

THE HORSE.

Don't forget to water the team frequently during hot weather.

The feet are a very important part of the horse or foal, and they should be kept in good form.

Teach the colt that man is a friend. Handle its feet and legs and get it accustomed to the halter, straps and other common pieces of harness.

Harness sores are nasty things on a beast, and they can usually be prevented by bathing with cold water when the harness is removed and by keeping all leather that bears on the flesh, clean.

The Clydesdale Horse Society of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, report that the export trade during 1915 was almost non-existent. The total exports for the year were 47, as compared with 1,617 in 1911.

In the Home of the Percheron.

Information gathered from those who have been in France in quest of Percherons, shows that actual conditions relative to the horse situation are not so bad as has been reported. However, it is difficult to gather together a satisfactory shipment and get them out of the country. There is a notable decrease in Percheron stock, but none of the good mares were requisitioned and none of the stallions and colts which the owners wished to keep. In spite of this, however, the help problem has been serious and the young animals have been very poorly cared for. In many cases, it is said, the animals have been at pasture since they were foals, and they are not in suitable condition to select from for export. Members of the Percheron Society were permitted to submit a number of pedigrees of individuals they had for sale. The total amounted to about 200, and from these foreign buyers were obliged to choose. Even after their purchases were made much delay and inconvenience was experienced in procuring the papers and getting the shipment to England, and from there to the boats for the overseas trip. Some of the larger dealers are now doubtful if any more Percherons from France will be obtainable till after the war is over.

After the Day's Work.

During the rush of the harvest season, when long hours are spent in the field, and the teamsters come in unusually tired at night, there is a strong temptation to hurry through the chores. Water and feed is considered by many to be all the attention the team requires. The horse that is not thoroughly cleaned to remove dirt and perspiration from the skin soon begins to show the effects of it. Lack of proper attention to the horse's comfort is responsible for more thin horses than is feeding too small an oat ration.

If a horse comes to the stable wet with sweat very little cleaning can be done with the comb and brush, although the use of the curry comb aids in opening the pores of the skin. All harness marks should be sponged off and some horsemen go over the whole animal with a damp sponge to remove as much dirt as possible. It is not advisable to wash a horse at night although some drivers do so. Many stables are so hot during the summer months that a horse sweats if left in them at night, and under these circumstances cannot well stand the next day's heat. After being fed and cleaned the horse is fresher the next morning if turned on pasture at night throughout the summer. However, it is not always possible to do so, and when the stable is hot the next best thing to do is to tie the horse outside with some bedding under him. The hay can be fed in the open as well as in the stable. To keep up with the farm work the teams must be kept as efficient as possible and in condition to do a full day's work.

For two or three months during the year flies torment the horses and make it more difficult for them to do their work. Some horses are protected against the pests, but others are left to fight these tormentors themselves. Fly-nets made of heavy cord or leather laces were commonly used at one time and afforded a degree of protection. A light cotton or burlap sheet also serves the purpose of protecting the back and sides against flies, but is more heating than the netting. Some drivers rub a little fish oil around their horses' ears, neck, legs and other parts where flies persist in lodging, and claim that it proves effective in keeping off the flies. Not only are the horses benefited by some protection being afforded, but the driver has less trouble in handling them.

Stock that are continually tormented with flies seldom do well during fly season. There are many prepared mixtures that if sprayed on the animal every day or two will ward off these pests. If these remedies are not available a ten-per-cent. solution of carbolic acid in fish oil serves the purpose.

LIVE STOCK.

Thumps in Pigs.

Thumps or spasm of the diaphragm is really a disorder of the nervous system, but it is so commonly associated with irritation of the stomach and bowels, that it is usually considered a disease of the digestive organs. The condition is commonly noticed in young pigs, and consists of a spasmodic or jerking contraction of the diaphragm. The diaphragm is the flat, somewhat fan-shaped muscle which separates the thoracic from the abdominal cavity. This muscle receives its nerve supply from a nerve called "the pneumogastric," which nerve also sends many branches to the stomach and many other organs. Any irritation of this nerve may cause the irregular spasm-like contractions of the diaphragm, which are known as "thumps." In man these same spasmodic jerking of the diaphragm are known as hiccup.

Causes.—Thumps was, for a long time, believed to be due to palpitation of the heart. In fact, there are still many who consider that the jerkings noticed and the sounds heard are caused in this way. This is a mistake, which can be readily determined. If the hand be placed over the heart and the heart beats counted, and the contractions of the diaphragm noted at the same time, it will be seen that there is no relation between them.

The direct cause of thumps is an irritation of the nerve already mentioned. This irritation may be caused in various ways. Probably the most common causes are diseases of the digestive organs. Inflammation of the stomach or bowels are often complicated by the development of thumps. This is a symptom of severe inflammation, which often causes death. As stated, thumps is common in young pigs. Lack of exercise and overloading the stomach

if the patients will not voluntarily take exercise, they should be forced to. It is good practice, in cases where pigs have suffered from this disease, to give sufficient of equal parts of Epsom salts, sulphur and powdered charcoal, daily in their food, to cause a rather laxative condition of the bowels. In cases where the thumping is violent and it is considered wise to endeavor to control it, this can be done by the administration of laudanum. This can be given in 3 to 15-drop doses every 4 or 5 hours until the violent symptoms have passed. On account of the constipating action of laudanum, it is wise to administer it mixed with a little raw linseed oil. In cases where the oil and laudanum are administered at first, the dose of oil should be somewhat larger than otherwise, as the opium will counteract its laxative effect to some extent. If the bowels act too freely the addition of a little lime water to the water or milk drank (say 1 part lime water to 4 parts milk or water) will usually correct the fault.

WHIP.

Successful Co-operation by Sheep Breeders in Quebec.

EDITOR "THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE":

The Wool Growers' and Sheep Breeders' Associations in the Province of Quebec have again successfully graded and marketed their wool clip. Since their organization these associations have extended the scope of their work, so that now practically every phase of the sheep industry receives attention at their hands. Assistance in the organization and direction of these associations through A. A. MacMillan and the College Demonstrators has been made an important feature in the extension work of Macdonald College Animal Husbandry Department.

In the fall of 1915 four local sheep sales were held, at which 98 head of selected breeding stock, including individuals both male and female, of a number of breeders were sold. These sales afforded a larger opportunity for local selection in purchasing besides providing a new market for purebred breeders. The local sales policy will be extended, so that the requirements of all members will be met this fall.

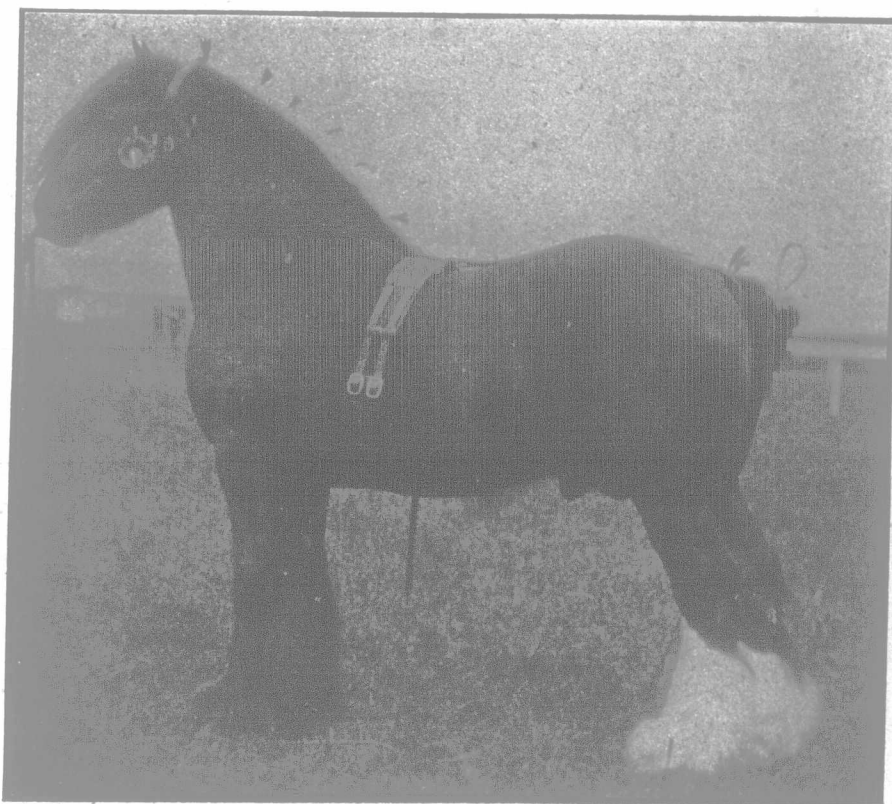
The necessity for further legislation for the protection of sheep against dogs was brought prominently before the Minister of Agriculture, by signed petitions from each association asking for a revision of the Dog Act. The new Act, which was passed at the last session of parliament, received prompt attention, and many petitions bearing the necessary 25 names were presented to the municipal councils, so that sheep owners in a great many municipalities now have the protection of the new Act.

The benefits of co-operative purchasing have also been extended to association members. Shearing machines, fleece boxes, wool sacks, paper twine and dip are some of the requirements that have been handled in this way. The associations feel that there is unlimited scope for work along this line.

Co-operative dipping has also been practiced. The association dipping tank, which is made so that it can be moved from place to place and set up in a few minutes, has been found economical. From 100 to 150 sheep can be dipped at each dipping centre, at a cost of from 1/2 to 1 1/2 cents per sheep.

The co-operative marketing of lambs is a new feature of the work, which is being undertaken this fall. At the local shipping centres, the lambs will be graded according to weight, quality and finish; the standard grades being medium weights, light weights and heavy weights. Ram lambs will also be put in a separate class. Two sales are being arranged in each association. The early sales will take place during September, and the late sales during October and November. Bids will be received from buyers either personally, by phone, telegram or letter; and sales will be made to the highest bidders. In order to encourage and facilitate the establishment of new flocks of sheep among farmers, a number of choice ewe lambs will be selected at each shipping point and offered for sale.

A large number of lectures and demonstrations were given during the year. Talks on the preparation of wool for market, demonstrations in the proper methods of shearing, rolling and tying of fleeces, and the docking and castrating of lambs were given in



Eaton Fenland King.

First and champion Shire stallion at the Royal Show, Manchester, England.

are common causes. Diseases of the lungs or heart or the spinal cord may cause the symptoms, but the most common cause is high feeding and want of exercise.

Symptoms.—The most prominent symptoms are the jerking movement of the body, accompanied by a more or less well-marked sound during each contraction, and by a bulging out of the flanks and a drawing in of the ribs. The symptoms are usually more marked when the stomach is full. These thumping movements are often sufficiently forcible to cause a swaying back and forth of the body. In some cases the thumping occurs at the same time as the heart-beat, but in most cases it is irregular in time, and bears no relation to the heart-beats.

Course.—The course of this condition is variable. It may last a few days, or for several weeks. In tedious cases the patient loses flesh and becomes weak and stunted.

Treatment.—The prevention of this disease in young pigs largely consists in giving them plenty of room to exercise, moderate quantities of strong food, well-ventilated quarters and plenty of sunshine. Curative treatment consists, first of all, in getting the animals into a place where they will have plenty of room to take exercise, and plenty of sunshine. Where the cause is digestive trouble (as is usually the case) a laxative should be administered. For this purpose either raw linseed oil, castor oil or Epsom salts, gives good results. The dose, of course, will depend upon the age and size of the patient, say from 1/2 to 2 oz. of any of the drugs mentioned. This should be followed by light feeding on laxative food, and,