

UN SOUNDNESS OF HORSES DESCRIBED

Methods of Detection Pointed Out with Hints on Damage to Animal

Bad Blemishes on Legs and Head Often Require Close Scrutiny of Observer.

(Carl N. Kennedy.)

(Continued from last week)

Next stepping to the side, the set of the fore legs should be noted. Any unsoundness of the knees will be readily detected. The usual troubles are "kneesprung," when the knees are sprung forward of the perpendicular line, and "calf-kneed," when they are



Large bone spavin. Serious unsoundness of hind legs.

sprung back. Viewing the hind legs from the side, the set of the hock may be seen and the presence of curb noted. Curb is an enlargement of the posterior border of the joint, and is due to a straining of ligaments. The back line from the point of the hock to the pastern should be perfectly straight. In rare cases unusual development of the cuboid bone is found which may be mistaken for curb. This bony enlargement, however, is congenital, and is usually found lower down on the hock and somewhat more on the outside than curb. Manipulation will soon enable the examiner to decide.

Having completed the general survey, calculated to give the examiner a general idea of the horse and to detect defects of the knee and hock, the detailed examination should begin.

Stepping to the head, the hand should be passed over the poll to search for poll evil, either past or present. Swelling or soreness in this



Eye blind with cataract—note white in center.

region is sufficient ground for condemnation, and if scars or cavities are present, indicating that he has been operated on, he should be condemned, for while in some cases a cure may be effected, the disease is very liable to recur after a period of time. Next observe the face for scars, which are sometimes present as the result of trephining. The nostrils should then

be observed; these should be of reddish-pink color, and moist. Any alteration from the normal color, or any discharge gives ground for suspicion of glanders, nasal gleet, influenza, etc.

Next examine the eyes. He should be in a clear light, but the sun must not be shining either in the eyes of the horse or the examiner. The healthy eye is elliptical in shape, and if the shape tends to spherical, disease is suspected. If any trouble is suspected, motion as though about to strike the face with the hand. If the sight be all right he will flinch at each motion. A whitish growth over the upper part of the eye indicates cataract.

The mouth should next be noticed. "Parrot mouth" and "under-shot jaw" are the chief troubles, and they are comparatively rare. In the first, the lower jaw is not as long as the upper, and the teeth fail to meet evenly; in the second, the reverse exists. While these cannot be considered as unsoundnesses, they are serious defects to any purchaser.

The hand should next be passed carefully and slowly upwards and backwards in the space between the bones of the lower jaw, to ascertain if there be any hardening or swelling of the glands in this region. If swelling be present it is an unsoundness.

The withers should next be examined for signs of fistular swelling, with or without discharge. The presence of scars in this region is sufficient indication for condemnation. The top of the neck, where the collar rests, should also be examined for fistula, and the shoulders should also be examined.

Passing to the foreleg, the points of the elbows should be examined; then the knees, for scars—which indicate stumbling propensities. The cannon bone should be observed for splints. These occur on the cannon bone below the knee and usually on the inside. They may be detected as bony enlargements by the eye and hand and may or may not be unsoundness. If large and very near the



To locate side bone place thumb on lateral cartilages to see if elastic or bony.

knee joint they are liable to interfere with its action and are unsoundnesses; but low down on the cannon and of moderate size they are of no importance further than blemishes. Passing down the legs, sores and eruptions on the cannons (known as grease) should be looked for. Windgalls, if small and soft, do not matter, but if large and tense they are liable to lame a horse and should be considered an unsoundness. Bony enlargements here are sufficient to condemn a horse. The pastern joint is next examined for ring-bone, which is a bony growth entirely or in part surrounding the pastern. Its presence is sufficient to condemn a horse, whether he be lame or not. Side bone next should be looked for. This is found as a hard bony enlargement on the side of the pastern, just at the crown of the hoof, and is due to an ossification of the lateral cartilages which surmount the wings of the bone of the foot, one on each side. In the normal foot these cartilages yield to pressure, but when side bones exist they are hard and unyielding. Sidebone is very objectionable and disqualifies a horse at once. The coronet (head of hoof) should be examined for sores or eruptions and the hoof should be closely observed. A ridgy or uneven wall is suspicious and

TYPES FLUCTUATE OF OREGON FARMS

Changed Conditions of Land Values, Population and Markets Causes

Many Failures Resulted from Hazard Choice of Farm Crops and Cropping and Marketing Systems.

By E. A. Brodie,
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In the far West the types of farming have not settled down to a definite basis owing to the exploitive period through which a new country always passes. Twenty-five years ago, that section of the Willamette valley with which I was familiar was devoted entirely to the production of wheat and other small grain. Land was valued at \$15 to \$30 per acre.

At the present time the type of farming is entirely changed, as shown in the following table:

Percent of income from various products on 332 farms in Oregon—	
Products sold	Per cent of income.
Crops (grain, hay, clover, seed, fruit, etc.)	47.0
Stock	11.0
Stock products	18.6
Miscellaneous	4.2
Increase of inventory	15.6

Note that the receipts from crops make up 47 per cent of the average income of the farm, but instead of being represented by wheat and other small grain, it is largely fruit, vegetables, hay and clover seed. This change is due largely to the great increase in the population due to immigration, the consequent rise in the value of land to its present average of \$113 per acre, a period of low prices for wheat and the high cost of transportation to eastern markets. The present types of farming have developed during a boom period when land was sold in small tracts to people unfamiliar with the country and the market conditions, who began raising fruit and other perishable products for which there is a very limited market at home and very poor facilities for shipping to distant markets.

Very few of these types can be considered as being in a stable condition. Many of them are being run at a loss and it is doubtful whether they can be made to pay under present conditions of inflated farm values and lack of marketing facilities. Those farmers who secured their land prior to the boom are the only ones who are able to figure on reasonable capitalization of their lands and it is among these where the really stable types are to be found and after a while the others will settle down to their level.

Almost every section of the west has been through similar experiences. The great wheat sections are still prosperous in spite of the system of alternate wheat and summer fallow on high-priced land. Here again, it is the farmer who secured his land before the era of inflated prices who is making the money and even he could not do it except for the natural fertility of the soil. The newcomer who pays \$75 to \$100 per acre for land to grow a crop of wheat on every other year has an uphill job to pay for his land and make a living for himself and family.

Types of farming which have developed in the irrigated sections are undergoing rapid and continued changes. When the first irrigated sections were opened intensive farming developed on account of the limited area that could be watered. There

cracks running down from the top, known as false quarter, sand cracks or quarter cracks, are sufficient to condemn the horse.

Thrush is an unsoundness of the foot, and is characterized by a foul, ill-smelling discharge from the frog. Canker is a more aggravated and advanced stage of the same disease. Corns may also be present but not revealed by lameness. Where they are

was plenty of sale for the products grown on the local market, but as time went on and other projects opened up and began growing the same crops, the local markets were soon supplied and others had to be found. This brought in the problem of transportation and refrigeration and gradually crops which would stand shipment began to be grown. An example of this is the growing of alfalfa under irrigation, which has received great impetus since the manufacture of alfalfa meal makes it possible to ship alfalfa as a concentrate.

As already stated, the type of farming must be in keeping with the local conditions. The products to be raised must be such as can be disposed of advantageously, that is, there must be a demand for them, the marketing facilities must be favorable, and the cost of transportation such as to leave a fair margin of profit.

In any locality a study of the types of farming shows that those that are most generally successful are those that are best adapted to the local conditions, and that they are the types that survive. For example, in Chester Co., Pa., the prevailing types are hay growing and the selling of market milk combined with about a dozen lesser enterprises, grain growing or stock, ranging from 8.7 per cent down to less than one per cent of the income. This is one of the oldest settled sections in this country and these are the types that have survived all others. The hay being bulky will not sell for prices which make it profitable to ship it long distances, consequently hay in bulk must be consumed near home. Market milk must also be consumed near home, because it will not stand long distance shipment. A number of our largest cities are within easy shipping distance, which makes a market for these products.

BIG ATTENDANCE AT COLLEGE

Four thousand one hundred seventy-six people attended College at O. A. C. last year, in addition to the much larger numbers taking instruction at movable schools and in correspondence courses. The new College catalogue shows that of those taking resident instruction 2592 were men and 1584 women. The following table shows the classification by courses and by sex:

Course	Men	Women	Tl.
Agriculture	540	7	547
Engineering, etc.	297		297
Forestry	83		83
Home Economics		371	371
Music	15	57	73
Commerce	116	54	170
Pharmacy	54	7	61
Optional	6	21	27
Music		6	57
Summer School	75	133	208
Winter Short Course	1405	934	2339
Whole attendance	4176.		

HOW GRANGE CAN USE COLLEGE

Every Grange is interested in the work the college is carrying on. Indeed every local Grange is a little agricultural college of its own, so each of the locals should keep in touch with the big central college all the time. Through the college we can get tested and improved varieties of corn and other grains into our localities. The college can help in our marketing problems. It can assist our farm women in making farm life more enjoyable. We are paying for our college and we can use it right at home in our local granges. Although few of us can get to Corvallis even for a short course, we can see to it that the work of the college is brought right into our local granges. —Oregon Grange Bulletin.

suspected but not revealed by lameness it is advisable to remove the shoe and pare the hoof down somewhat on the quarters. If corns are present the horse will usually flinch, especially if struck a smart blow on the quarter of the hoof. Navicular disease is indicated by the foot being shrunken in diameter and apparently lengthened and inflamed.

(To be Continued.)