrush is one reason why the groom should always have a foothook on hand, and thoroughly cleanse the sole of the foot and the cleft of the frog every time he grooms the horse, and, even if the horse is not regularly groomed, his feet should be cleansed frequently.

Symptoms. — Usually slight lameness, and when the foot is examined, a peculiar fetid liquid will

be noticed escaping from the cleft of the frog; the cleft will be deeper than normal, and the animal will evince pain when the foot-hook or other instrument is inserted to the bottom. In extreme or neglected cases the whole frog becomes soft and moist, and easily separated from the sensitive frog, and lameness will, of course, be severe in proportion to the extent of the disease.

Treatment. — Preventive treatment consists in looking well to the cleanliness of the animal's surroundings, and attending regularly to cleaning the foot. Curative treatment consists in removing the cause, by placing the animal in a clean and dry stable cleaning the cleft, and removing any partially detached portions of the horny frog. A little calomel or sulphate of zinc should be introduced into the cleft and worked down to the bottom with a foot-hook or other blunt instrument every 2 or 3 days, and it is good practice to fill the cleft with batting, to prevent the entrance of foreign matter. This treatment soon arrests the discharge and dries up the part, and if attention be paid to the foot, a growth of new horn soon takes place. Another somewhat recent treatment that has given good results in most cases is to insert a little formalin, instead of the powders mentioned.

"WHIP."

Metropolitan Racing Association

The granting of a charter by the federal government to a company bearing the name of the Metropolitan Racing Association of Canada, has aroused a great deal of public interest, and has been the subject of a warm newspaper discussion. At least one staunch government organ comes out strongly in denunciation of the action of the federal authorities in issuing the charter, and asks that it be at once revoked. The charge is made that the same company had their Provincial charter cancelled by the Ontario government because those who held it did not live up to their stated obligations, thus causing a public outcry against their methods of conducting race-meetings, and that the Dominion charter but gives them wider and freer opportunities for similar practices.

On the other hand, the Under Secretary of State says that the federal government does not inquire into the personnel of applicants for charters. There was no legal reason why the charter should not be granted, and it was granted. There is no question of betting or bookmaking involved.

The counsel for the company securing charter declares that the charter does not permit the incorporators to carry on the business of betting or to make books upon the races, and that the applicants for incorporation are all reputable men, and will bear favorable comparison with the promoters and proprietors of other racing associations in Ontario.

It is possible that the granting of this much discussed charter may precipitate the introduction of a bill at the next session of the Dominion Parliament to absolutely prohibit all betting and gambling on Canadian race-tracks.



CANADIAN HUNTER CULDEE, SIR EDWARD.

Winner of first and Toronto cup for qualified hunter championship at the International Horse show at Olympia, London, England in 1909. Bred in Kent County, Ontario, and owned by Hon. Adam Beck.