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Extensive Growth of the Hooves of a Shetland

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A Case of Chronic Laminitis

Extensive Growth of the Hooves of a Shetland. A spotted Shetland pony, 10 years of age, was brought to Stange Memorial Clinic on Aug. 12, 1950. This Shetland pony had engorged itself on corn in Sept. 1949. The front hooves had grown extremely long and were curved upward in such a manner that the bottom or walking surface of the shoe was parallel to the ground, but upside down. The pony was very lame and walking was awkward and painful.

Chronic laminitis of long standing was the diagnosis.

On Aug. 15, 1950, all four feet were trimmed. Mercuric bichloride packs with a strength of 1:3000 were placed on each front foot. Fifteen hundred units of tetanus antitoxin was injected subcutaneously since blood was drawn during the process of the trimming operation.
For the next three days, the packs were removed and the pony forced to stand in cold water for three hours daily. When the pony was discharged on Aug. 20, 1950, the front feet were still slightly sore but he could walk with comparative ease and relatively less awkwardness.

The condition of laminitis is very common in Shetland ponies. This is often due to the way they are cared for. Since ponies are pets of the young generation, they are often fed and watered at the convenience of the youngster. This may be at noon one day and not until evening the next day. Sometimes they give the pony a little extra to make up for their laxity and to show their devotion. Often they are allowed too much water after a hard workout. This too may result in laminitis.

Loyd A. Jensen ’51

**Choke in a Horse.** On Aug. 10, 1950 a spotted gelding, age six years, was admitted to Stange Memorial Clinic with a history of being unable to swallow for a period of two or three weeks.

Upon examination an enlargement was noted in the upper jugular furrow. The mucous membranes were injected and icteric. The clinician was unable to pass a stomach tube. A diagnosis of choke was made.

An x-ray was taken of the esophagus. This revealed the esophagus to be greatly enlarged and full of feed. One half grain of apormophine was given intramuscularly but did not produce correction of the condition. A stomach tube was passed and water was pumped into the mass of feed, but the choke was not relieved. The horse was placed in a stall but no improvement occurred. The animal expired on Aug. 13, 1950.

Necropsy showed the immediate cause of death to be gangrenous pneumonia that had developed as a result of esophageal choke which caused foreign materials to enter or be aspirated into the lungs via the trachea. An ulcerative esophageal esophagitis extended from a point approximately 6 in. posterior to the pharynx for some 12–15 cm. The cause of this was not determined.

Esophageal choke in the horse usually responds to treatment.

Kenneth Wales ’52

Spraying roosts, dropping boards, nests, and areas surrounding them with 1.5 percent Lindane, will control lice and mites in poultry houses, without tainting the eggs and flesh of the birds.

At the turn of the eighteenth century, turkeys were so valuable that banks in Connecticut and Massachusetts kept them on hand as part of their assets. Any farmer could deposit a turkey and walk out with silver money. Turkey World Aug. 1950.

National Cat Week 1950 will be observed during the week of Nov. 5–11. The event is sponsored annually and copyrighted by The American Feline Society, Inc., New York, N. Y.

Specially-trained “truffle dogs” are used to search out the underground mushrooms that have been rated a delicacy since early Roman days.

Poultry waste can be considered a very desirable diet ingredient for feeding mink at certain times of the year and when fed under certain conditions, says Mr. Bassett, Director, U. S. Fur Animal Experiment Sta., Saratoga Springs, N. Y. His recommendations concerning the feeding of poultry waste are given in the Aug. issue of the Amer. Fur Breeder.