

HANDLING BALKY HORSES.

Kindness and Firmness Needed to Break Bad Habits.

Concerning balky horses a correspondent of Rural New Yorker says: I have had some experience with almost all kinds of horses, and a balky horse I find the most provoking I have ever had in my possession. Horses are so different in disposition that it takes a good horseman to understand just how to handle each animal. In my experience I find that the balky horse has been spoiled by a poor driver or by some one who did not understand how to handle that kind of animal, which is usually of a contrary nature. Like some men, they want their own way or no way at all.

I find it best to study the disposition of the horse, and if I see that he is a naturally contrary animal I try all the kindness possible and never lose my own temper. A good sound thrashing will do sometimes, but with a naturally contrary horse I seldom use a whip, only to straighten him up, and then more in the stable than when he is hitched.

When you want him to stand over, tell him so with a firm "Get over," not a yell, but so he will know what you mean, or to back up in the stall. Use him firmly so he will know that you mean what you say, and do not say too much. I use a good blacksnake whip because I can handle it the best.

If I cannot make him do what I want him to after several days' training, I take him on a good sod field—plenty of room—tie up his left front foot firmly with a good strap so that the foot is up to the body; then I put a good strap on the right foot just above the hoof and over his back; then I take a firm hold of the strap with the right hand and at the bit with the left hand, and I tell him to get up, and as he does so I pull up the foot; down he goes on both knees. Then is your time to stay by him. Don't let go. He will go down on his side if you stay by him long enough. Then get on his head quick and keep him there till he will lie quiet. Let him up; put him down again till you are sure he is under your control; then if you hitch him put no load behind him and put him with a good, true horse so he will learn how to go, but do not use the whip if possible, and in time with good firm usage you have a good horse. The man who tries to break a balky horse would better break himself of losing his temper and gather up all the horse sense that he can find in his topknot, then be determined to break the horse or break himself of his bad habits if it takes him a year.

Sheep Notes.
It is not a question of how much a ram costs as how much profit he returns.

Don't house your sheep too closely; let the mission of the barn be shelter rather than warmth.

Give the ewes grain simply as a luxury. High grade feeding is unfavorable to a big lamb crop.

Sheep no more like to eat out of sour, dirty troughs than the shepherds like to eat off dirty dishes.

Although the ram may be gentle, it is better that he be kept away from the pregnant ewes. A blow of his head may mean the loss of one or more lambs.—American Sheep Breeder.

THE VETERINARY

Tail rot does not kill pigs, but may knock several dollars off the market price of a high bred, fancy hog, says Farm Progress. This disease is generally caused by damp or foul bedding and is found usually among the first litters that come. The first thing noticed is that when the pigs are four or five days old their tails begin to crack open in places. If neglected these cracks will soon encircle the tail. It is then too late for a remedy, but if the disease is treated in time the tail can be saved. Take warm soft water and castile soap; bathe the tail well and apply olive oil. Repeat twice daily for several days, and the trouble will disappear.

Worms in Hogs.
Hogs affected with worms in the intestines run down in condition, become very thin and lank, back is arched, eyes dull, refuse feed, walk stiffly and appear lifeless. The worms may be very numerous, in bad cases completely filling the intestines. The pigs die if not treated. To secure the best results affected hogs should receive individual treatment. Twenty-four hours before administering treatment very little feed should be given them. Then give the following medicine as a drench to each hundred pound hog; larger or smaller hogs should receive a dose in proportion: Oil of turpentine, four drams; liquor ferri diluatus, one-half dram; raw linseed oil, six ounces. If necessary repeat the dose in four days. After worms have been removed give a tonic to put the pigs in condition.—Farm Journal.

Scratches in Horse.
First procure some thermofuge. At night wash the limb with water as hot as the hand will bear and make quite dry with a cloth, then apply a thick paste of the thermofuge and put on a light bandage over it. Take off in the morning and wash off. Then use a little carbolyzed raw linseed oil on it. Continue until a good healing is made. Feed largely on wheat bran mash and give daily exercise.—National Stockman.

Strangles or Distemper.
Comfortable quarters, good care, plenty fresh water, moderate feed of easily digested, nutritious food; a blister to the throat if necessary and little tonic, as nux vomica, gentian, etc., if appetite is bad.—Farm and Ranch.

STEVENSON'S THEORY.

Tantalizing Tale of the Novelist and a Detective.

Scotland Yard would no doubt scorn to take a story writer into its councils as an American detective consulted H. L. Stevenson. Arthur Johnstone in his "Stevenson in the Pacific" tells the striking tale, leaving you, however, tantalized with the desire to know what the case was and what were the respective solutions of the professional and the amateur detectives, says T. P.'s London Weekly.

As they sat together one evening on the veranda of an inn at Waikiki the detective confided to Stevenson a case of extreme difficulty he had in hand and also his theory of its solution. As Stevenson hardly seemed to attend, for he sat looking dreamily at the sea, the detective left him to have a chat with the more responsive landlord.

On his return to the veranda, however, Stevenson suddenly roused himself to say: "I think I have solved that riddle of yours. You see, it's just like writing a story. If you go at it right, it will work out right. Now, your theory does not do at all because it will never work out. Let me give you my theory of the case, and then tell me what you think of it."

The detective did not at first think anything of Stevenson's theory of the case. It was daring even for a theory and dangerous to work if it did not happen to come off. But on thinking it well over, with Stevenson's shining eyes fixed intently on his face, the professional began to believe there was something in it.

When Stevenson at last asked triumphantly, "Well?" he replied, "Well, sir, I shall try your theory, but if it doesn't win you and I will lose between us the thousand dollar fee I am to be paid for a conviction." At this Stevenson laughed and said, "Sir, if it doesn't win I will pay you the thousand dollars and throw you the theory in for nothing." But it won.

RACING WITH OXEN.

An Odd Sport Popular in Rural Districts in Germany.

In many of the out of the way districts of Germany ox racing has long been a very popular sport. The entrance fee for the races is small, but the beasts must be ridden by their owners. The rider is not allowed to have either whip or spur, and he must ride his animal bareback, trusting to his voice to guide the beast. It is here that the skill of the rider comes into play, as everything depends upon the training of the ox and the ability of the owner to direct his movements. As the oxen do not race on a track it is no easy matter to guide them. The race course is a field perhaps a mile square, the start being made at one side and the finish at the other. Speed is of secondary importance in the race. Like golf, the sport requires accuracy, and the rider who can force his lumbering charger to go in a straight line is certain to win.

When all the competitors are lined up at the starting point the signal to begin the race is given. Then the fun commences, for in spite of the riders' efforts the steeds usually refuse to head toward the finish mark. Besides, the difficulties are greatly increased from the fact that the onlookers are allowed to be in the field and may do anything to interfere with the contestants so long as they do not touch him or the beast. Though oxen are naturally the least excitable of animals, the noise of the spectators soon reduces them to a state of utter bewilderment. Often an hour will pass before one of the oxen is ridden under the wire. The victor receives a small money prize, which is nothing compared to the honors brought him by his victory, and the animal is decorated with garlands of flowers. Among the peasants great events are reckoned from the time So-and-so won the ox race.—New York Herald.

Not a New Custom.
Laxity in public worship has long been a theme for preachers. In 1743 one of them wrote of the congregation of St. James', Piccadilly, London, that "they seem to be more taken up with viewing and contemplating each other's dress and equipage than in paying their devotions to the Divine Being they pretend to adore, and it is usual to see this set of people bowing to their neighbors, with a 'Glory be to the Father' in their mouths." And again, "The ladies show surprising memories on this occasion, being able to relate on their return home what clothes every woman of figure had on from head to foot, the fineness of the lace and the color of every ribbon worn in the assembly."

Longfellow on Error.
The little I have seen of the world teaches me to look upon the errors of others in sorrow, not in anger. When I take the history of one poor heart that has sinned and suffered and represent to myself the struggles and temptations it has passed through, the brief pulsations of joy, the feverish inquietude of hope and fear, the pressure of want, the desertion of friends, I would fain leave the erring soul of my fellow man with him from whose hand it came.

Discouraging.
"No, my little girl, I can't lend you mother any flour or oil or butter or fatrons or lamps or potatoes or anything else that she sent you over for, but go back and tell her I have a lot of trouble she can borrow."—Baltimore American.

The world generally gives its admiration not to the man who does what nobody else attempts to do, but to the man who does best what multitudes do well.—Macaulay

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The Harney County Live Stock Association, of which I am a member, pays \$750 reward for evidence leading to the conviction of parties stealing stock belonging to its members. In addition I offer \$500 reward for horse brand horse shoe bar on either or both jaws. Recorded in counties Range, Harney, Lake and Crook Counties. Horses stolen when sold. Horses sold to pass through this section will be reported in this paper. If not so reported, please write or telephone The Times Herald, Main 324, Burns, Oregon. W. W. Brown, File, Ore.

FOR SALE.

Fine Sheep Ranch in Modoc County

The Examiner has for sale one of the best sheep ranches in Modoc county, which controls the best range in California. It consists of 560 acres all under fence. It lies along Pitt river for 2 1/2 miles. Besides other buildings there are two houses 1 1/2 miles apart. It is an ideal sheep ranch. If taken quick it will be sold for \$2000.

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BROOD SOWS IN WINTER.

Importance of Liberal Feeding, Shelter and Exercise.

No class of animals are so illy managed in the winter season as brood sows, says Professor Thomas Shaw in American Agriculturist. In a majority of instances in some sections of the country they are simply abused. It is not intentional abuse. It is abuse that is the outcome of not knowing. The sow is expected to reproduce her kind under conditions not in consonance with the laws of reproduction. She is denied the right kind of food, the right kind of shelter and the proper amount of exercise. How can she reproduce as she ought to?

She should be fed a balanced ration—that is, she should be fed a ration with a due proportion of protein in it and a due proportion of carbohydrates. The former should be in the ascendant since it produces muscle and the sow is presupposed to be pregnant at that season. Unless she is fed liberally of protein the young swine in embryo will not be properly nourished. They will be deficient in vitality at birth and in all round stamina subsequently. She must be fed food sufficiently supplied with ash or the young pigs will be deficient in bone. She must also be fed a certain proportion of carbohydrates or she will not stand up so well against cold.

One of the best combinations in the northern states is field roots and corn, except when the weather is very extreme. The amount of corn wanted is relatively small, only a few ears per day. Such a diet is cheap. Ground rye or barley may take the place of corn. In the south cowpeas and alfalfa answer well or cowpeas and sweet potatoes. All corn or rye or barley is in a sense fatal to well doing. If sows can be fed much skim milk then they may also be fed considerable corn, since the milk is very rich in protein.

As with feeding the sow, a few principles should be borne in mind which will indicate what should be done under the conditions which must govern the action of the farmer in this matter. The shelter should be warm enough to keep the animals in comfort. It should have ample ventilation. The bed should be dry, as sows suffer easily from cold. The hair covering does not protect them as the thick coat of a cattle beast protects cattle. If not kept reasonably warm by shelter, the necessary warmth must be obtained by added food. If the ventilation is not enough, steam will be produced in cold weather within the shelter, and this will induce dampness, very injurious to swine in cold weather. If the bed is damp for any prolonged period, there is danger that rheumatism may set in.

There is no way by which a brood sow can be exercised so well in cold winter climates as by giving her access to a barnyard. She will root amid the contents of the place for sheltered grain. In doing so she gets the exercise that she must take if her progeny are to be strong and vigorous at birth. Some farmers even scatter grain occasionally over the litter or manure heap or over frozen ground in a sheltered place.

Silage Good For Sheep.
Silage is a most excellent food for sheep, says E. Van Alstyne in Rural New Yorker. They become very fond of it, and it will tend to keep their bowels in good condition and stimulate the milk flow. Last year when the major part of our root crop was frozen in we fed more of it to our sheep than ever before, and while not quite so good as roots I can but speak of it in the highest terms.

POINTS ON FEEDING

When you want to fatten sheep do not throw in a great volume of feed at one time; they will waste it and also be disgusted with it. Give them just enough to eat up clean and no more and they will stay on their feed and fatten fast.

Peanuts For Hogs.
In the fall of 1903 five Tamworth hogs, aggregating 895 pounds, were pastured for twenty days upon Spanish peanuts. At the end of the twenty days they weighed 1,124 pounds, the five gaining 229 pounds, or 45.8 pounds per hog in twenty days. The average gain of each hog was 2.29 pounds per day.—Bulletin Arkansas Experiment Station.

Soaking Grain For Pigs.
Authoritative data is not plentiful upon the point of the relative value of dry and soaked whole grain for the feeding of pigs, but such tests as have been made seem to indicate that there is a considerable advantage in favor of the soaked grain.

Alfalfa For Horses.
Horses are often fed too much alfalfa. This is indicated by indigestion, which finally manifests itself in scour. A horse of 1,000 pounds should not eat over twenty pounds of alfalfa per day. If appetite is left to determine the quantity some individuals will devour thirty or more pounds.—Farm Progress.

Steer Feeding.
Alfalfa hay combined with corn and cob meal gave the best results to fattening steers at the Kansas station when tested against a mixture of several grains and hays, including corn ensilage.

The Colt's Feed.
The second winter in a colt's life the feed should be increased enough to keep the colt growing and in good condition. This should be followed up, his feed being increased a little every year until fully matured.

Milk For Hogs.
Hogs need fresh, clear water even when they are fed on slop. Clabber is not as good for growing pigs as buttermilk or sweet milk.