Pressure Necrosis

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using a continuous suture. The internal oblique and the external oblique muscles were sutured separately using No. 4 plain cat gut and the blanket suture. The skin was sutured with umbilical tape using a transverse mattress interrupted suture. Bipp paste was applied to the line of incision and the animal was returned to her stall. After care consisted of application of Bipp paste to the line of incision as indicated. The cow made a rapid, uneventful recovery.

—Jack Nelson, ’46

2 Pressure Necrosis. On September 27, 1945, a dark bay draft horse was admitted to the Stange Memorial Clinic. The animal had a half inch chain about two and one half feet in length embedded into the angle of each mandible. Granulation tissue was rapidly obscuring the chain from view, except at the sides where the chain protruded from the flesh.

There was also a tract of pressure necrosis just above each eye, indicating where the chain had been cut loose by the farmer. The horse presented a very dejected attitude due to the swelling above the eyes, but carried no increased temperature and presented no other symptoms.

History

The history secured at this time stated that the owner had turned the horse out on pasture with a halter on, the halter having a chain throat latch. In some unknown manner, the halter was very forcefully pulled down over the head resulting in the lesions. The owner had merely severed the chain from the halter and brought the horse to the clinic. Judging from the amount of tissue organization the accident must have occurred at least a week prior to the time it was detected by the owner.

The wounds were cleaned and the hair was shaven about the wounds as well as could be accomplished. The horse was given one and one half ounces of chloral hydrate by means of a stomach tube, and was then restrained upon the operating table. An attempt to pull the chain out demonstrated that it was too firmly embedded. Procaine hydrochloride, 2 per cent, was used to infiltrate around the chain and then an incision was made down to the chain. At the angle of each mandible an exostosis had developed which so firmly incorporated the chain that it was necessary to chisel the bony tissue away. The chain was finally freed and the edges of the wound were smoothed as well as possible.

Aftercare consisted of daily applications of sulfanilamide powder utilizing an insufflator. Granulation tissue quickly formed, and the wound healed without further complications.

This case report has been presented not by virtue of its clinical significance, but as an emphasis of the danger of leaving halters or any other restraining device on animals turned to pasture. It is also mute evidence of the neglect some animals receive at the hands of their owners.

—Jack Nelson, ’46

3 Contracted Tendons in Foals. On April 12, 1945, a three day old Shetland filly was admitted into the Stange Memorial Clinic. The colt was

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