HEAVY EWE LOSS IS DUE TO OVERFEEDING

By H. W. LYTLE, State Veteriaarian.

Pregnant ewe paralysis and conditions due to advanced pregnancy are becoming more common yearly. Doubtless this condition bears a relationship to the high price levels of sheep. At least part of the disorder is due to errors in feeding brought about by a desire to get a maximum lamb crop by saving a large percent of the twins. In an effort to so feed the ewe that she may give a goodly milk supply the feeding is occasionally pushed too far and the ewe becomes too fat. The large amount of fat around the kidneys and on the gaul, together with the pressure from the growing twin or triplet lambs, makes a condition present if coarse, bulky feeds are used as roughages, that causes uremic poisoning or uremic coma and is probably caused by so much pressure being forced against the kidneys that they cannot function and take the urea out of the blood or else the ureters (the ducts that lead from the kidney to the bladder) can not empty the waste materials from the kidney because they are pressed closed.

There is another condition in old ewes that is due to under nourishment and is a paralysis of exhaustion, being unable to stand and carry the large lamb or twins. Treatment of these cases will be purely that of good care and nourishing feed.

Because there was a general unloading of old ewes last year on to small ranch farmers in the range sections of the state, some of this old ewe under-nourished paralysis may be looked for this winter. A diagnosis is made by noticing the absence of fat on the carcass and generally a broken mouthed ewe.

The normal loss of ewes is perhaps not thoroughly understood by all. Statistics gathered in Oregon and Idaho from about 150,000 sheep in each state indicate that the average loss on ranch run flocks is twelve hundred during the year. This is from disease, accident, predatory animals and all causes. In the Willamette Valley it may be slightly less as the year around green feed and absence of predatory animals may cut this down. The range loss of ewes is about 8½%. Many inexperienced growers will be somewhat surprised when they learn of this, but it is a normal, whether altogether necessary, loss compiled from carefully gathered statistics.

Treatment in those cases of pregnant ewe paralysis that are due to errors of diet, nothing will afford relief but to change the method of feeding and handling of the herd. In pregnant ewes a reasonable amount of exercise is necessary. Fattening feeds should be avoided and ewes should be forced to take exercise by having them trail behind the hay wagon for two miles or more daily. Feeds in which there is a liberal supply of lime and sugar or molasses, will be found highly beneficial and there are good reasons for supplementing all pregnant ewe rations that contain much roughage or ensilage with lime and molasses and some of the mineral feeds. Rough, coarse hay such as some of the first cutting of alfalfa hay and wild feeds, and swamp grass will cause a paralysis of pregnant ewes. Whether this is because of the indigestible nature or due to its lack of lime content, or whether because of its lack of nutriment elements, is difficult to say, but it is the experience of many breeders that coarse and wild hay will cause a paralysis in pregnant ewes. Exercise and a change to some of the more nourishing and succulent feeds generally affords relief.

Over feeding and under exercising is the cause of much of pregnant ewe paralysis. This condition is frequently seen in crossbred ewes which are good feeders and not so easy to handle as the bred ewes which are good feeders and not so easy to handle as the Merino ewe which seems to have more the instincts of the mule when it comes to handling food. The experienced feeder will have less of this trouble than the sheep owner who is making his first change from range lambing to winter lambing. There is always that desire to get the ewe to that stage of condition where she will secrete a goodly amount of milk. Corral feeding is not conductive to exercise and lack of exercise is conductive to constipation which is closely associated with auto-intoxication and albuminuria and uremic poisoning, which all produce a paralysis that is highly fatal. When paralysis appears from over feeding and under exercising, cut the feed to less than one-half, reduce the roughages and increase the concentrates and cause the animals to exercise by driving them three miles or more per day through lanes or on the range, or force them to trail for feed behind a hay wagon. In one or two days added improvement will be noted and new cases will cease. Grain doses of morphine hypodermically given by a veterinarian have proved successful treatment for ailing animals often.

BOARDMAN

MRS. A. T. HEREIM, Correspondent.

No new cases of small pox except in families already quarantined. Church and Sunday school services will be held on Sunday, Feb. 21, and school will open on the 22nd. We are glad to report that no serious results have come from this disease except with Leo Root who has had difficulty with one of his eyes. He had such a severe attack of the disease, and it left this eye in bad shape. He went to Pendleton Saturday to consult Dr. McKenzie, the eye specialist and we are glad to report that he is improving.

A fine big girl was born to Mr. and Mrs. Howard B. Calkins this week in Portland.

Earl Cramer of Portland visited his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cramer, for a few days last week.

Mr. and Mrs. W. O. King has a fine 8-pound boy who arrived Monday, February 15. Mrs. King is at Mrs. O. H. Warner's.

Miss Helen Fleck nd brother Francis spent the week end at the Leo Mead home. Helen Mead returned home with them to The Dalles and will visit for a few days.

Sam Shell has been quite ill but is reported as being much improved.

Little Bobby Morgan of Pendleton, who broke his leg recently when he fell off his tricycle, is getting along nicely. The weight has been removed from his leg and the plaster cast will be taken off next week.

Mr. and Mrs. Pat Pattee and baby came Sunday from Condon for a few days' visit at the O. B. Olson home.

The W. H. Mefford family is now out of quarantine after a long siege of small pox.

John Olson, who has been at the O. B. Olson home since Christmas, left Sunday for Prescott, Ore., to resume his work.

Mrs. T. E. Broyles, Roscoe and Grace all have the small pox now. Erma has recovered.

R. Rands is working at the island now. There is a big crew employed on the Blalock Island poject and much has been acocmplished.

Little Maxine Cooney is convalescing from a bad siege of whooping cough. This is the only case on the project so far as is known.

O. H. Warner, who has been ill for some time, is much improved and instead of going to Pendleton biweekly to consult his physcilan he goes every fortnight. He has been having Brights disease.

A. B. Chaffee, deputy sheriff, held a sale of the Royer household goods on Saturday at Boardman to satisfy a judgment held by Harry Warren against the Royers for a grocery bill. Mr. Warren was up from Portland to attend the sale and settle business matters in connection with it.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Gorham and family were guests at the John Pruter home Sunday at a most delicious dinner.

Mrs. Dan Ransier and baby returned Sunday from Pendleton where she has been visiting her sister for some time.

Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Price and son Billy were entertained at a pleasant dinner on Sunday by W. A. Goodwin. Mr. Goodwin's culinary abilities are manifold.

Earl Olson is getting along as well as could be expected. He has been making daily trips to Pendleton to have his arm dressed. After the accident he refused to take an anaesthetic, either general or local, and he had one large piece of bone removed from the elbow and several small ones, and several stitches taken. Dr. Wainscott has charge of the case. Earl was injured 2 weeks ago when on the Smith Duggan baler the fork full of hay was tripped too soon and Earl was knocked from the table against the fly wheel and his arm terribly crushed just at the elbow.

G. C. Taylor of the Reclamation Service of Hermiston was here Sunday looking over the prŏject.

The S. H. Boardman family were released from quarantine on Tuesday of this week.

A. T. Hereim, Jr., was a victim of the mumps last week.

The pastime has changed hands and C. S. Wood took charge Tuesday.

W. A. Goodwin celebrated his 68th birthday Sunday by cooking a big dinner, having as guests Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Price and son Billie, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Goodwin, and Maurice Goodwin. Little Billie Price entertained them by reciting his little recitations.

Arthur Mefford arrived Saturday from Sacramento, Calif., for a short visit with the home folks.

NOTICE.

All persons holding notes or accounts agninst Matt T. Hughes, please mail statement of their claim to J. B. Perry, Box 498, Pendleton, Oregon.

ALPINE

John Doherty arrived home about a week ago from Spokane, after having finished the semester's work where he was attending college.

Mrs. Bertha McDaniel, the principal and teacher of Alpine high school, was ill a week ago Monday, so the students left school at noon and played hookey the rest of the day. After tramping over the sanddunes they wearily returned to the school house to find Mrs. McDaniel much improved.

Mr. and Mrs. C. Melville and daughter motored to Pendleton on Thursday last, accompanied as far as Reith by Mrs. Dan Lindsay and young son, Bruce.

Miss Rosella Doherty was a visitor at the home of Bernice and Bertha Sepánek on the night of February 11.

Mrs. Chas. Schmidt and family were visitors in Hermiston at the home of Mr. and Mrs. George Legler, Saturday afternoon and spent the evening in town.

Mrs. G. L. Bennett has been taking care of her sister in Pendleton for the last three weeks and is not expected home for some time.

The Literary society meeting that was to have been held at the Hodsdon school house on Thursday, was postponed till Friday night, Feb. 19.

LOST—A black ring necked dog. Reward. Notify Ralph Thompson, Heppner.

A second-hand cream separator at Case Furniture Co. exchange department.

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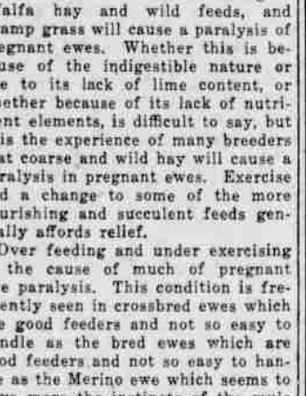

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		Calf Meal, 25 lbs	1.35

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WE STOP this month to honor these men, whom, of all great Americans, have left to us our most revered heritages. Let us strive to so live that we may make of these heritages a verity, and thus, far more than than in empty epigraphs, do honor to their memory. A successful life, such as these men have exemplified can only be had through **thrift**, one of the first teachings of these two honored seers.

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