

NOTES ON TUBERCULIN REACTION.

By HAROLD SESSIONS, F.R.C.V.S., F.H.A.S., Brighton.

FROM observations I had made on cattle on farms where I had been a pupil, and later on cattle of my own, I came to the conclusion that a large number of cases of tuberculosis could be arrested, and that recovery might take place, if the cattle were placed in a bracing atmosphere and lived an exposed and open-air life. This statement does not apply to advanced cases, as in some of these I noticed that the exposure was more than the animal could physically bear, and seemed to accelerate death. In a paper which I read on 24th January 1895, the following paragraphs occur:—

“I believe that large numbers of cattle recover after an attack of tuberculosis, and these animals will remain with the portion of their

No.	1897						1898				
	February 3		February 4				Mar. 1	Mar. 2	March 3		
	11 a.m.	10 ¹ p.m.	6 a.m.	9 a.m.	12 noon.	3 p.m.	10.30 a.m.	8 ² p.m.	5.30 a.m.	10 a.m.	2 p.m.
II. . . .	101·8	101·0	101·3	101·5	102·2	103·6	101·4	101·2	101·0	101·2	101·8
VIII. . .	101·2	101·4	100·8	101·0	101·3	101·4	101·4	101·2	101·0	101·6	101·2
IX. . . .	102·1	102·5	103·3	106·5	107·6	105·3	101·2	101·2	102·0	103·6	104·6
X.	102·0	102·0	102·2	104·1	105·4	105·5	101·2	101·4	101·4	101·6	102·2
XIII. . .	101·5	100·8	104·6	105·0	104·1	103·4	101·4	101·2	100·6	101·4	101·6
XVI. . . .	101·8	102·0	102·2	102·8	105·2	106·0	101·4	101·0	101·2	101·6	101·8
XVII. . .	101·3	101·8	101·4	102·2	105·5	105·7	101·4	101·2	101·0	101·6	101·2
XIX. . . .	101·3	101·4	100·6	100·0	101·1	101·2	101·4	101·2	101·0	101·6	101·2
XXV. . . .	102·0	101·8	102·6	106·0	107·4	105·4	101·0	100·6	101·0	102·0	101·8
XXVIII. .	101·5	100·5	101·4	102·9	106·0	105·3	102·2	101·2	101·4	101·2	101·4
XXXIII. .	102·4	101·1	101·0	101·3	101·4	101·3	101·2	101·2	102·0	103·6	102·2
XXXIV. .	102·0	101·8	101·6	102·6	106·1	104·4	101·2	101·2	101·0	101·2	101·4

¹ Tuberculin injected.² Tuberculin injected.

body attacked by the disease injured and altered to the end of their lives. But the actual disease has been overcome.

“If before the disease is far advanced the cow is placed in the open air, fed on good nourishing but not stimulating food, particularly food of an oily nature, the chances are the disease will be stopped, and will not develop further unless she is again subjected to unhealthy surroundings.”

Since I wrote these paragraphs I have met several personal friends

who have undergone a similar treatment for tuberculosis, and who have now recovered. The tubercle bacilli in their cases was found before the treatment commenced.

For some years I have tested a herd of cows with tuberculin, and the table of temperatures (p. 90) is very interesting. In 1896 these cows were standing amongst animals that had reacted, but were all apparently sound. In 1897 they were kept in a low house with very little ventilation, and the inside temperature was rarely below 60° F. to 65° F. They were highly forced for milk, and did not go to pasture. In the spring of 1897 this was changed. They were given plenty of ventilation when indoors, but most of their time was spent on some hill pastures on the sea coast, where the air is particularly bracing.

The last testing was carefully carried out, and on the same night from the same lot of tuberculin I tested a number of other cows and had reactions up to 106° F.

I wish to place these facts on record without attempting to explain them, hoping that in the course of time other temperature charts extending over a series of years may be available for comparison. In the Castlecraig herd I believe the cattle have had almost identical reactions year after year, and have not reacted in the manner which those I record have done. Of the twelve I have followed up, six have not reacted a second time, three react slightly or hardly at all, two have never reacted, and one reacts in 1898 which did not in 1896 and 1897.

A CASE OF ŒSOPHAGEAL ULCERATION IN THE HORSE.

By F. B. JONES, M.R.C.V.S., Leicester.

THE following case may be of interest as an example of Œsophageal obstruction, apparently originating in ulceration of the mucous membrane of the gullet.

I was first called to see the animal, an aged cart gelding, on the 9th of March, and while I was examining him he made several spasmodic efforts to vomit. During these attacks he generally knelt down, and vomited about a pint of thick mucus and saliva. The attacks occurred at intervals of an hour or less, and between them the animal appeared to be free from pain. On inquiry I learned that the horse had shown symptoms of choking about three months previous to the present attack. He had, however, been working up to the 8th March, on which day the carter thought he was not quite right as he slobbered at the mouth a good deal.

My diagnosis was obstruction of the thoracic portion of the Œsophagus, and I ordered a pint of water to be given every two hours. This, however, brought on attacks of pain and spasms, and I therefore ordered it to be discontinued.

As the horse was of little value, the owner had him killed on the 11th March, without my knowledge. Fortunately, however, I obtained the gullet at the knacker's next day, and on slitting it open I found