

ARMY REMOUNTS.

The British Board of Agriculture have been supplied by the Assistant Director of Remounts, with the consent of the Army Council, with the following information as to the type of horses required for remount purposes in the Army, together with some photographs of typical animals.

Age.—The limits of age for horses entering the Army as remounts in time of peace are between four and seven years, and in time of war from six to twelve years.

Color.—Whites and grays are only required for special purposes, and are always specially ordered. Other very light, or washy, colored horses are not accepted.

Soundness.—Entire, unmanageable or vicious horses, crib-biters, windsuckers, parrot-mouthed, or undershot horses, or horses with capped elbows, damaged knees, injured or deficient teeth, are not admissible.

Horses with short docks are not accepted.

Soundness in eyes, wind and limb is essential; no animals with worn, upright or overshot joints, and none with curby hocks, are passed.

The above conditions apply to all classes of remounts.

Household Cavalry.—Horses for the Household Regiments must be well-bred, and at the same time able to carry weight. Their work being chiefly escort duty in London, a certain amount of action is necessary, and they must be good-looking animals. The price paid for these horses is considerably higher than that paid for the ordinary trooper.

The color required is black, and height, at four years, 15.3 hands, and at five years, 16 hands.

Cavalry of the Line.—The class required is a deep, short-legged, short-backed, good-barrelled horse of the hunter stamp, with substance and quality, true action, and going without brushing the joints. Light, active, well-bred horses, that move truly and well in all their paces, well ribbed up, with plenty of bone and short backs, may be said to represent the cavalry type.

Height at four years, 15.0½ to 15.2½ hands; over four years, 15.1½ to 15.2½ hands.

Royal Artillery.

The type required for the artillery is the weight-carrying hunter, and, as every horse, whether in the gun team or not, should be capable of taking its place there on emergency, the same type is preserved right through. For the Royal Horse Artillery, an animal with a little more quality and pace is required than for Field Artillery.

Height at 4 years, 15.2 to 15.3 hands; and over four years, 15.2½ to 16 hands.

The accompanying illustration is a picture of a Royal Field Artillery wheeler, bay mare, 15.2½ hands, 10 years old. This animal shows a nice bit of quality, with a good kind-looking head—the sort that would get her rider out of a difficulty if she possibly could.

Royal Engineers and Army Service Corps.—Draft horses of the type known as the "Parcel Vanner" are required for these corps. They must be able to trot with a good load behind them, but they do not require so much pace as is needed in the Royal Artillery.

Height, Engineers, 15.2 to 15.3 hands at 4 years, and 15.2½ to 16 hands over four years; for the Army Service Corps, 15.2½ to 15.3 hands at 4 years, and 15.2½ to 15.3½ hands over 4 years.

Mounted Infantry.—Mounted Infantry regiments are mounted on animals of the cob or Galloway class; they require to be quick and active, and able to gallop fast for a short distance. Height, 14.2 to 15.0½ hands, 5 years and over only. The height taken is over the standard for polo, so that there are plenty of animals of the stamp and quality required.

ANY DEPARTMENT WORTH THE PRICE.

I consider that a person who regularly reads any one department of your journal would be amply repaid for his subscription price, without the general information it contains every week. PERCIVAL REED.
Halton Co., Ont.

If you have a sound mare available, for breeding for a fall foal. There is money in horse-breeding and probably will be for many years to come.

LIVE STOCK.

ACTINOMYCOSIS.

[From the Journal of the Board of Agriculture of Great Britain, August, 1908.]

This disease is met with in most parts of Great Britain, under such local names as wooden tongue, wens, lumpy jaw, big head, etc. In this country, cattle are principally attacked, but it may also occur in pigs, sheep, horses, and man.

Actinomycosis runs a chronic course, and is characterized by the formation of tumors in various parts of the animal body. These tumors interfere with the functions of the organs in which they are situated, and usually burst or ulcerate. If untreated, the animal steadily wastes, especially if the tongue is affected, and it eventually dies.

Cause.—The disease is caused by the entrance into the animal and the propagation in its tissues of the actinomycetes. This is a fungus which grows on grasses and most cereals, particularly on barley. It flourishes luxuriantly on damp, rich soils. Injuries to the skin and to the mucous membranes of the mouth and tongue, caused by hard straws or barley awns, as well as the teething troubles of young animals, predispose cattle to this disease, by favoring the entrance of the actinomycetes to the tissues.

Symptoms.—The disease is usually local—that is, it is confined to one organ of the body—and the symptoms are largely determined by the part attacked. Nodules of varying sizes often form on the skin of the head and neck; at times these are firm to the touch, while sometimes the skin is broken and the nodules are granular, soft, yellowish in color, and covered by a crust. The skin covering the lips, being very liable to injury, is frequently attacked. The lips then become hard and enlarged to such an extent that food is gathered with difficulty.



A Royal Field Artillery Horse.

The tongue, however, is the commonest seat of the disease. The presence of the actinomycetes in this organ excites a growth of fibrous tissues, causing the tongue to become hard and immobile, hence the name "wooden tongue."

This gives rise to a constant dribbling of saliva and quidding of the food, which causes the mouth to be examined. The hardness and painfulness of the tongue, and the presence of ulcers at its base, render this form of the disease easy of diagnosis.

At times tumors can be felt under the skins in the muscles of the cheeks. Both jaw-bones, but usually the lower one, may be invaded by the actinomycetes from the soft tissues of the mouth, and possibly through the sockets of the teeth. Great swelling of the attacked bone is noticed, and the head sometimes swells to a great size. Pus collects in cavities in the bone, eventually breaking through the skin, and forms wounds which constantly discharge.

In this condition the jaw is easily fractured, and the teeth drop out.

A very common form is met with when the glands of the neck are affected; a swelling or "wen" appears between the angles of the jaw, which steadily increases in size until breathing and swallowing are interfered with. These tumors often burst, and discharge a characteristic, granular, yellow pus.

The presence of tumors (polypi) attached to the mucous membrane of the mouth and the back of the throat can often be recognized by the snor-

ing grunt which accompanies breathing, and by the difficulty in swallowing.

Actinomycosis also occurs in the udder, and in the spermatic cord of castrated animals, giving rise to fibrous enlargement of the said organs.

Treatment.—In districts where the actinomycetes flourishes, it is almost impossible to prevent animals being attacked. Drainage of land is said to have diminished the number of cases by checking the growth of the fungus. If barley straw must be fed to stock, it should not be fed to young animals when changing their teeth, as the actinomycetes has an excellent chance of entering the tissues through the gums.

Although prevention is difficult, the disease responds to treatment. Whenever possible, the actinomycotic tumors should be removed by a veterinary surgeon. When in an inseparable position, medicinal treatment will generally check or cure the disease. Treatment should not be attempted by a layman, as the tumors have usually to be removed from the region of the head and throat, which only a skilled surgeon may attempt, while the success of the medicinal treatment depends on giving the specific drug (iodide of potassium) until symptoms of poisoning by this drug appear, when its administration must immediately be stopped.

THE PIG BUSINESS.

The high price of grain and the comparatively low price paid by the packers for pigs last year, caused many farmers to reduce their stock to such an extent that now, when fairly remunerative prices are being paid, owing to the shortage of supplies, those who unloaded too closely have few, if any, hogs to sell. Whether the low prices of last year may properly be charged to the greed of the packers for undue profits or not, the fact remains that farmers are not realizing the advantage from present market conditions which they might have done had they been more conservative in cutting out the breeding stock. It is well to remember that to a considerable extent, variations, or ups and downs, occur in the market for most classes of farm stock and other products, and that sharp turns, either way, are liable to take place, and the safest policy in such a contingency is to reduce breeding stock moderately by weeding out inferior animals and retaining those of the best type. The probability is that grain and millfeeds will be somewhat cheaper in the coming year than last, and with a judicious use of skim milk and roots, together with alfalfa or clover chaff, and pasture and rape, the grain ration previous to the finishing period need not be heavy. Under such management there would appear to be a fair profit at present prices in raising hogs to be sold at six to eight months old. Those who, to meet the demand, require to purchase breeding stock, will find the present an unusually favorable time to secure the right sort at moderate prices, as most breeders of pure-bred hogs, owing to the falling off in demand, are pretty heavily stocked and desirous of reducing their stock before winter. The fairs, Provincial and local, will afford favorable opportunities of meeting these men, canvassing the situation and making selections or arranging for purchases later on, while those who cannot conveniently attend the fairs may, by correspondence with breeders advertising, have their needs supplied. When one reflects that the time was when farmers commonly kept hogs till they were twelve to eighteen months old, fattened them principally on peas worth seventy-five cents to a dollar a bushel, and sold them often at little more than the same price per pound dressed than is now available for six to eight months pigs, one cannot but conclude that the chances for profit are largely in favor of the present state of things, especially when we remember that gains in weight are much more cheaply secured in young animals than older ones, and that the cheapest gains in the life of hogs are those made in the first few months of their existence.

An English swine-raiser says: "I have only one remedy for a sick pig. It is a simple one. Rheumatism, paralysis, blind staggers, thumps, scours, etc., I treat all alike, though in varying proportions. My cure-all is nothing more than fresh new milk and turpentine. For a young pig, say six weeks old, administer a teaspoonful of turpentine in, say, half a pint of milk. Unless the pig is sick it will readily drink this. If too sick to drink, it must be administered with a spoon. An older pig, however, will seldom refuse new milk, even when a tablespoonful is given in a quart or more. Grade the dose from a teaspoonful at 6 weeks to a tablespoonful or more for a mature hog."